



# BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of March 10, 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 Commissioners: Kip Bruender & Kevin Paap

**Proceedings:** Hybrid meeting called to order by Vice-Chairman Rollings at 4:00 p.m. and roll call was taken. Supervisors Krosch, Hughes & Gardner attended remotely via WebEx.

**Pledge:** All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

## HOUSEKEEPING

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

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed, Shanahan moved to approve the February 10, 2022 minutes, seconded by Hughes.

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

### **Treasurer’s Report:** (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 820,843.79
Receipts	\$ 50,389.19
Disbursements	<u>\$ 31,239.33</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 839,993.65</b>

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

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

## OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

**County Commissioner: Bruender** presented the Blue Earth County report (see attached). **Paap** gave an update from the Legislative Conferences he attended in St. Paul and Washington D.C. as well as the Le Sueur 1W1P attended last month.

**District Conservationist: Ahrens** gave the District Conservationist report. NRCS is busy with EQIP applications. The mask mandate has been lifted for both the FSA & NRCS offices, but they are still waiting on guidance for when they are able to return to the office.

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

## **COST SHARE CONTRACTS:**

### **WBIF-WW-21-07-04 Schwanke (Well Decommissioning)**

**Fritz** requested to encumber \$625.00 for well decommissioning, with an estimated total cost of \$1,250.00. **Shanahan** moved to encumber \$625.00 for the WBIF-WW-21-07-04 (Schwanke) contract, seconded by **Rollings**.

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

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **MPI Banquet Donation:**

**Kuduk** reviewed with the Board what has been given in the past as a donation towards the MPI Banquet. **Krosch** moved to donate a gift certificate for a bundle of trees and a gift certificate for a seed mix, seconded by **Rollings**.

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

### **Area VI Meeting Registration:**

**Kuduk** reviewed the information regarding the upcoming Area VI meeting with the Board. Those who are interested in attending should reach out to **Kuduk** prior to the registration deadline.

### **Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist:**

**DC Ahrens** gave a thorough presentation of the Civil Rights Responsibilities for Partners Checklist to the board. She asked that all Board Supervisors sign off on this checklist and return it to her prior to the March 25 deadline.

*4:48 p.m. – Gardner joined the meeting via WebEx.*

### **Local Work Group Meeting**

**DC Ahrens** opened the discussion of the Local Work Group Meeting that needs to be scheduled and planned before the end of July. The board agreed to an in-person meeting and gave date suggestions of when to hold the meeting. **Ahrens** will work with staff on finalizing a date.

## **SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Rollings** – No report.

**Hughes** – Thanked **Shanahan** for attending the last Le Sueur 1W1P meeting as his alternate. Also discussed recent activities of the Prairie Enthusiasts group he is with.

**Shanahan** – Gave an update of the last Le Sueur 1W1P he attended as **Hughes**' alternate.

**Gardner** – Gave update from last month's MPI meeting and the upcoming banquet next month. He also informed the board that he will not be running for re-election for his position on the Blue Earth County SWCD Board of Supervisors. His current term ends as of December 31, 2022, but he will do his best to assist in finding a great candidate to run in his place.

**Krosch** – Gave a Legislative update and encouraged the rest of the board to attend the upcoming Area VI meeting in New Ulm next month.

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

- \* Meeting adjourned 5:28 p.m.
- \* Next regular meeting will be held April 7, 2022
- \* Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Chris Hughes, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Carol Krosch, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_