



Blue Earth County

Soil & Water Conservation District

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Approved Minutes of September 6, 2018

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

Staff Present: District Manager: Jerad Bach

Guests: District Conservationist: Reginald Liddell, County Commissioner: Kip Bruender, and County Commissioner: Will Purvis

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

Pledge: All present said the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

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

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Shanahan moved to approve the August 9, 2018 minutes, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report: (See Attached)

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Balance on hand | \$ 666,571.55 |
| Receipts | \$ 68,740.92 |
| Disbursements | <u>\$ 41,282.82</u> |
| Total | \$ 694,029.65 |

Bach presented the Treasurer's Report for August and read Supervisors Per Diem/Expenses. Gardner moved to file the August Treasurer's Report subject to audit, and pay Supervisors Per Diem/Expenses, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

County Commissioner: Purvis stated there would be a 6% increase in the 2019 County Budget. The two year construction project on Hwy 109 is wrapped up. The Government Center project is now underway and a little behind from all the rain. This year 25 county employees took the early retirement incentive program option which saves the county about \$250,000. The County pledged \$10,000 toward the new veterans home in Preston, MN. The County is looking for election judges. Lots of ditch projects going on. The Board asked questions about different county ditch projects and their status was discussed.

District Conservationist: Liddell reported there is no new farm bill. That means EQIP and CSP will be on hold. End of year payments are going out. NRCS is revamping itself from 6 areas to 4. Some offices will be combined and there will be super DCs that run 4 or 5 counties. NRCS is working on filling some Soil Conservationist positions statewide.

District Manager: Bach presented report (see attached).

COST-SHARE

Sherburne – 7FY17: Bach requested to encumber \$400.00 for a well decommissioning project with an estimated cost of \$800.00. Rollings moved to encumber \$400.00 for the Sherburne Well Decommissioning contract, seconded by Garnder. **Motion adopted.**

NEW BUSINESS

FY19 SWCD Capacity & Buffer Grant Agreement: Bach presented the FY19 grant agreement and the amounts of \$30,000 for the Buffer Grant and \$100,000 for SWCD Capacity on the one agreement. Rollings moved to approve the FY19 SWCD Capacity & Buffer Grant Agreement, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

2018 Outstanding Conservationist Award: Bach reviewed the list of candidates for the 2018 Outstanding Conservationist Award. The Board discussed the candidate’s qualifications. Rollings moved to select Harold Loeffler as the 2018 Outstanding Conservationist, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Rollings reported that his construction project was completed and that he had added a pond project to help retain more water. He also wanted staff to look into a drop pipe in a ravine at the Renee Rollings site. **Shanahan** reported that the DNR was putting in an electronic fish trap barrier on CD6. The project was a big project and could be a possible site for demonstration or a speaker on the topic for an upcoming area VI meeting. **Gardner** reported that the MPI tour would be Sept 13. He asked Commissioner Purvis if a license was needed to sell door to door in Blue Earth County. Purvis stated that current policy does not require a peddlers license to sell door to door in Blue Earth County. **Javens** reported that the NACD resolution committee is reviewing the resolutions. There were some resolutions that could put SWCDs and Watershed Districts on opposite sides of voting. She has asked someone else to serve on the Committee. Javens announced that she is resigning as Supervisor. Her last day on the board would be the end of the 2018 calendar year.

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

- * Meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm
- * Next regular meeting will be held October 4, 2018
- * Minutes submitted by Jerad Bach, District Manager

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Emily Javens, Chairman _____