



Blue Earth County

Soil & Water Conservation District

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Approved Minutes of July 7, 2016

Supervisors Present: Chairman: Emily Javens, Treasurer: John Shanahan, and Secretary: Carol Krosch, and PR&I: William Gardner

Staff Present: District Manager: Jerad Bach, Assistant Manager: John Billings,

Guests: None

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Emily Javens at 4:05 p.m.

Pledge: All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

Housekeeping:

Agenda: Krosch moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Gardner. Motion adopted.

Guests: None

Minutes: Shanahan moved to approve the June 9, 2016 minutes, seconded by Krosch. Motion adopted.

Treasurer's Report: (See Attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 802,152.26
Receipts	\$ 263.39
Disbursements	<u>\$ 48,456.02</u>
Total	\$ 753,959.63

Billings presented the Treasurer's Report for June. Krosch moved to approve the June Treasurer's Report subject to audit, and pay Supervisors Per Diem/Expenses, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.

Open Communications:

Guest: Purvis none.

District Manager: Bach presented report (See Attached). Bach explained there will be an additional \$6,000.00 for the Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program through GBERBA. Krosch move to allow the submittal for \$6,000.00 of the additional Minnesota Ag Water Quality Certification Program funds through GBERBA, seconded by Gardner. Motion adopted.

Cost-share:

MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program, Jim Krahlung: Billings requested approval of payment for the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program Incentive for completing the assessment process. Krosch moved to approve MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program Incentive payment for Jim Krahlung, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.

FR14-2FY15, Darwin Peterson Structure for Water Control Repair: Billings requested payment of \$24,922.80 based on a total project cost of \$24,922.80. Krosch moved to make payment of \$24,922.80 for Darwin Peterson Structure for Water Control repair project, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.

MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program, Burnell Paulson: **Billings** requested approval of payment for the MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program Incentive for completing the assessment process. Gardner moved to approve MN Ag Water Quality Certification Program Incentive payment for Burnell Paulson, seconded by Krosch. Motion adopted.

New Business:

Office Furniture Purchase: **Bach** explained the possible need to replace office furniture. Bach noted the office would benefit from a unified look and a more efficient use of space. Bach reported that he had been looking at costs with Riverbend Office Suppliers. Javens offered ideas of allowing employees to decorate and paint spaces to fit personalities. Javens also suggested looking at Mankato Office Space Design on Riverfront. Gardner moved so set a budget not to exceed \$10,000.00 for office furniture and decor, seconded by Krosch. Motion adopted.

Leave Request: **Bach** announced that he and his wife are expecting another child and would like to request a 3 week leave after her birth. Everyone congratulated Bach. Krosch moved to approve Bach's 3 week leave following the birth of his child, seconded by Gardner. Motion adopted.

Supervisors and Chairman:

Supervisors: **Krosch** reported that the County Ditch Blog is requesting input on a buffer survey. **Javens** reported that she has been participating in a lot of NACD conference calls. Javens expressed she is excited to sit on a panel to educate people about the possibility of using Minnesota's plans for water as a framework for other states. Javens asked for suggestions as to what NACD needs to focus efforts on. Javens said anyone could let her know if they have ideas. **Shanahan** reported he attended the Area VI meeting, and thought Tom Gile gave a great presentation on Public Ditch determination of benefits. Shanahan said the South Central TSA meeting went well and he was happy to announce that the TSA employees were approved for pay increases. **Gardner** said he had nothing to report for MPI. Gardner did mention that he was curious about who was responsible for cost overrun on the public ditch improvement projects. Javens said if the increase is just a time issue there likely would not be a change to the cost, but if there is a change in plans then the landowners will be responsible for plan changes. The Supervisors had further discussion on Ditch 34 and the grievances that landowners have expressed to Gardner during the whole process.

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

- * Meeting adjourned 6:02 pm
- * Next meeting will be held August 4, 2016
- * Minutes submitted by John Billings, Assistant Manager

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Emily Javens, Chairman _____