



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of July 8, 2021

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, Conservation Specialist: Jake Fritz, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, District Conservationist: Ciara Ahrens

Guests: County Commissioner: Kip Bruender & Kevin Paap, FarmBill Biologist: Jeff Potts

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

Pledge: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

HOUSEKEEPING

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

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Rollings moved to approve the June 10, 2021 minutes, seconded by Hughes.

Rollings – Aye, Hughes – Aye, Gardner – Aye, Krosch – Aye **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 858,927.30
Receipts	\$ 2,952.50
Disbursements	<u>\$ 37,640.84</u>
Total	\$ 824,238.96

Shanahan joined the meeting at 4:11pm

Shanahan disconnected from the meeting at 4:12pm (technical difficulties)

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

Rollings – Aye, Hughes – Aye, Gardner – Aye, Krosch – Aye **Motion adopted.**

Shanahan joined the meeting at 4:15pm

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

County Commissioner: Bruender presented the County Commissioner's report (see attached).

District Conservationist: Ahrens gave the District Conservationist report. NRCS is still working on their CSP program and EQIP has been fully obligated with all but one payment has been made. With Potts leaving his position CRP will be a full load for us. All USDA offices will remain closed until October 1, 2021. The new hire, Nick, has been getting up to speed and we are still looking to hire someone for Faribault County.

FarmBill Biologist: Potts informed the board that this will be his last day with the Blue Earth Soil & Water office as he took another position within Pheasants Forever that will begin on Monday.

District Manager: Bach presented the District Manager report (see attached). Hughes discussed a few questions he had regarding Le Sueur 1W1P.

NEW BUSINESS:

2021 Outstanding Conservationist:

Bach opened the discussion of who the board would like to nominate for the 2021 Outstanding Conservationist Award. KD2 Farms was given as a possible candidate by the SWCD staff and Fritz presented the work they have done. After some discussion by the board, Rollings moved to approve KD2 Farms as the Blue Earth SWCD nominee for the 2021 Conservationist Award, seconded by Hughes.

Rollings – Aye, Hughes – Aye, Shanahan – Aye, Gardner – Aye, Krosch – Aye **Motion adopted.**

Blue Earth SWCD Comp Plan

Bach reviewed Blue Earth SWCD's current comp plan which ends on December 31, 2021. Right now, the staff will be working on a draft plan to bring to the board meeting next month. We'll be looking at which objectives to carry over from the current plan along with new objectives we want to focus on. The goal would be to approve a draft plan to send to BWSR by October so we can have it back and get final approval by December.

The Treasurer's Report was amended to include Shanahan's per diem and expenses. Rollings moved to approve the amendment to pay Supervisor Shanahan's per diems and expenses, seconded by Hughes.

Rollings – Aye, Hughes – Aye, Shanahan – Aye, Gardner – Aye, Krosch – Aye **Motion adopted.**

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Rollings – Gave his best wishes to Potts for his new job.

Hughes – Gave an update on the Le Sueur 1W1P policy meeting that was attended as well as the latest Legislative update he received. Also, gave his best wishes to Potts.

Shanahan – Gave his best wishes to Potts for his new job.

Gardner – Congratulated Potts on his new position and gave a brief update on the last MPI meeting.

Krosch – Asked what the staffing looked like for the upcoming Fair and if the Supervisors could help. Looking forward to seeing the cover crop producer profiles, would like to see our website updated a bit to be more user friendly and wished Potts the best of luck on his new job.

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

* Meeting adjourned 5:37 pm

* Next regular meeting will be held August 5, 2021

* Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Approved Date: _____ Chris Hughes, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Chairman _____