

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, December 20, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Dale Fier, Chair
Keith Olsen, Treasurer
Tony Dwire, Secretary-
Ronald Bunjer, Vice Chair- Not Present
Josh Osland, PRI-

District Staff Present:

Dale Sterzinger, Manager/WCA Admin.
Austin DeVlaeminck, Con. Tech.
Noah Steffen- Technical Advisor-Not Present
Joy Bruns-Book Keeper

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. December 20, 2023 by Chairperson Dale Fier.

Approve Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda with the change of adding discussion of Redwood 1W1P MOA agreement and Cancellation of contract FY21-02 Brian Kramer. Add funding to Jared Rouge basin project from local water management grant 2023.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 4-0

Minutes – November 15, 2023 Meeting

- Discussed minutes. No corrections or additions.
- Motion Made to approve the minutes of November 15, 2023 regular meeting
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Treasurer's Report

- Motion made to approve Treasurer's report
 - Motion- Osland
 - Second- Dwire
 - Passed- 4-0

Bills

- Motion made to approve bills
 - Motion- Osland
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

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

Removal from the Health Insurance Pool with SWWC

- Discussion was held on the SWCD leaving the Health insurance pool with SWWC.

2024 Budget

- Review and discussion was held on the proposed 2024 budget. A motion was made to approve the proposed 2024 budget.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Manager Approved Well Sealing payments

- Payment WP-WS-20-2022 Jessie Weber two wells \$1000
- Payment WP-WS-21-2022 Barak Bjorge one well \$500
- Discussion was held on the payments. No motion needed.

State cost share amendment for Jarod Rouge Contract FY22-02AM

- Cost Share Amendment FY22-02-AM \$2,335 Jared Rouge Basin Project
 - Motion to approve the amendment to add \$2,335 to the contract
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 4-0

State Cost Share Contract Payments

- LC-01-2022 Frank Jorgensen \$3,806 for a basin project
- LC-01-2021 for \$12,250 and FY22-01 for \$3,120 Ed Amundson for basin project
- FY23-SH-02 for \$14,175 Tony Dwire Cover Crop and No Till 3- year contract
 - Motion was made to approve all payments of contracts listed above. Dwire abstained.
 - Motion- Osland
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 3-0

State Cost Share Contract FY22-02 Jared Rouge Basins

- Discussion held on FY22-02 for \$10,880 Jared Rouge Basin Project
- Motion was made to approve the payment pending final paperwork and signatures. Manager is approved to make the payment in the amount of \$10,880 once the paperwork is final.
 - Motion- Olsen
 - Second- Osland
 - Passed- 4-0

DNR Monitoring Agreement

- Manager discussed the rate increase per well measured by the SWCD. Manager signed the agreement.

State Convention Report

- Discussion was held on the State Convention by the two technicians.

Soil Health Position Funding (Shared Position)

- Discussion was held on the potential new position that could be shared between Counties. Manager talked with neighboring counties about sharing a position. Two have shown interest so far.

Part time Secretary for Spring discussion

- Board discussed hiring a part time secretary. Possibly share with NRCS or another agency.

Seed Program/Cover Crop Update

- Technician Austin gave an update on the seed program.

Ag BMP funding update

- Manager discussed remaining funds and repayments.

WCA Potential Violations

- Manager discussed the potential violations and the course of action that will be taken.

Watershed Reports

- Manager gave a brief report for each watershed.
 - **Yellow Medicine River One Watershed One Plan**
 - Manager submitted 12 contracts for payments of over \$360,000.
 - Grant close out all payments needed to be made by December 31, 2023.
 - Amended two contracts for additional funds.
 - We applied for an additional 1 Million dollars for cover crop incentives. \$430,000 is needed for existing contracts just in Lincoln County at this time.
 - **Lac Qui Parle River Watershed One Watershed One Plan**
 - One cover crop plan submitted with more individuals showing interest in the program.
 - **Missouri River One Watershed One Plan**
 - We are working on putting together a letter to all the landowners in the DWMSA for cover crop and tillage incentives.
 - **Redwood Watershed- Local plan basin project**
 - Planning Kick off Meeting December 8 was held. Ron, Noah and I attended. It was a very good presentation of the 1W1P planning process.
 - MOA for planning will have to be signed in January.

Reports

- County Commissioner Report- Not Present
- District Managers Report- WCA drainage requests, year-end reporting for January
- Conservation Technicians Report- Discussed convention, serviced ranger, drone flights for slide show and seed/tree program.
- Technical Advisors Report- Worked on trainings and spreadsheets
- NRCS Report- Not Present

Other Business

- Discussion was held on the Redwood 1W1P MOA for planning.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

- Motion was made to cancel contract number FY21-02 Brian Kramer \$5,490.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

Jared Rouge Basin project additional funding from Local water management grant 2023.

- Discussion and a motion was made to utilize \$2,500 from the local water management 2023 grant to help with the high cost of the basin project due to more dirt being moved than first estimated.
 - Motion- Dwire
 - Second- Olsen
 - Passed- 4-0

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M. at the Lincoln SWCD Office. Meeting was adjourned at 11.45 A.M. Motion made by Osland , Seconded by Dwire to adjourn. Passed 4-0.

Motion was made by Osland Seconded by Dwire to reopen the meeting at 11:50.

Motion was made to give all employees a \$150 bonus plus move the bookkeeper to \$40/hr.

- Motion- Dwire
- Second- Olsen
- Passed 4-0

Meeting was adjourned at 11:53 motion by Olsen second by Osland Passed 4-0.

APPROVED: 1-29-24
DATE

Ronald W. Buyse
SIGNATURE