

**Minutes of the meeting of the
Rock County Soil and Water Conservation District
Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

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

Chair Hoff called the meeting to order and asked for any additions to the agenda. Bos added the Area V meeting recap and Conservation Agronomist. NRCS updates from Heard were also added. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Cragoe. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Conservation Use Acre Contracts

Thompson presented an amendment to contract CUA-65 for Todd Matus. Contract was approved at 7 acres/\$100 per acre and should have been \$150 per acre per the approval of the policy change at the April meeting. Contract amount amended from \$700 to \$1,050.00. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Outstanding Conservationist

Nominees are Art Ehde and Jim and Sherri Ladd. After discussion, motion to award 2023 to Art Ehde by Ossefoort, second by Veldkamp. Ladd will remain the nominee for 2024. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Resolution Packets

Resolution packets were sent to board members prior to the meeting. Discussion regarding the process, sunseting resolutions and if there were any concerns that may need a resolution. There were none.

Bills for Approval and Post Approval:

Thompson presented the following current bills and those for post-approval due to no regular meeting in May.

Approval:

Regular Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
6/20/2023	12060	City of Luverne	92.70
6/20/2023	3198	Barry Kracht	206.71

Total: \$299.41

Post Approved:

Post Approval 6/20/2023

SWCD Bills Paid 4/28/2023 – Regular Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
04/28/2023	2736	BOMGAARS SUPPLY INC	\$57.96
04/28/2023	437	DEWITT COMPANY INC	\$2,265.21
04/28/2023	2593	HACH CO.	\$208.62
04/28/2023	12060	LUVERNE/CITY OF	\$29.00
04/28/2023	18055	ROCK COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER	\$95.00
04/28/2023	450	SCHUMACHER'S NURSERY & BERRY FARM INC	\$10,256.75

Total \$12, 912.54

SWCD Bills Paid 5/12/2023 – Regular Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
5/12/2023	3000	Mert's Machine & Repair	415.26
5/12/2023	100	Sunshine Foods	4.18

Total \$ 419.44

SWCD Bills Paid 5/26/2023 – Regular Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
5/26/2023	2636	C & B Operations – tree matter points	76.24
5/26/2023	12060	City of Luverne	53.00
5/26/2023	450	Schumacher's Nursery & Berry Farm	100.53

Total \$229.77

SWCD Bills Paid 6/9/2023 – Regular Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
06/09/2023	18751	ROCK COUNTY LAND MANGEMENT	\$15,347.65
06/09/2023	100	SUNSHINE FOODS	\$4.99
06/09/2023	1071	TITAN MACHINERY INC	\$354.46

Total: \$15,707.10

SWCD Bills Paid 6/9/2023 – Cost Share Checking

A/P Date	Vendor Number	Vendor Name	Total Amount
06/09/2023	100	SUNSHINE FOODS	\$7.18

Total: \$7.18

Motion to approve all bills by Veldkamp, second by Ossefoort. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Hartman presented the April and May financial statements. Thompson noted on the May statements the income from MPCA is reimbursements for expenses for the SWAG water sampling grant and the BWSR operations Grant is the RIM easement delivery annual payment. After review, motion to approve both months by Cragoe, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no opposes, motion carried.

Area V Meeting Recap:

Bos stated the MASWCD Area V meeting was held in Luverne on June 15. There were approximately 70 in attendance with 50 participating in the tour. Tour was to Jim and Sherri Ladd's where Patrick Toomey, NRCS Grazing Specialist, gave a presentation on Ladd's cow/calf grazing management project taking beans and corn out of production to help reduce nitrates in the wellhead areas. There was also a stop at Tom Fick's where speakers from the U of M gave presentations on the Forever Green Program including information on kernza and perennial wheat grass. Fick also spoke of his experience raising and marketing kernza.

Conservation Agronomist:

Bos stated the Conservation Agronomist, Paul Messner, resigned so the job has been posted with New Vision and on our Rock SWCD website. Bos asked the board to let us know if they hear of or know of anyone who might be interested.

NRCS Update:

Heard stated there has been some shifting in NRCS employees. Dylan Bartels resigned to take a job with NRCS in Iowa, Levi Campion resigned to take a job with NRCS in South Dakota. Nathan Blankers moved to the Pipestone office starting today. She stated tiling requests will be about a year behind because Jake from the Compliance Team in Marshall also resigned to pursue a job with Ducks Unlimited. She stated she will give the rest of her updates at the Local Work Group meeting following this meeting.

Minutes:

The April 17, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Veldkamp, second by Hoff. All ayes, no oppose, motion carried.

The May 22, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve by Ossefoort, second by Veldkamp. All ayes, no oppose, motion carried.

Upcoming Meeting

Next meeting Monday, July 17, 2023.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Thompson
Office Manager

