

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District
Monday, March 20, 2023**

A meeting of the Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District Board was held Monday, March 20, 2023 at 8:00 AM at the Prairie Service Center with the following members present: Roger Hoff, Gene Cragoe, Dave Esselink, Jim Veldkamp, Dylan Bartels, NRCS, Director Eric Hartman, Assistant Director Doug Bos, Office Manager Mary Thompson. Absent: County Commissioner Stan Williamson, Josh Ossefoort

Chair Hoff called the meeting to order and asked for any additions to the agenda. With no additions, motion to approve by Cragoe, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

NRCS Update

Bartels stated they have been continuing with EQP sign up, currently there are 10 or 11 approved in comparison to last year there were 4. There is also EQIP dollars available through the Inflation Reduction Act for climate smart ag practices. Ranking on those is scheduled for April. Bartels stated this will be his last meeting with Rock SWCD as he has taken a position with NRCS in Rock Rapids, IA which will allow him to work closer to home.

Conservation Agronomist

Bos stated Paul Messner has been hired as the conservation agronomist. He is an SDSU graduate, farms with his parents and was currently working with Murray NRCS. He also works with the corn and soybean growers and the local FFA chapter. He will be located in the New Vision office with Josh Hilbrands, Agronomist Manager, as his supervisor. Messner will be providing information to landowners on the carbon market, soil health practices, will provide communication with other New Vision agronomists and provide monthly updates. His focus will be the Missouri River Watershed but he will cover all of Area V.

Bills for Approval:

Thompson presented the following bill for approval. Motion to approve by Cragoe, second by Esselink. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

City of Luverne - \$29.00

Clifton, Allen, Larson, LLP - \$525.00

Financial Statements

Hartman presented the February financial statements. After review, motion to approve by Esselink, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Minutes

The February 21, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Cragoe, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no oppose, motion carried.

Upcoming Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023

Motion to adjourn by Cragoe, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Thompson".

Mary Thompson
Office Manager