



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

1160 S. VICTORY DRIVE, STE #5
MANKATO, MN 56001
PHONE 507.345.4744
FAX 507.345.6036

Approved Minutes of June 4, 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, District Conservationist: Ciara Ahrens, NRCS: Myles Elsen

Guests: County Commissioner: Will Purvis

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 Shanahan.

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

Motion adopted.

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

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

Motion adopted.

John Rollings joined the meeting 4:18 pm.

Treasurer’s Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 670,485.39
Receipts	\$ 32,830.66
Disbursements	<u>\$ 46,033.44</u>
Total	\$ 657,282.61

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

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

Motion adopted.

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

County Commissioner: Purvis gave the county commissioners report (attached).

District Conservationist: Ahrens gave the District Conservationist report. The signup for the animal mortality facility is open with one funded in Blue Earth County. Waiting on preapproval for EQIP. The Mankato field office will move to phase 1 for opening the office to staff. She will be attending an upcoming meeting with the Crystal Waters Project a fall field event and would like to have the district be a part of it.

District Manager: Bach presented the District Manager report. The seeding window opened a few weeks ago and we've been out in the field getting our list of sites completed. The Le Sueur AIG grant will have the financial report to be approved later on in the meeting. Staff were out in the field driving the target Le Sueur sub-watersheds and checking for erosion problems from the road. More modeling will be done in the office and then we'll be targeting those potential project spots. The Le Sueur 1W1P grant application is due on June 12 so it is in progress of being completed. SCTSA will have their year-end meeting at the end of June. Also, one of the TSA technicians, Karsten Peterson, put in his 2-week notice. Projects – mainly focused on CD 5, 26, 83 with drainage authority. CREP outreach and applications are moving along. Gave an update on current Legislature proceedings.

NEW BUSINESS

LeSueur AIG Financial Report:

Bach detailed the financial report for the Le Sueur AIG grant. This form needs to be approved by the board, signed by the Treasurer and then it will be sent to BWSR to request the next 40% of the grant funds. Rollings moved to approve the Le Sueur AIG financial report and have it signed by the Treasurer, seconded by Shanahan.

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

Motion adopted.

Watonwan 1W1P Update:

Bach informed the board that the public comment phase of the draft Watonwan River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan will last 60 days. The board discussed details of the draft plan.

Server Firewall Upgrade:

Bach explained that our firewall for the server will no longer be supported after September 2020 and it needs to be upgraded. The board is asked to approve the purchase of the upgraded firewall.

Gardner moved to approve the purchase of the firewall upgrade, seconded by Rollings.

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

Motion adopted.

NRCS MOA Agreement:

Bach presented the NRCS MOA agreement to the board and the board discussed their options.

Rollings moved to approve and sign the NRCS MOA agreement, seconded by Gardner.

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

Motion adopted.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Shanahan – No Report.

Krosch – Updated the board on the procedure of opening the county building.

Hughes – The Prairie group completed a couple of burns.

Gardner – Updated the board on the MPI group.

Rollings – No Report.

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

- * Meeting adjourned 5:10 pm
- * Next regular meeting will be held July 9, 2020
- * Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Approved Date: _____ Chris Hughes, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Chairman _____