



BLUE EARTH SOIL & WATER

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Approved Minutes of January 4, 2024

Supervisors Present: Chairman: Chris Hughes, Vice Chairman: John Rollings, Treasurer: John Shanahan, PR&I: Carol Krosch

Supervisors Absent: Secretary: Jacob Quade

Staff Present: District Manager: Jerad Bach, Administrative Specialist: Jillian Kuduk, NRCS District Conservationist: Jessica Beske

Guests: Corey Roeker

Proceedings: Meeting called to order by Chairman Hughes at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge: All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Hughes called for nominations for the Officer designations. Rollings moved to keep the officer assignments the same as 2023, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

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

Motion adopted.

Hughes called for the Board to make any changes to the supervisor assignments/appointments. Shanahan moved to keep the same supervisor assignments/appointments as the previous year, seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

2024 SWCD BOARD MEETING AND HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Hughes called for the discussion or changes to the Board Meeting and Holiday schedule. Rollings moved to approve the 2024 SWCD Board Meeting and Holiday Schedule as presented, seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

2024 PER DIEM/MILEAGE RATE:

Hughes called for discussion or changes to the per diem and mileage reimbursement rates. Rollings moved to approve changing the first tier per diem to \$65, changing the mileage rate to \$0.67/mile and accept all other 2024 recommendations presented (see attached), seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

HOUSEKEEPING

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

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed, Rollings moved to approve the December 7, 2023, minutes, seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer’s Report: (see attached)

Balance on hand	\$ 744,613.07
Receipts	\$ 583,298.20
Disbursements	<u>\$ 430,626.13</u>
Total	\$ 897,285.14

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

OPEN COMMUNICATIONS

District Conservationist: Beske presented the District Conservationist report.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2024R-01: Write-in Vote Counting

Bach reviewed Resolution No. 2024R-01, which details the guidelines on how the counting of ballot write-in votes will be conducted. Krosch moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024R-01, seconded by Rollings. **Motion adopted.**

Earned Sick & Safe Time Policy:

Bach presented the earned sick and safe time policy and explained the guidelines of this new policy which was passed during the 2023 legislative session. This policy will be in place until a formal one can be written into the SWCD policy book. Rollings moved to approve the earned sick and safe time policy as presented, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

Minnesota River – Mankato 1W1P MOA:

Bach reviewed the Minnesota River – Mankato 1W1P MOA with the board including which counties will hold the grant administration duties as we progress through the planning process. Rollings moved to accept and enter into the Minnesota River – Mankato 1W1P MOA, seconded by Krosch. **Motion adopted.**

2024 MASWCD Dues:

Kuduk presented the invoice for the 2024 MASWCD dues and requested approval of payment. Rollings moved to approve the payment of the 2024 MASWCD dues in the amount of \$7,077.92, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

Campaign Finance Disclosure:

Kuduk reviewed the Campaign Finance Disclosure letter with the board. Board members have until January 29, 2024, to file their statement of economic interest.

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Rollings – Gave an overview of his experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention and the Blue Earth River 1W1P meeting he attended in December.

Shanahan – Gave an overview of his experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention.
Krosch – Discussed a few items from the latest MASWCD newsletter.
Hughes – Gave an overview of his experience from the MASWCD Annual Convention.

5:30pm - Hughes requested the meeting to recess for ten minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Maple River Donation Request:

Hughes introduced Corey Roeker from Maple River Schools and gave him the floor to present his donation request for their duck house building event they do every year. Rollings moved to donate \$1,200.00 for the Maple River School District to support their duck house project to be paid by the District’s Education & Promotion budget, seconded by Shanahan. **Motion adopted.**

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

- Meeting adjourned 6:13 p.m.
- Next regular meeting will be held February 8, 2024
- Minutes submitted by Jillian Kuduk, Administrative Specialist

Signature: _____ Approved Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Approved Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Title: _____