



# BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of September 8, 2022

**Supervisors Present:** Vice Chairman: John Rollings, Secretary: Chris Hughes, PR&I: William Gardner

**Supervisors Absent:** Chairman: Carol Krosch, Treasurer: John Shanahan

**Staff Present:** District Manager: Jerad Bach, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, Conservationist Specialist: Jake Fritz, Conservation Technician: Haley Johnson, District Conservationist: Ciara Ahrens, NRCS Soil Conservationist: Nick Segar

**Guests:** County Commissioners: Kevin Paap

**Proceedings:** The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Rollings at 4:00 p.m.

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

## HOUSEKEEPING

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

**Motion adopted.**

**Minutes:** Minutes were reviewed, Rollings moved to approve the August 4, 2022, minutes, seconded by Gardner. **Motion adopted.**

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

Balance on hand	\$ 852,146.12
Receipts	\$ 33,698.35
Disbursements	<u>\$ 32,437.62</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 853,406.85</b>

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

## OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

**County Commissioner: Paap** gave the County Commissioner's Report. Three neighborhood public meetings were held surrounding the new Public Works building. Due to the outcome of those meetings, the county has scraped the current planning process and is looking for a new location.

**District Conservationist: Ahrens** gave the District Conservationist report. Ahrens announced that she has taken an Area Program Specialist position in the NW Region of Wisconsin. A quick update of what to expect in new programming and funding with NRCS was given.

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

**COST SHARE**

**2FY21 (Well Decommissioning)**

**Fritz** requested to encumber \$1,942.00 for a well decommissioning project, with an estimated total cost of \$3,885.00. **Gardner** moved to encumber \$1,942.00 for the 2FY21 cost share contract to be paid by the FY21 State Cost Share grant, seconded by **Hughes**. **Motion adopted.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2022 Outstanding Conservationist:**

**Fritz** reviewed the candidates that were brought before the board last month and answered any questions the board had. **Hughes** moved to nominate **Scott Hermel** as Blue Earth Soil & Water’s 2022 Outstanding Conservationist, seconded by **Rollings**. **Motion Adopted.**

**Tree Program Update:**

**Kuduk** gave an update on the tree program including information that was gathered from the 2022 Spring Tree Program survey that was sent to all those who had purchased. Discussion of possible changes for the upcoming 2023 program were had.

**Le Sueur River Watershed Update:**

**Hughes** gave an update on the last policy meeting for the Le Sueur River Watershed. **Bach** gave a brief overview of the fiscal agent and coordinator options that the Le Sueur 1W1P steering team and policy board are looking at.

**MASWCD 2022 Annual Convention:**

**Kuduk** gave an update on the upcoming 2022 MASWCD Annual Convention that will take place on December 12-14, 2022 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington. Supervisors will be updated when registration opens.

**Johnson Probation Ending:**

**Bach** informed the board of **Johnson’s** positive 6-month review and gave a recommendation of ending her probation and giving a 3% pay increase. **Rollings** moved to end **Johnson’s** probation and approve the 3% pay increase, seconded by **Gardner**. **Motion adopted.**

**SUPERVISOR REPORTS**

**Hughes** – Gave a brief update from his Prairie Enthusiasts group.

**Rollings** – No update.

**Gardner** – Gave a brief update from the last MPI meeting.

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

- \* Meeting adjourned 5:27p.m.
- \* Next regular meeting will be held October 6, 2022
- \* Minutes submitted by **Jillian Kuduk**, Administrative Specialist

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_