



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of January 6, 2022

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: Kevin Paap

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Krosch at 4:10 p.m. via virtual Webex platform and roll call was taken.

Pledge: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION 2022R-01

The Board reviewed and discussed resolution 2022R-01, Declaration of Local Public Health Pandemic resulting from imminent health conditions caused by the presence of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Rollings moved to approve resolution 2022R-01, seconded by Shanahan.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Krosch called for nominations for the Officer designations.

Rollings moved to elect to keep the same supervisor titles as the previous year, seconded by Shanahan.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Krosch called for the Board to make any changes to the supervisor assignments/appointments.

Rollings moved to keep the same supervisor assignments/appointments as the previous year, seconded by Gardner.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

Krosch called for the Board to make any changes to the SWCD Committees. Rollings moved to keep the same SWCD committee assignments as the previous year, seconded by Gardner.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

2022 SWCD BOARD MEETING AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Krosch called for the discussion or changes to the Board Meeting and Holiday schedule.

Rollings moved to approve the 2022 SWCD Board Meeting and Holiday Schedule, seconded by Gardner.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

2022 PER DIEM/MILEAGE RATE:

Krosch called for discussion or changes to the Per Diem and mileage reimbursement rates.

Krosch noted the mileage rate was set to change from \$0.56 to \$0.585 starting on January 1, 2022. Rollings moved to approve the new mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.585; the Meal

Reimbursement Rates including the supper meal increase to \$31.00 (See attached); the Supervisor Per Diem Rates to remain the same (See attached); keep the SWCD official Newspaper as the Maple River Messenger; and keep the SWCD Official Bank as U.S. Bank, seconded by Shanahan.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

HOUSEKEEPING

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

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Shanahan moved to approve the December 9, 2021 minutes, seconded by Gardner.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 719,241.85
Receipts	\$ 14,187.98
Disbursements	<u>\$ 34,127.50</u>
Total	\$ 699,302.33

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

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

County Commissioner: Paap presented the Blue Earth County report (see attached).

District Conservationist: Ahrens gave the District Conservationist report. She gave an update on the LeSueur 1W1P technical meeting she attended in December as well as the MASWCD Annual Convention. NRCS is busy with EQIP applications and noted the deadline to have everything ranked is March 4th and preapprovals would begin on March 9th. There is a new program signup open called CIC which is a hybrid program of EQIP and CSP. The office is still closed to the public and she'll be working remotely until further notice.

District Manager: Bach presented the District Manager Report (see attached).

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 MASWCD Dues:

Kuduk presented the invoice for the 2022 dues and requested approval of payment. Rollings moved to approve the payment of the annual MASWCD dues in the amount of \$5,750.58, seconded by Gardner.

Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 **Motion adopted.**

Campaign Finance Disclosure:

Bach reviewed the Campaign Finance Disclosure letter with the board. Board members have until January 31, 2022 to file their statement of economic interest.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Rollings – No report.

Hughes – Gave an overview of his experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention as well as the last Le Sueur 1W1P policy meeting he attended.

Shanahan – Gave an overview of his experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention he attended last month.

Gardner – No report.

Krosch – Gave an overview of her experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention and spoke about the upcoming Legislative Committee Meeting on January 13th.

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

- * Meeting adjourned 5:21 p.m.
- * Next regular meeting will be held February 10, 2022
- * Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Approved Date: _____ Chris Hughes, Secretary _____

Approved Date: _____ Carol Krosch, Chairman _____