



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of June 6, 2024

Supervisors Present: Chairman: Chris Hughes; Vice Chairman: John Rollings, Treasurer: John Shanahan, PR&I: Carol Krosch

Supervisors Absent: Secretary: Jacob Quade

Staff Present: District Manager: Jerad Bach, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, District Conservationist: Brandon Berndt

Guests: None

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Hughes at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

Agenda: Agenda was reviewed, Rollings moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Shanahan.

Motion adopted.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Krosch moved to approve the May 9, 2024, minutes, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 896,659.48
Receipts	\$ 11,826.79
Disbursements	<u>\$ 73,264.08</u>
Total	\$ 835,222.19

Kuduk presented the Treasurer's Report for May and requested to pay the Supervisor per diems, which were read by each Supervisor. Rollings moved to file the May treasurer's report subject to audit and pay Supervisor per diems as read, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

District Conservationist: Berndt presented the NRCS District Conservationist report. A new Pheasants Forever employee was hired and will be based out of the Waseca office. Work is continuing on contacts for CSP and EQIP. NRCS is not looking to have any additional signup periods for their programs until the new Farm Bill comes out.

District Manager: Bach presented the District Manager report (see attached).

OLD BUSINESS:

Le Sueur 1W1P: CD1 Project Update:

Bach updated the board on the status of the CD1 projects that the board approved last month. These contracts were not approved for funding by Waseca SWCD. Both contracts were denied because of an error in the contract template that the watershed sent out to use. The other issue was needing more clarification if rock riffles were eligible for funding. Further discussion will take place at the next Le Sueur 1W1P meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Soil Health Delivery Grant:

Bach presented the new Soil Health funding through BWSR that is rolling out in three phases. The first phase was for soil health staffing grants, the second phase is for education and outreach, while the third phase will be for implementation. BWSR is requesting each eligible district to submit an RFI for phase two funding. Rollings moved to approve submitting an RFI for Soil Health Delivery funding in the amount of \$100,000, second by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

Area VI Meeting:

Kuduk reviewed the Area VI meeting notice with the board and asked that Supervisors RSVP with her by Wednesday, June 19th.

Tree Program 2024 Update:

Bach reviewed the 2024 tree program revenue and expense figures with the board.

Computer Purchase Request:

Bach presented the request for a computer upgrade to include the replacement of one computer for the SWCD office. The budget for this request is \$3,062.86 based off the recent quote received from Mankato Computer Technology. Krosch approved the request for the computer upgrade with a budget amount of \$3,062.86, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

Supervisor Tablets:

Bach opened the discussion for the board to consider purchasing tablets for each of the board supervisors to utilize for official SWCD business. Blue Earth County does something similar with their County Commissioners and iPads. Rollings moved to allow the staff to look further into pricing for Supervisor tablets and bring to a future meeting, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Rollings – Gave an update from the Blue Earth River 1W1P Public Kick-off Event.

Krosch – Gave an update from the Blue Earth River 1W1P Public Kick-off Event.

Shanahan – Informed the board that he has filed for re-election.

Hughes – Gave an update of what the Prairie Enthusiasts group has been up to over the spring.

Adjourn: There being no further business Hughes adjourned the meeting.

- * Meeting adjourned 5:46 p.m.
- * Next regular meeting will be held July 11, 2024
- * Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Signature: _____ Approved Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Approved Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____