

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, Thursday June 20, 2024 @ 8:00 a.m.

Board Members:

Josh Osland- PRI- Absent
Dale Fier, Chair
Ronald Bunjer, Vice Chair
Keith Olsen, Treasurer
Tony Dwire, Secretary- 8:25

District/NRCS:

Dale Sterzinger
Austin DeVlaeminck
Noah Steffen
Joy Bruns- Absent

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am June 20, 2024, by Chairman Dale Fier.

Approve Agenda

- Addition of Tractor Agreement for 2025, local work group discussion, six month raise for technical advisor position, Donation to Lincoln County Historical Society, develop a nominating committee, discuss policy change for hiring, Well Sealing contract WP-WS-06-2023 for Scott Popowski, Well Sealing contract WP-WS-07-2024 Dustin Hauschild and Well Sealing contract WP-WS-08-2024 for Chris Nelson.
 - Motion- Bunjer
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 3-0

Minutes – April 17, 2024, Meeting

- Discussed minutes. No corrections or additions.
- Motion Made to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024, regular meeting.
 - Motion- Bunjer
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 3-0

Bills/Treasurer's Report

- Motion made to approve the Bills and Treasurer's report.
 - Motion- Olsen
 - Second- Bunjer
 - Passed- 4-0

Soil Health Position Grant with SWPTSA Phase 2

- Manager put in for the full amount of \$80,000 for soil health practices for Lincoln County.

Well Sealing Contracts and one payment

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

- Contract number WP-WS-03-2023 for Larry Benson one well \$500
- Contract number WP-WS-04-2023 for Audrey Ochocki one well \$500
- Contract WP-WS-05-2023 for Mike Rybinski two wells \$1,000
- Payment WP-WS-02-2023 to Morton Herrington one well \$500

Designate funds to vehicle account

- Discussion was held that \$50,000 was still in the vehicle account. No action needed to move funds.

County Budget Request

- Motion made to request a 3 percent increase to the SWCD budget from Lincoln County.
 - Motion- Bunjer
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Department of Agriculture DWSMA opportunity for incentives

- Manager discussed the incentives being offered in the DWSMA for landowners to implement eligible practices.

Building update and Contractor selection

- Discussion was held on the building process and permitting.
- A motion was made to have the lowest bidding licensed and insured contractor be the contractor on the new building construction, Tyler Lumber received the bid for materials and have Ground Works do the dirt work and gravel.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Area 5 meeting update

- Discussion was held on the area 5 meeting. Also discussed the Area 5 supervisors survey results.

Technical Programs Update

- Technicians and Manager discussed the status of all technical programs. Ag BMP, WCA, CRP incentives, Cover Crops, Buffcat tool, CREP training, Walk in Access, Trees and Seed program.

Watershed Reports

- Yellow Medicine River 1W1P- Water storage meeting. Discussed the structural projects that are coming into the office from landowners.
- Lac Qui Parle River 1W1P- Noah updated the board on the projects that were funded.
- Missouri 1W1P- No report
- Redwood- Policy meeting was held to approve the MOA. Redwood kickoff meeting was discussed.

Other Business

- **Tractor lease contract for 2025.**
 - Manager discussed the new lease and price change for the 2025 year.
- **Local Work Group Survey**
 - Manager discussed the survey and the purpose

- **Six-month wage adjustment for technical advisor position**
 - A motion was made to give a \$1.00/hour raise to the technical advisor position for passing the six-month probationary period. The raise is to be retroactive to the end of the 6-month probationary period.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

- **Well Sealing Contract WP-WS-06-2023 for Scott Popowski for one well \$500**
- **Well Sealing Contract and Payment WP-WS-07-2023 for Dustin Hauschild one well \$500.**
- **Well Sealing Contract WP-WS-08-2023 for Chris Nelson one well \$500.**
 - No action needed. Manager approved the contract.

- **Discussion was held on a possible donation to the Lincoln County Historical Society.**
 - A motion was made to donate to the Historical Society at the Lifetime level of \$5,000.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Bunjer
 - Passed- 4-0

- **Discussion was held on forming an Election Nominating Committee**
 - A motion was made to form a committee when doing committee assignments in the future.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

- **Discussion was held on a possible policy change**
 - Discussion was held to look at having the entire board decide on new hire for future employees. The Personnel committee is to recommend the hire to the entire board. No motion was made at this time.

Reports:

- County Commissioner Report- Not present

- District Manager's Report
 - WCA work on violations
 - Grant work Soil Health \$80,000
 - Requested an additional \$450,000 for Ag BMP
 - Working on cost share contracts
 - Manager discussed his conflict with the September meeting.

- Conservation Technician Report- Gave report during technical programs update.

- Technical Advisors Report- Gave report during technical programs update.

- NRCS Report- No one present

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.

- Dale Fier gave his resignation from the board effective immediately. The Board accepted his resignation. No motion made.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2024 @ 8:00 AM Lincoln SWCD Office.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:36 AM. Motion made by Dwire , Seconded by Bunjer , to adjourn the meeting. Passed 4-0.

APPROVED: _____

7-18-24

DATE

Ronald N Bunjer

SIGNATURE