



522 South Johnson Drive • Litchfield, MN 55355

320.693.7287

Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, August 8, 2019, 8 a.m.
USDA Service Center
522 South Johnson Drive
Litchfield, MN 55355

Present: Bob Schiefelbein, Fred Behnke, Greg Jans, Dan Barka and John Haffley. Staff Present: Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, Ann Steinhaus and Deb Holtz, SWCD; and Melissa Rothwell and Jacob Stich, NRCS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schiefelbein at 8:08 a.m.

Agenda: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to approve the agenda with the addition of two items of correspondence. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Minutes: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2019, meeting as presented. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Treasurer Report: Motion by Barka and seconded by Jans to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit, including bills paid and bills payable in the amount of \$37,377.67. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Holtz presented a Profit and Loss Report on the DNR Well Observation program for the last three fiscal years and the Expenditure Report for the 2019 Farm Bill Assistance Grant. Chairman Schiefelbein signed the Final Financial Report on the 2019 Farm Bill Assistance Grant.

Motion by Barka and seconded by Jans to ratify the signature of Fred Behnke on an amendment to the 2018 CREP Outreach and Implementation Grant and the 2020 SWCD Programs & Operations Grant Agreement. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Correspondence: Holtz summarized emails from MASWCD regarding Supervisor per diems and from BWSR on grant agreement updates and distributed two emails with information about Governance 101. She also presented information from a mailing from MCIT regarding an upcoming dividend. No action was required.

Field Office Report: Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, and Ann Steinhaus reported on their recent activities. The Board provided guidance on the handling of weed complaints. Melissa Rothwell and Jacob Stich provided NRCS reports.

Farm Bill Report: Holtz presented Josh Pommier's monthly report.

Training/Meeting Reports: Norman and Anderson reported on GPS/VRS training they had attended. Anderson reported on CREP training he attended. Steinhaus reported on the CAI Short Course. Haffley reported on 1W1P meetings. Barka and Schiefelbein reported on the County Allocation meeting.

Training/Meeting Requests: Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to authorize the attendance of Joe Norman at cover crop training in Morris, approving all related expenses. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the attendance of Joe Norman, Matt Anderson, Deb Holtz and Ann Steinhaus at BWSR Academy in October at Breezy Point, approving all related expenses. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the attendance of Deb Holtz at the quarterly Managers' Meeting in Baxter in September, approving all related expenses. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to approve the attendance of Ann Steinhaus at MINNFARM training in Buffalo this month, approving all related expenses. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Outstanding Conservationist: Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to select Matthew Woetzel as this year's Outstanding Conservationist. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Data Practices Policy: The group discussed and made preliminary decisions related to a data practices policy for the District. Holtz will draft a policy and research additional information.

Cost Share: Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to encumber \$1,400 from FY2018 State Cost Share for 40 acres of cover crop at \$35/acre for Schiefelbein Farms. Affirmative: Barka, Behnke, Jans and Haffley. Opposed: None. Abstaining: Schiefelbein.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Behnke to encumber \$2,200 from FY2018 State Cost Share for 40 acres of cover crop at \$55/acre for Anthony Huhn. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Jans and seconded by Barka to reimburse \$836.25 to Peggy Vannelli on her critical area planting cost share contract, LC18-03. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Barka and seconded by Behnke to confirm encumbrance of \$500 from the noxious weed grant for Jim Kelm (NW19-08). Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Motion by Behnke and seconded by Haffley to reimburse Gerald Fluck \$576.00 for his buffer on BCS18-06. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Next Meeting: Motion by Haffley and seconded by Behnke to change the date of the next meeting of the SWCD Supervisors to Thursday, September 5, at 8 a.m. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None.

Adjournment: Motion by Behnke and seconded by Jans to adjourn the meeting. Affirmative: All. Opposed: None. Chairman Schiefelbein adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Secretary

Date