* **Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting**

**April 8th 9:00 a.m. at EMS building Pipestone, Minnesota**

**Board Members Present:**

Bill Folger, Chairman

Ian Cunningham, Vice-Chairman

Larry Fenicle, Secretary/Treasurer

Cal Spronk, Programs

Ken Christensen, PR&I

**Board Members Absent:**

None

**Others Present:**

Les Nath, Luke Johnson, Kyle Krier, Melissa Rosendahl, Kyle Kuphal, Levi Campion, Maggie Syversen (via zoom), Lance Wheeler

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

1. **Approve Agenda**

Motion made by Christensen, seconded by Fenicle to approve the agenda as presented. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

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

1. **Approval of Financial Report & Bills**

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

**New Business:**

1. **SWCD Badge Policy**
   1. Krier presented the county’s badge policy and opened up discussion on whether the Pipestone SWCD would want employee badges. No action was taken on the badge policy.
2. **ATV Quote**
   1. Wheeler presented a quote from Action Sports, Inc for a 700 Yamaha Grizzly in the amount of $10,199.00. Wheeler also estimates he will need a box extender in the amount of about $500.00. The 2021 Capacity fund will pay for $5,000.00 of the ATV expense and the rest will come out of the equipment fund. Cunningham made a motion to approve payment of the ATV for $10,199.00 as well as up to $500.00 for an extender, Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
3. **Cost Share Contracts**
   1. The first contract Wheeler presented is a cost share contract for Del VanEssen, contract # VanEssen22-4-21, for a waterway project in Elmer township section 22. Project cost is $11,033.21 with 75% cost share and a $700 conservation use acres the total will be $8,974.91.
   2. The second contract was a waterway project for Del VanEssen, contract #VanEssen13-4-21, is in Elmer township section 13 with a total cost of $20,977.29 with 75% cost share and a $1,000.00 conservation use acres the total will be $16,732.97.
   3. The third contract was a basin and waterway project for Lucas Roskamp, contract #Roskamp3-21 in Elmer township section 28 with a total cost of $128,222.15. With a 75% cost share and conservation use acres amount of $1,0000.00 the total is $97,166.61.

Christensen made a motion to approve the contracts. Cunningham seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

1. **Department of Health Ground Water Protection Initiative Grant**
   1. Krier updated the board on a two-year grant opportunity from the Department of Ag for $50,000.00 to supplement Laura’s salary for work in the wellhead areas.
2. **Groundwater Quality Nitrate Reduction Vouchers**
   1. Krier presented a payment voucher for Ken Christensen, contract #01-18 in the amount of $6,000.00 for 50 cover crop acres. Christensen declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from voting. Cunningham made a motion to approve payment of the voucher. Fenicle seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

**County Commissioner Report:**

Johnson – RCRCA awarded the Lake Redwood dredging project to JF Brennan Co. for $4.468 million.

Nath – nothing.

**Supervisor Reports:**

Cunningham – took the position of chairman of the communications department.

Christensen – will be attending the 1W1P meeting next week.

Fenicle – attended the RCRCA meeting and Area V meeting.

Spronk – attended the legislative briefing meeting via zoom. The TSA presented positive financial reports to get work done. TSA staff is predicted to be back in the office by June.

Folger – nothing

**NRCS Report:** There is a new pheasant forever employee in Nobles County, Will Gallman. EQIP has $431,579.00 in a local funds pool to disburse for cropland and pasture. Pipestone county has 2 preapprovals at this time. Continue to take new applications for FY22 funds. In 2020, Pipestone county funded 2 contracts in regular sign-up for $245,004.00. There are 13 new CSP applications.

**Manager’s Report:**  Attended the legislative meeting via zoom with Sen. Weber and Rep. Schomacker. Kyle and Nicole met with Patrick, range specialist in Rock county, to speak about the SRAM program. Trees will be delivered next Wednesday. Area V meeting in June will be held here in Pipestone at the Hiawatha Lodge and will be catered by the Pork Producers. Discussed tour ideas for the meeting.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business; Chairman Folger declared the meeting adjourned.

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Larry Fenicle, Secretary