

- **Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
October 13th at 9:00 a.m. EMS Building 811 5th Street Pipestone, Minnesota**

Board Members Present:

Ian Cunningham, Chairman
Cal Spronk, Vice-Chair
Brad Kruisselbrink, PR & I

Board Members Absent:

Ken Christensen, Secretary / Treasurer
Bill Folger, Programs

Others Present:

Les Nath, Luke Johnson, Melissa Rosendahl, Levi Campion, Laura DeBeer

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

A. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Spronk to approve agenda as presented seconded by Kruisselbrink.
Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Spronk, seconded by Kruisselbrink to approve the minutes of the
September board meeting. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Financial Report & Bills

Kruisselbrink made a motion to file the financial reports and approve the payment of
bills. Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

New Business:

D. Resolutions Packet

- a. Cunningham explained the resolution procedure. Voting ballots are due to
Rosendahl by November 1st.

E. Employee Review

- a. Rosendahl agreed to keep the meeting open during her review. Cunningham
presented her review stating that it was favorable including a step increase in pay scale
as of 10/7/22. Spronk made a motion to approve the favorable review as presented with
a step increase. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none.
Motion carried.

F. Health Insurance Renewal Rates

- a. Cunningham shared the increase in health renewal rates for the single and family
coverages. They increased by 4.5-5.0% for the year 2023. The current SWCD
contribution for a single member is \$625/month. The family contribution is

\$1,050/month. Spronk made a motion to increase the monthly contribution for single by \$25 to \$650.00/month and increase the family contribution by \$25 to \$1,075/month for the 2023 renewal year. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

G. Well Sealing Application

- a. Rosendahl presented a well sealing invoice for Scott Wassink, Osborne Township Section 30, in the amount of \$913.40 from Hulstein Excavating. The original sealing invoice from Minett Well Repair, Inc was for \$575 which Wassink received cost share of 50% on that invoice. This invoice from Hulstein Excavating was in addition due to the large size of the well at 42 inches diameter and 35 feet deep. Spronk made a motion that the SWCD cost share 50% of the Hulstein Excavating invoice as well in the amount of \$ 456.70. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

H. Cost Share Contract

- a. Rosendahl presented the first cost share contract for Rod Schulze, contract #01-24, Fountain Prairie Section 26, for 150 acres of cover crops in the wellhead protection area for 3 years. The contract amount is \$18,000.00. The second contract is for Chris Schulze, contract #01-25, Fountain Prairie section 24, for 64 acres of cover crops in the wellhead protection area for 3 years. The contract amount is \$7,680.00. Spronk made a motion to sign and approve both contracts. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

I. Soil Health Grant Policy and Workplan

- a. DeBeer gave an update on the Soil Health Grant that was awarded to Pipestone SWCD from the Clean Water Fund. Practices included in the policy will be strip-till/no-till, cover crops, split application of nitrogen, crop rotation and nitrogen reduction practices. The workplan is due Nov 1.

County Commissioner Report:

Nath – County levy is set at 8.43%. Will soon be surveying the county for broadband.

Johnson – The AMC fall policy conference was last month and they chose 3 priorities: retain public water inventory certainty, ditch referral and SCORE funding. RCRCA is 90% done with dredging project.

Supervisor Reports:

Cunningham – Steph McLain stopped out to do a soil presentation to local students.

Kruisselbrink – Attended the RCRCA meeting. November 3rd there will be an Area II legislative meeting at Painted Prairie by Currie.

Spronk: Nothing.

NRCS Report: In November a new soil conservationist will be joining the NRCS office in Pipestone. Still taking applications for EQIP. In 2022 there were 18 EQIP contracts totaling 1.9 million and 5 were from Pipestone. There were 21 CSP contracts totaling 2.5 million with 1 from Pipestone and 32 reenrolls for CSP and 3 were from Pipestone County.

Manager's Report: Nothing.

Adjournment:

There being no further business Chairman Cunningham declared the meeting adjourned.

Ken Christensen, Secretary