



Blue Earth County

Soil & Water Conservation District

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Unapproved Minutes of June 7, 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, and Conservation Technician, Derek Denisen

Guests: County Commissioner: Kip Bruender, County Public Works Director: Ryan Thilges, District Conservationist: Ray Hummel, and Farmbill Biologist: Jeff Potts

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Emily Javens at 4:03 p.m.

Pledge: All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

Agenda: Agenda was reviewed, and Javens suggested to move the RIM Easement Alteration – CSAH 1 Project up to the first item in Open Communication to allow Thilges to present and leave. Krosch moved to approve the revised agenda, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

Minutes: Rollings moved to approve the May 10, 2018 minutes, seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report: (See Attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 802,814.06
Receipts	\$ 42,423.30
Disbursements	\$ 78,072.26
Total	\$ 767,165.10

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

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

RIM Easement Alteration – CSAH 1 Project: **Thilges** reviewed the packet of supporting information concerning the CSAH 1 construction that would require a RIM easement alteration. Thilges explained the reasons for the road to impact the easement and noted this will make the CSAH 1 a safe, modern farm to market road. Supervisors asked questions and discussed any flooding issues for the road. Bach described the RIM easement alteration process. Rollings moved to approve the RIM Easement Alteration plan for Easement# 07-12-99-01 based on public safety, limiting deforestation, maintaining a 2:1 slope, limiting runoff with the plan pond, and everything will be reseeded to grass, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

County Commissioner: Bruender presented report (see attached).

District Conservationist: Hummel presented report (see attached). Hummel noted Reginald Liddell would be

having a couple office hours in Mankato next week. There was an inquiry from the board about the consequences for improving drainage under a farmable wetland. Hummel explained the penalties that could result.

District Manager: Bach presented report (see attached). Bach handed out information about the Tillage and Erosion Survey Program (see attached).

Farmbill Biologist: Potts presented report (see attached).

COST-SHARE

Warmka – CL-CC-5FY16: Denisen requested to encumber \$2,681.25 for the planting of Cover Crops for 1 year with an estimated cost estimate of \$3,575.00. Rollings moved to encumber \$2,681.25 for the Warmka Cover Crop Planting, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

NEW BUSINESS

Farmbill Assistance Grant: Bach explained the grant funding the Farmbill Biologist position and the local match of \$6,500 needed from the District. Krosch moved to enter into the grant and authorize Bach to sign the agreements, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

FY17 Easement Delivery Report: Bach reviewed the final financial report and summary for the FY17 Easement Delivery grant (see attached).

Area 6 Meeting - Courtland: Billings reviewed the date and location of the June Area 6 meeting in Courtland and asked who would be in attendance. Shanahan said he would attend.

2018 Mitchell Hamline School of Law Dispute Resolution Institute Training: Bach reviewed the dates and costs for attending the multipart training. Bach noted there would be money in the budget for 1 person per session. Bach asked if anyone would have interest. Krosch said she would like to attend a couple of the trainings but was unsure which dates yet.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Krosch thanked Hummel for his insight to topics in the meetings. She thanked Javens for composing the letter to the legislators. Krosch thanked the staff for the good work. Krosch asked Denisen to give an update report on the progress of the cover crop cost-share projects. **Rollings** complemented Hummel on his answers to the wetland questions earlier in the meeting. **Javens** announced the MASWCD Board met and voted to remove her from the NACD committee and representation due to the appearance of a conflict of interest. **Shanahan** thanked Hummel for his work. Gave an update from the last GBERBA Policy meeting. **Gardner** reported the progress on the Walk in Access application for MPI's 451 acre site. Gardner also gave updates on other habitat sites.

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

- * Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm
- * Next regular meeting will be held July 12, 2018
- * Minutes submitted by John Billings, Assistant Manager

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Emily Javens, Chairman _____