



# BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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

Approved Minutes of April 7, 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 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 Shanahan.

**Motion adopted.**

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed, Rollings moved to approve the March 10, 2022 minutes, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

**Treasurer's Report:** (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 839,993.65
Receipts	\$ 14,775.34
Disbursements	<u>\$ 28,938.84</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 825,830.15</b>

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

## OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

**County Commissioner: Bruender** presented the Blue Earth County report (see attached). Paap added that there will be two other events the public can attend regarding the Rapidan Dam. The events will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup> from 11a -3p at the Hub Food Park and May 19<sup>th</sup> in Lake Crystal during the nightly Cruz'In from 4-8pm.

**District Conservationist: Ahrens** gave the District Conservationist report. FSA currently has their doors open but NRCS is still closed to the public with 50% staff in the office starting May 2nd. When NRCS does reopen to the public, we'll reopen with the idea that they will stay open forever. We're working on 9 EQIP contracts and the workload for CRP is growing as we reach construction season. There's a possibility for additional employment opportunities in Blue Earth and Waseca offices. The Local Working Group will be scheduled hopefully soon.

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

### **COST SHARE CONTRACTS:**

#### **WBIF-WW-21-07-02 Williams (Well Decommissioning)**

Fritz requested to approve payment in the amount of \$1,000.00 for well decommissioning, with a total project cost of \$2,535.50. Rollings moved to approve payment in the amount of \$1,000 for the WBIF-WW-21-07-02 (Williams) contract, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

#### **WBIF-WW-21-07-03 Otto/Blume (Well Decommissioning)**

Fritz requested to approve payment in the amount of \$1,000.00 for well decommissioning, with a total project cost of \$2,766.80. Rollings moved to approve payment in the amount of \$1,000 for the WBIF-WW-21-07-03 (Otto/Blume) contract, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

#### **3FY20 David Goodburn (Grade Stabilization)**

Fritz requested to cancel the 3FY20 contract for David Goodburn due to the recent passing of the landowner. Rollings moved to cancel the 3FY20 contract for David Goodburn, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

#### **3FY20 John Goodburn (Grade Stabilization)**

Fritz requested to encumber \$9,000.00 for the construction of a grade stabilization structure, with an estimated total cost of \$12,000.00. Shanahan moved to encumber \$7,176.00 from FY20 State Cost Share Grant and \$1,824.00 from FY21 State Cost Share Grant, for the 3FY20 (Goodburn) contract, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

#### **1FY21 Sellers (Water and Sediment Control Basin)**

Fritz requested to encumber \$9,750.00 for the construction of a water and sediment control basin, with an estimated total cost of \$13,000.00. Gardner moved to encumber \$9,750.00, encumbered from the FY21 State Cost Share grant, for the 1FY21 (Sellers) contract, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Covid-19 Meeting Policy:**

Bach reviewed Resolution No. 2022R-01 which is set to expire on April 7, 2022, as well as the current community transmission rates. He presented a memo with his recommendation to the board allowing the current resolution to expire and resume regular in-person monthly board meetings. Rollings moved to allow Resolution No. 2022R-01 to expire and resume regular in-person meetings, seconded by Gardner. Motion was amended by Rollings to include a call-in option for the public, seconded by Gardner. **Amended motion adopted.**

#### **2022 MASWCD Resolutions:**

Bach informed the board that the information regarding resolutions has not been released yet, but staff and board members should receive it by next week. He reviewed the process of approving resolutions with the board, and it can be discussed again at next month's meeting when more information is available.

#### **Computer Upgrade:**

Bach presented the request for a computer upgrade to include the replacement of one computer for the SWCD office. The budget for this request is \$2,500 based off recent quotes received from

Mankato Computer Technology. Gardner approved the request for the computer upgrade with a budget amount of \$2,500, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

**Blue Earth County Fair:**

**Kuduk** presented the Blue Earth County Fair’s invite to have the SWCD attend the Fair this July. They have allowed us to use their Heritage Building as our tree shed for tree pickup days free of charge and this would be our way of giving back. Rollings moved to approve the SWCD to hold a booth at the Blue Earth County Fair on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Shanahan.

**Motion adopted.**

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Gardner** – No report.

*\*Gardner Left Meeting at 5:17pm.*

**Rollings** – No report.

**Shanahan** – Reported on the South Central TSA meeting he attended last month as well as the Le Sueur 1W1P meeting and the public mid-way point Le Sueur 1W1P meeting in Pemberton.

**Hughes** – Reported on the Le Sueur 1W1P meeting he attended last month and the presentations that were given.

**Krosch** – Reported on the recent Area VI meeting she attended.

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

- \* Meeting adjourned 5:54 p.m.
- \* Next regular meeting will be held May 5, 2022
- \* Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

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

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