

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES FROM THE **November 14, 2024**, BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held at Swift USDA Building, Benson, Minnesota on November 14, 2024.

Members Present:

Vice Chairman - Mark Weimerskirch

Secretary – Scott Olson

Treasurer – Orvin Gronseth

P&I – Alan Golden

Absent: Chairman – Dale Schlieman

Others Present: Andy Albertsen SWCD, Sheri Gades SWCD, Dalton Herrboldt SWCD, Cadence Larson SWCD, Jon Smith PF, Melanie Dickman NRCS and Ed Pederson County Commissioner.

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman - Mark Weimerskirch.

Consent Agenda and Minutes:

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the Agenda, Minutes, and signing RIM Work Order #76-24-W099 and close out 2024 Easement Grant and 2024 Buffer Law Grant

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Old Business:

State Convention: Everyone that wanted to go has been registered and have hotel rooms. Thompsons will come down Tuesday evening.

Pickup Sealed Bids: Purchased the one from Schwieters in Cold Springs and have running boards and cover installed.

BWSR Academy: The whole staff attended the academy at Cragun's again this year. There were a lot of really good sessions again.

New Business:

Representative Paul Anderson: Was in attendance for this meeting and gave a run down on what may happen this year. Talked about Public Waters concerns, buffers, budgets and education issues. Asked what our concerns were and had a very good discussion on them.

AgBMP Loan Request: Emily Alm application for a new well for their farm. This would supply both the house and the livestock. The request for \$22,182.68 to upgrade for livestock is an eligible practice for an AgBMP loan. This would use up all the available funds we have for now.

Motion was made by Gronseth and seconded by Golden to approve the application.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

2025 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share Vouchers: We received the following vouchers for approval to pay.

Mike Owens – 2025-SHD-03 Moyer 27 planted 127 acres of cover crops for \$7,620.

Tronn Tosel – SH-CWF22-01 Appleton 11 planted 137 acres of cover crops for \$6,850.

Scott Olson – 2025-SHD-07 Appleton 4 planted 133 acres of cover crops for \$6,650.

Motion was made by Golden and seconded by Gronseth to approve the cover crop vouchers as listed above.

Affirmative: All Olson abstained Motion carried.

December meeting will be December 19th. All Supervisor's vouchers will need to be turned in by December 17th

Reports:

NRCS – Melanie Dickmann:

- Working on CSP renewals and payments.
- Had around 30 EQIP applications
- CSP had around 30-40 applications.

Soil Health – Cadence Larson:

- Working on site visits doing checks and getting vouchers signed.
- Doing online trainings and attending trainings.

Pheasants Forever – Jon Smith

- Last day here is Benson is tomorrow. Has taken a new position in Wisconsin.
- Working on CRP renewals.

District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt: None

County Commissioner Ed Pederson:

- Discussed wind and solar policy and possible issues.
- Discussed working on preliminary levy and when final is due in December

District Manager – Andy Albertsen:

- Chippewa River – TAC meeting today. Reviewing draft budgets.
- Upper MN – Partnership agreements complete. BWSR approved grant and is ready to get rolling.
- Buffer Reviews now need to do field checks with County staff on non-compliant.
- Ag Inspector – Tom Orr will resign from the position in December. Barry Bowman is willing to take the position and will be at the December meeting. Working with County Attorney on paperwork for both.
- MN Office of Soil Health – Applied for \$4,500 to fund three events in Swift County.
- Discussed moisture probes as possible eligible cost share projects.

Financial Reports:

Reviewed deposits, bills to be paid.

Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the financial reports.

Affirmative: All Motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for **December 19, 2024**, at 8:00 am.

APPROVED:

DATE

SECRETARY