

- **Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
February 16th at 9:00 a.m. EMS Building 811 5th Street Pipestone, Minnesota**

Board Members Present:

Cal Spronk, Chairman
Ken Christensen, Vice-Chair
Bill Folger, Secretary/Treasurer
Brad Kruisselbrink, Programs
Ian Cunningham, PR&I

Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Luke Johnson, Doug Nagel, Melissa Rosendahl, Kyle Krier, Nicole Schwebach, Danielle Evers, Levi Campion

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

A. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Folger to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Cunningham.
Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

B. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Cunningham, seconded by Christensen to approve the minutes of the January board meeting. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Financial Report & Bills

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

New Business:

D. Employee Review: Danielle Evers

- a. Evers agreed to keep the meeting open during her review. Krier presented her review to the board stating that her review was favorable and suggested to the board that she receive a step increase as of 2/8/2023. Cunningham made a motion to approve the review with a step increase, Folger seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

E. SSTS Grant Program

- a. Rosendahl presented the current septic system low income guidelines for the septic system replacement grant funds. Discussion was had on changing the income guidelines. Cunningham made a motion to follow the 300% Federal Poverty Guidelines

for low income requirements, continuing to enforce the applicant not transfer the land within 5 years and the grant would cover 50% cost share of the septic replacement cost not to exceed \$10,000.00. Folger seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

F. Cost Share Contracts

- a. Schwebach presented a 319 Grant contract for Merle Zeinstra, contract #319-22-Zeinstra to help fund his nutrient management plan and site design of his feedlot project. The cost of the project is \$9,000.00 with 75% cost share would be \$6,750.00. Cunningham made a motion approve this contract. Kruisselbrink seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
- b. Krier shared that the Wellhead Soil Health Grant has been accepting applications. They will be accepted until March and then they will be ranked and prioritized.

G. NRCS Local Work Group Meeting

- a. Campion set up a date of June 8th, right after the monthly SWCD board meeting at 11:00 to have the NRCS Local Work Group Meeting.

H. Well Sealing Application

- a. Rosendahl presented a well sealing application for Michelle Winter, in Troy section 13, in the amount of \$7,400.00. The well was 280 feet 6” steel well that was drilled to clean out then casing collapsed so well needed to be sealed. Christensen made a motion to pay 50% of the well sealing, \$3,700.00. Cunningham seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

County Commissioner Report:

Johnson – Shared info on the new bill to enact a DNR drainage registry portal. AMC legislative conference next week.

Nagel – Nothing.

Supervisor Reports:

Cunningham – Attended the NACD annual meeting in New Orleans which had an attendance of over 1000 people. New president of the NACD is Kim LaFleur and Ian is being replaced as Second VP by Bill Simshauser.

Kruisselbrink – Attended the RCRCA/Area II meeting where they elected officers.

Folger – Gave an update on the SW Mental Health Building remodel.

Christensen – Nothing.

Spronk - Attended the TSA meeting in January. TSA had 196 projects last year. Dawn Madison was recently spotlighted by BWSR. Starting interviews today for SWCD office technician.

NRCS Report: Shared the Engineering Practice I & E form that NRCS would like to be used when requesting assistance from them.

Manager's Report: New Vision is hiring a conservation agronomist that will be working closely with local SWCD's.

Adjournment:

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

Bill Folger, Secretary