



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of May 7, 2020

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

Staff Present: District Manager: Jerad Bach, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, Conservation Specialist: Jake Fritz, CREP Technician: Jane Blomberg, District Conservationist: Ciara Ahrens, NRCS: Myles Elsen

Guests: BWSR: Jill Sackett-Eberhart

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Krosch at 4:00 p.m. via virtual Webex platform and roll call was taken.

Pledge: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

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

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Shanahan moved to approve the April 9, 2020 minutes, seconded by Hughes.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

Treasurer’s Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 695,442.63
Receipts	\$ 2,216.47
Disbursements	<u>\$ 27,173.71</u>
Total	\$ 670,485.39

Kuduk presented the Treasurer’s Report for April and pay the Supervisor per diems, which were read by each Supervisor. Rollings moved to file the April Treasurer’s Report subject to audit and pay Supervisor per diems as read, seconded by Gardner.

Rollings – Aye Shanahan – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

District Conservationist: Ahrens gave the District Conservationist report. This included an update on EQIP contracts they are working on and the other programs are that are upcoming.

BWSR: Sackett-Eberhart updated the board on how BWSR is handling the pandemic. They’ve coordinated with the Associations to do some calls this week and planning for a reduction in Clean Water Funding in FY2021.

District Manager: Bach presented the District Manager report. He reminded the board regarding the upcoming elections and who is needing to refile if they would like to continue as a District

Supervisor. We wrapped up our Spring Tree Program. With the last-minute changes, we had to make due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was still one of the smoothest tree weeks we've ever had. Bach updated how the workflow has been going in the office over the last few weeks.

COST SHARE CONTRACTS

319-TMDL-16-07-10 Duncanson (Cover Crops):

Fritz requested to encumber \$18,375.00 for the installation of 1,225 acres of cover crops, with an estimated total cost of \$36,750.00. **Rollings** moved to encumber \$18,375.00, encumbered from the GBERBA 319-TMDL Implementation grant, for the 319-TMDL-16-07-10 (Duncanson) contract, seconded by **Shanahan**.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

1FY18 Wold (Grassed Waterway):

Fritz requested to amend the contract install by date of the 1FY18 Wold contract from 6/1/2020 to 11/15/2020. **Rollings** moved to approve the amendment for the contract install date of 11/15/2020 for the 1FY18 Wold contract, seconded by **Hughes**.

Shanahan – Aye Hughes – Aye Rollings – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

COVID-19 Update: **Bach** updated the board on the measures that the office is taking to adhere to the Governor's shelter in place executive order.

Blomberg Probation Ending:

Bach presented his recommendation to the board to end **Blomberg's** probation period and give the standard 3% step and current 1.6% COLA for a total of a 4.6% raise.

Rollings moved to approve ending **Blomberg's** probation, seconded by **Gardner**.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

Rollings moved to approve the 4.6% raise for **Blomberg**, seconded by **Shanahan**.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

Le Sueur 1W1P MOA:

Bach walked through the agreement with the board members and answered any questions the board members had. **Rollings** moved to approve the Le Sueur 1W1P MOA agreement, seconded by **Hughes**.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

Conservation Delivery Grant Closeout:

Bach reported on the 2020 Conservation Delivery grant expenses and final financial report. **Rollings** moved to approve the 2020 Conservation Delivery closeout to be signed by the board chair, seconded by **Gardner**.

Shanahan – Aye Rollings – Aye Hughes – Aye Gardner – Aye Krosch – Aye

Motion adopted.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Shanahan had nothing to report.

Krosch gave the board and staff an update on final remodel moves at the county and current operations of the county during the pandemic.

Hughes is happy to see that our virtual meetings are working well. The Prairie Enthusiasts group he is a part of will be proceeding with their first burn tomorrow weather permitting.

Gardner had nothing to report.

Rollings had nothing to report.

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

- * Meeting adjourned 5:28 pm
- * Next regular meeting will be held June 4, 2020
- * Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Approved Date: _____ Chris Hughes, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Chairman _____