



# *Blue Earth County*

## *Soil & Water Conservation District*

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1160 South Victory Drive, Suite #3  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(507) 345-4744  
(507) 345-6036

Approved Minutes of April 5 2018

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

**Staff Present:** District Manager: Jerad Bach, Assistant Manager: John Billings, Conservation Specialist, Jake Fritz

**Guests:** County Commissioner: Will Purvis, District Conservationist: Ray Hummel, and Farmbill Biologist: Jeff Potts

**Proceedings:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Emily Javens at 4:00 p.m.

**Pledge:** All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Housekeeping:**

**Agenda:** Agenda was reviewed. **Rollings moved to approve the revised agenda, seconded by Krosch. Motion adopted.**

**Guests:** Javens welcomed Purvis, Hummel, and Potts

**Minutes:** **Rollings moved to approve the March 8, 2018 minutes, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.**

**Treasurer's Report:** (See Attached)

Balance on hand	\$1,229,661.89
Receipts	\$ 24,139.67
Disbursements	\$ 31,174.33
Total	\$1,222,627.23

Billings presented the Treasurer's Report for March. **Rollings moved to file the March Treasurer's Report subject to audit, and pay Supervisors Per Diem/Expenses, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.**

### **Open Communications**

#### **Guests:**

**County Commissioner: Purvis** reported the Rapidan Dam project expenses had increased from \$1.2 million to \$2 million because of additional unknown damage. He said the increased cost will be covered by a grant. Purvis announced that there were a number of road and bridge projects open for bids. Purvis said the County would be helping the Fair Board fund a request for electrical repairs at the fairgrounds. Shanahan asked if the State Highway 22 and County Highway 14 construction would be working together to help with the detour issues of having both roads closed. Purvis said the plan was to have Highway 14 completed ahead of Highway 22, but the weather has not cooperated.

**District Conservationist: Hummel** presented report (see attached). Hummel also said the cover crop outreach by the SWCD is working, and noted people are coming in and asking questions about soil health.

**Farmbill Biologist: Potts** presented his report. (See Attached)

**District Manager: Bach** presented report (see attached). Krosch asked if there was further information on Tom Cotter's soil health practices. Bach mentioned web articles and videos. Rollings asked if the District was all caught up on reporting. Bach said the SWCD had completed all the required reporting. Krosch asked if we know anything about what the Crystal Waters Project is doing now. Bach said the CWP has continued to push efforts in the city with rain barrel, rake the lake, park, and fundraising projects.

**Cost-Share:**

**Gene Warner - 5FY17: Bach** requested to encumber \$1,342.00 for a well decommissioning with a total cost of \$2,684.00. **Krosch moved to encumber \$1,342.00 for the Gene Warner well decommissioning contract, seconded by Shanahan. Motion adopted.**

**New Business:**

**FY18 Buffer Cost-Share Financial Closeout: Bach** reviewed the closeout procedures for the grant. **Krosch moved to approved and sign the FY18 Buffer Cost-Share Final Financial Report, seconded by Rollings. Motion adopted.**

**2018 MASWCD Resolutions: Billings** announced that the MASWCD had sent their official request for 2018 resolutions. Billings said if anyone had ideas, we would need to have them approved before the June, Area VI meeting.

**Supervisors and Chairman:**

**Supervisors: Rollings** asked if there was anything new with the Watonwan One Watershed One Plan. Billings said that there has not been a meeting since Dustin Anderson left his position, so there is nothing to report. Rollings asked if the District was ordering seed year-round. Bach said that we have typically ordered seed in the Spring and Fall, but that could change based on need. **Krosch** enjoyed the Blue earth WRAPS meeting in Faribault County. She said that the event was organized well. Krosch said the meeting involved small group activities that she felt were very productive. **Shanahan** reported that he had a brief conversation with Munson at the Legislative Briefing days, because Munson had been double booked. Shanahan said he had a long talk with Considine about a number of issues. Shanahan agreed the Blue Earth WRAPS meeting was well done. Shanahan reported the GBERBA meeting was extremely good with the Drainage experts on hand to answer questions. Shanahan said the Area VI and the South Central TSA meetings had good discussions on the accomplishments of the SCTSA. He noted that all SWCD Supervisors in all the counties should be sent the yearly Accomplishment Report, so they can see everything the TSA works on. **Javens** reported that she had met with all the legislators in Washington, D.C. with the NACD group. Javens was happy to see that all the NACD efforts had worked to get the SAM DUNS requirements lifted for producers. **Gardner** had to step out early for another engagement.

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

- \* Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm
- \* Next regular meeting will be held May 10, 2018
- \* Minutes submitted by John Billings, Assistant Manager

Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Carol Krosch, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Emily Javens, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_