



**SIBLEY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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**MINNESOTA SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS**

MINUTES FROM THE MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, January 13, 2015

Members present: Paul Wiemann, Chairman
Bob Nielsen, Vice Chairman
Wayne Grams, Secretary
Kathleen Thies, Treasurer
Gary Schafer, Reporter

Others present: Loren Evenson, District Manager
Ron Otto, Water Planner
April Sullivan, NRCS District Conservationist

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wiemann at 4:00 P.M.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Grams to have the following serve as officers for Sibley SWCD in 2015: Paul Wiemann, Chair; Bob Nielsen, Vice Chair; Wayne Grams, Secretary; Kathleen Thies, Treasurer; and Gary Schafer, Reporter. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Nielsen to approve the December meeting minutes. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Grams to approve the December 12, 2014 special meeting minutes. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Nielsen to approve the January treasurer's report. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

NRCS Report

Comment period for EQIP & CSP rules end on February 10, 2015

FY15 EQIP has ended. Anyone who signs up from now on will be for FY16.

NRCS and SWCD will be working to complete the Hartung/MN Valley site and getting the Voight site seeding up to standards. NRCS and SWCD are also beginning work on the Eugene Hauer restoration site.

Five CSP contracts were renewed. All other contracts that were up for renewal cancelled and the producers signed new applications.

There is a Field Office Appraisal scheduled for January 26 – 29, 2015. Nielsen will answer questions on behalf of the SWCD.

Water Management Report

Otto explained to the board that a new representative from SWCD needs to be appointed to the Water Resources Advisory Committee. Grams volunteered to be on the committee.

Otto finished twenty SSTS loans this past year; securing \$254,032.04 in funding.

Otto is busy finishing yearend eLink and BWSR reports.

Otto will be attending the Aquatic Invasive Summit on January 20 – 21, 2015 in St. Cloud. A plan needs to be formulated so the county can receive funding.

No report from the HIC/RR Watershed Coordinator.

District Report

Evenson met with three landowners about possible conservation practices that could be installed to hold and slow water.

Evenson and Otto attended a combined meeting of the Sibley and Nicollet SWCDs.

Evenson and Otto attended a TEP meeting for C.D. 29 in Green Isle Township.

Evenson is busy finishing yearend reports for BWSR.

Old Business

The co-location of the Sibley and Nicollet SWCDs was discussed again. Board members feel that Sibley SWCD should be represented at the January 15, 2015 meeting. Evenson was selected to attend this meeting. The meeting will formalize what will be presented to the Sibley and Nicollet County Boards on February 10, 2015.

New Business

Motion by Grams; seconded by Nielsen, to approve the State Cost-Share application of Terry Wend Orff, Transit Township, for the sealing of an unused well. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. Cost share funding in the amount of \$400.00 will be encumbered

from 2014 funds (Contract FY # 14-15). The District will retain \$80.00 in Technical Assistance funding for the project.

Motion by Grams; seconded by Nielsen to approve a State Cost-Share practice completion of Jamie Harmon, Kelso Township, for the sealing of an unused well. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried. Payment of \$175.00 will be issued for the completion of Contract # FY14-16. The District will retain \$43.75 for technical assistance on the project.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Nielsen to pay MASWCD dues in the amount of \$2332.70 for 2015. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Thies to pay expenses for the 2015 tree program. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Legislative Days at the Capitol are January 26 & 27, 2015. Schafer, Grams and Thies will be attending.

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Grams to have Chair Wiemann sign the Easement Implementation Grant for the Eugene Hauer WRP/RIM easement. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Schafer; seconded by Grams to have Chair Wiemann sign the financial closeout report for the 2012 Cost Share Base grant. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Grams; seconded by Nielsen to have Chair Wiemann sign the financial closeout report for the 2014 Easement Delivery Grant. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.

Nielsen advised the board that there will be an Area VI Chairman's meeting on January 22, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. at the DNR Regional Office in New Ulm. Wiemann will be attending along with Area VI Vice Chair Nielsen and Area VI Treasurer Grams.

Correspondence - None

Motion by Nielsen; seconded by Grams to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 P.M. Yeas: all; nays: none. Motion carried.
