

# 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 December 18, 2024, @ 8:00 a.m.

### Board Members:

Josh Osland- Secretary  
Tony Dwire- Vice-Chairman- In at 8:20 am  
Ronald Bunjer, Chairman  
Keith Olsen-Treasurer- Absent  
Jeff Paluch- PR&I

### District/NRCS:

Dale Sterzinger  
Joy Bruns  
Noah Steffen

Meeting called to order at 8:10 am December 18, 2024, by Chairman Ronald Bunjer.

### **Approve Agenda**

- Motion made to approve the agenda with the addition of a CRP seeding concern and payment for basins in Limestone 25.
  - Motion- Osland
  - Second- Paluch
  - Passed- 3-0

### **Minutes – November 20, 2024, Meeting**

- Discussed minutes. No corrections or additions.
- Motion Made to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2024, regular meeting.
  - Motion- Osland
  - Second- Paluch
  - Passed- 3-0

### **Bills/Treasurer's Report**

- Motion made to approve the Bills and Treasurer's report. (Dwire entered the meeting 8:20 am)
  - Motion- Osland
  - Second- Paluch
  - Passed- 4-0

### **Streamline Web Site Design and Maintenance**

- Discussion was held on hiring Streamline to redo the web site. Manager explained that it has been difficult to find other options, but he would continue looking for other estimates. No motion made.

*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

### **New Employee Job Description**

- Manager explained that the technical advisor would be taking over the seed program. More office and soil health duties will be added to the conservation technician position. Discussed starting wage. A motion was made to have a starting hourly wage from \$25/hour to \$30/hour.
  - Motion- Paluch
  - Second- Dwire
  - Passed- 4-0

### **Ranger tires**

- Manager discussed the need for new ranger tires due to bean stubble putting holes in the tires. Manager is to get new tires. No motion needed.

### **Ag BMP Report**

- Manager discussed with the board that no applications can be processed until the new application system is up and running in January.

**Payment for Lloyd Dombek WS-WP-04-2024 \$500 one Well manager approved payment**

**Payment for John Sumerfelt WS-JS-01-2024 for intake and basin repair \$500 manager approved payment**

**Payment for Frank Engels LC-02-2022 basins \$7,161.32 manager approved payment**

- Board reviewed all payments approved by the manager. No motion needed.

### **Earned Safe and Sick Policy Review.**

- A motion was made to add the earned safe and sick leave into the sick leave policy for payout upon an employee leaving the SWCD.
  - Motion- Dwire
  - Second- Osland
  - Passed- 4-0

### **Health Care Stipend**

- A discussion was held on the health care stipend. A motion was made to increase the stipend from \$600/month to \$800/month in order to attract and retain employees in the future.
  - Motion- Paluch
  - Second- Dwire
  - Passed- 4-0

### **Wage adjustments/Bonus**

- A motion was made to approve a 3% cost of living and a step/JAA increase for the technical advisor along with a \$5/hour increase for the contracted bookkeeper.
  - Motion- Dwire
  - Second- Osland
  - Passed- 4-0

### **Building update**

- Discussion was held on the building progress. Discussed concrete bids. Also discussed the existing vehicle building repairs that are needed along the east end of the building. Board agreed to have the manager get an estimate from an available licensed contractor to make the repair. The

estimate would be presented to the board prior to authorizing the repair. No bids required for the small repair. No motion needed.

### **Technical Programs Update**

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

### **Area 2 Legislative Gathering**

- Manager and bookkeeper attended the meeting and gave the board an overview of what took place.

### **State Convention report/resolution outcomes.**

- Manager, Chairman and Technical Advisor attended the convention. Manager went through the resolution results. No motion needed.

### **Watershed Reports**

- Yellow Medicine River 1W1P- Our office had a push on a couple landowners to finish projects. We worked on cost share and meeting the deadline. The advisory meeting will be held today at 11:30 in Marshall. Manager is planning on attending.
- Lac Qui Parle River- The 2025/2026 implementation grant has been received. We will be submitting projects soon. Manager attended the advisory committee meeting for the watershed. A review of the year of projects was presented by the watershed administrator.
- Missouri 1W1P- Well head grant was discussed.

Redwood 1W1P- Plan is on track. No news since last meeting.

### **Other Business**

- **CRP planting issue for one landowner.** Discussion was held. The landowner will receive a letter stating the steps going forward for the development of the CRP. No motion needed.
- **Payment for Joy Bruns LC-2023-01 Basins \$20,000 in Limestone 25.**
  - A motion was made to approve payment of \$20,000 for project number LC-2023-01 for basins.
    - Motion- Dwire
    - Second- Osland
    - Passed- 4-0

### **Reports:**

- County Commissioner Report- No report
- District Manager's Report.
  - WCA Drainage projects
  - Elink Grant work
  - Attending meetings
- Technical Advisors Report- Gave a report on programs, convention and other meetings.

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- NRCS Report- No report

The next regular board meeting will be January 15, 2025 @ 8:00 AM Lincoln SWCD Office.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:24 AM. Motion made by Paluch , Seconded by Osland , to adjourn the meeting. Passed 4-0.

APPROVED:

1 - 15 - 25

DATE

Ronald D Burger

SIGNATURE