

LINCOLN SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT . . .



Helping Bring YOU Clean Water

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Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Regular Meeting, Lincoln SWCD Office, Ivanhoe, MN, Wednesday November 20, 2024 @ 8:00 a.m.

Board Members:

Josh Osland- Secretary
Tony Dwire- Vice-Chairman- left at 9:35 am
Ronald Bunjer, Chairman
Keith Olsen-Treasurer-Entered at 8:07
Jeff Paluch- PR&I- Left at 9:00 am

District/NRCS:

Dale Sterzinger
Joy Bruns
Noah Steffen-left at 8:45 am

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am November 20, 2024, by Chairman Ronald Bunjer.

Approve Agenda

- Motion made to approve the agenda.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 4-0

Minutes – September 11, 2024, Meeting

- Discussed minutes. No corrections or additions.
- Motion Made to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2024, regular meeting.
 - Motion- Osland
 - Second- Dwire
 - Passed- 4-0

Bills/Treasurer's Report

- Motion made to approve the Bills and Treasurer's report. Keith Olsen entered the meeting at 8:07.
 - Motion- Osland
 - Second- Paluch
 - Passed- 5-0

Audit Approval

- Staff discussed the 2023 audit with the board. A motion was made to approve the 2023 audit.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 5-0

The mission of the Lincoln SWCD is to protect and improve the quality of our water, soil, and natural resources by providing programs and services to the citizens and owners of Lincoln County to implement conservation practices.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Renew Managers authority to approve cost share contracts and payments up to \$25,000.

- Motion was made to continue the manager's authority to approve cost share contracts and payments up to \$25,000.
 - Motion- Olsen
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 5-0

Renew Managers authority to enter into grant agreements

- Motion was made to continue the manager's authority to enter into grant agreements on behalf of the Lincoln SWCD.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 5-0

NACD Dues

- Motion was made to pay the dues at the continued Gold level of \$775
 - Motion- Paluch
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 5-0

Streamline Web Site Design and Maintenance

- Discussion was held on hiring Streamline to redo the web site. It was decided to look for other options to have the web site re-designed by 2026. No motion made.

Soil Health Grant for Verdi DWSMA

- Discussion was held on the grant. No motion was needed.

Ag BMP funding and new application process report

- A discussion was held on the new process for applications.

Well Sealing contracts and payments manager approved

No actions needed

- Payment for Chris Nelson WS-WP-08-2023 \$500 one Well
- Payment for Ron Madsen WS-WP-09-2023 \$500 one Well
- Payment for Chad Olsen WS-WP-03-2024 \$500 one Well
- Payment for Gerald Bot WS-WP-01-2024 \$500 one Well
- Contract for Duane Amundson WS-WP-02-2024 \$500 one Well
- Payment for Duane Amundson WS-WP-02-2024 \$500 one Well
- Contract for Lloyd Dombek WS-WP-04-2024 \$500 one Well
- Contract for Luke Nibbe WS-WP-05-2024 \$500 one Well

Soil Health Delivery Grant payment SHD2025-01 for Nathan Krog no till/strip till and cover crops \$19,575.72 manager approved.

- Manager explained the need to make the payment to the operator.

FY24-01 Conservation Contracts Grant payment for \$17,316 to Josh Osland Cover Crops. Manager and Board Chairman approved.

- Manager explained the need to make the payment with Chairmans approval.

Contract SHD2025-02 for Robin Sik \$1,422.63 for Cover Crops. Manager approved

- Manager explained the approval of the contract.

Payment SHD2025-02 for Robin Sik \$1,422.63 for Cover Crops. Manager approved

- Manager explained the approval of the payment

Payment to Tim Jerzak for contract FY23-01 for \$4,029.30 basins Limestone 30 and contract FY23-02 for \$6,299.17 for basins Ash Lake 13.

- A motion was made to approve payments for both contracts FY23-01 and FY23-02.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 5-0

Contract WP-JS-01-2024 for John Sumerfelt intake and basin repair for \$1,500.

- A motion was made to approve the repair for \$500 based on the amount that the local water management grants will pay on alternative intakes.
 - Motion- Olsen
 - Second- Paluch
 - Passed- 5-0

First Security Bank money market and resolution signatures

- Motion was made to have all board members and staff sign the resolution giving check signing authority to everyone. Also have the board and staff sign for the new money market account. Jeff Paluch left the meeting at 9:00 am.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 5-0

Resignation letter of employee and discussion of a new position

- Discussion was held on a new position. It was determined that the staff should come up with a job description and present it to the board in December or January. Manager explained that he accepted the resignation of the employee.

Flex Spending account change in the Employee Handbook

- A motion was made to make the change in the employee handbook stating that the policy would follow the IRS dollar amount that is allowable to flex in any single year.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Health Care Discussion

- A discussion was held on the health care stipend. It was decided to table the discussion until the December board meeting. Board members wanted to think about the issue.

2025 Budget Approval

- A motion was made to approve the proposed budget for 2025. Tony Dwire left the meeting at 9:35 am.
 - Motion- Dwire

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- Second- Olsen
- Passed- 4-0

Building update

- Discussion was held on the building progress.

Technical Programs Update

- Technical programs were discussed with the board by the staff.

Watershed Reports

- Yellow Medicine River 1W1P- Only one project left that needs to be completed by December 1, 2024, to meet the deadline. Discussion was held on the Policy Committee meeting. Multiple projects are being completed within the watershed.
- Lac Qui Parle River- MPCA hosted a web x meeting in regards to impairments in the watershed. They discussed TMDL studies and WRAPS reports. The group also received the 2025 watershed based implementation grant for 2025 in the amount of \$1,228,526.
- Missouri 1W1P- Waiting on the news on receiving the Verdi Well Area Ground water grant.

Redwood 1W1P- Policy meeting was held. Discussed Priority issues and measurable goals. Decisions will be made at the January meeting.

Other Business

- A discussion was held on whether or not employees would be allowed to store personal items in the new shed if there is room. The board decided by a consensus vote to not allow any long-term storage for anyone for personal items. A night or two may be allowed with managers approval.

Reports:

- County Commissioner Report- Joe stopped for a few minutes at the beginning. Discussed the County finalizing their budget for the 2025 year.
- District Manager's Report
 - WCA work on culvert and bridge for Hwy Dept.
 - WCA Drainage projects
 - Elink Grant work
 - BWSR Academy
- Technical Advisors Report- Noah gave his report on trainings before leaving at 8:45 am.
- NRCS Report- Not present

The next regular board meeting will be December 18, 2024 @ 8:00 AM Lincoln SWCD Office.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:09 AM. Motion made by Osland, Seconded by Olsen, to adjourn the meeting. Passed 3-0.

APPROVED: _____

12-18-2024

DATE

Ronald W Bunge

SIGNATURE