

**SWIFT COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES FROM THE November 9, 2023 BOARD MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Swift County SWCD was held at Swift USDA Building, Benson, Minnesota on November 9, 2023.

**Members Present:**

Chairman – Dale Schlieman  
Vice Chairman - Mark Weimerskirch  
Secretary – Scott Olson  
Treasurer – Orvin Gronseth  
P&I – Alan Golden

**Others Present:** Andy Albertsen SWCD, Sheri Gades SWCD, Ed Pederson County Commissioner.

Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Weimerskirch.

**Agenda and Minutes:**

**Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the Agenda and the Secretary Report.**

**Affirmative: All          Motion carried.**

**Old Business:**

**Swift SWCD Strategic Plan Implementation:** Working on position description.

**Office Building/Lease:** Current lease expires 11/30/2023. USDA signed a 5-year extension. Here is an increase in the new lease to make the amount \$726.15 per month or \$8713.80. We added an out clause with a n two-month notice. This is for a 5-year agreement also.

**Motion was made by Olson seconded by Golden to approve the new lease with the increase in rent payment and the out clause.**

**Affirmative: All          Motion carried.**

State Farm building is still being looked at as an option. We showed them the potential costs per month and annually. Also, some of the start-up costs and replacement costs. Andy and Sheri met with the County attorney to make sure we do not have to do anything special to purchase the building if so decided.

**Convention:** We have 12 adults and 2 kids registered to attend this year. This includes our Outstanding Conservation people.

**New Business:**

**Set December Meeting:** It was decided that we hold our meeting on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Make sure to get your vouchers in so that you can get paid at that time.

**BWSR Soil Health Update:** There is a grant for Staffing and Delivery to fund a soil health person for four years. A grant for Soil Health Delivery like we received last year, and this is for two more years. And NRCS RCPPP funds for cost share to go to landowner which we would do cost share for soil health.

**Cost Share for Trees:** We will continue to offer again this upcoming year.

**Kanati Land Management / Anz Consulting Project** from Waite Park received funding from NRCS to do conservation plans. This is to help take the workload off NRCS and SWCD. Will be holding meetings in each area. The one for our area will be March 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Consent Agenda:** We will try it and see how it works for us.

**Cover Crop Contract 2023-LC-03:** This is for 10 acres located in Clontarf 31. It is a 3 yr. contract at \$32.87 per acre and a total of \$328.70 per year. This was planted and inspected. We can pay him the \$328.70 for 10 acres planted.

**Motion was made by Olson seconded by Weimerskirch to approve the paying the cover crop contract 2023-LC-03 for \$328.70.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

**F150 Tires:** Dalton has been doing some checking around on prices for tires for the F150. We want something that does well on gravel. We received an estimate from Tom's Service for the tires we are interested in.

**Motion was made by Weimerskirch seconded by Olson to approve purchasing the tires from Tom's Service.**

**Affirmative: All Motion carried**

**Reports:**

**District Technician – Dalton Herrboldt: None**

**Pheasants Forever Biologist – Gemma Kleinschmidt: None**

**NRCS – Melanie Dickman:**

- Sent letter to people to keep applications for CSP & EQIP.
- Moving things up because of the late deadlines.
- Staffing – Willmar should get someone soon then Melanie will be able to be in the Benson office more often.

**District Manager – Andy Albertsen:**

- Chippewa River TAC no meeting today.
- Upper MN - 1WIP sent to BWSR for their 90-day review. Start on workplan structure.
- Soil Health Contract Management Training to decide on what is required components of cost share folder specifically cover crops and reduced tillage.
- Newsletter is being worked on and hope to have out in mid-December.

**County Commissioner Ed Pederson:**

- Staffing at Courthouse continues to be a problem.
- Passed preliminary budget.

**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, 2023** at 8:00 am.

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY