

**Minutes of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting
August 9, 2018, 9:00 a.m. at the District Office Pipestone, Minnesota**

Board Members Present:

Ian Cunningham, Chairman
Cal Spronk, Vice-Chairman
Ken Christensen, Programs
Arvin Pater, Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Folger, PR & I

Board Members Absent:

Others Present:

Kyle Krier, Luke Johnson, Les Nath, Jerry Purdin, Adam Ossefoort, Nicole Schwebach, Laura DeBeer, Danielle Evers, Russ Hoogendorn, Dawn Madison, and Debra Fitzgerald

Chairman Cunningham called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approve Agenda

Motion made by Folger to approve the agenda with the additions of Insurance Rates and Grant Amendment to new business. The motion seconded by Spronk. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Pater, seconded by Christensen to approve the minutes of the July 2018 Board Meeting with the correction of MHA in place of Avera. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

Approval of Financial Report & Bills:

Financial reports and Bills were reviewed. Spronk made a motion to accept the financial reports and to approve the payment of bills. Pater seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.

New Business:

A. Program updates:

Schwebach: informed the board that she has received 3 CREP applications that have been submitted to BWSR for approval. She also gave a buffer update and informed board that BWSR is asking that compliance plans be posted on website. The board also suggested that maybe a Thank You letter be sent to all those affected by the buffer law, thanking them for their compliance efforts.

Evers: provided the board with a Minnesota Ag Water Quality update and informed them that she has been accepted into the MARL program.

DeBeer: provided information on upcoming field days, talked about the soil health radio spots she has recorded and provided information on the MDH well testing program.

Ossefoort, Hoogendorn, and Madison provided an engineering update, discussed the NACD Grant program for EQIP and Cover Crops, and talked about training and how progress is being made.

- B. Promotion: Krier asked the board if there was anything else they would like to see staff working on or promoting. Discussion was held on the emerald ash bore and what roll the SWCD should pay. It was suggested be work with Extension and sponsor workshops on control and management along with educating people how to make a tree farm for ash tree replacement.
- C. Insurance Rates: Krier informed board that BCBS insurance rates through the Service Coop will be increasing 7.2%, it was felt that the current insurance contribution rates of \$550 single and \$900 family will be adequate.
- D. Grant Amendment: Krier presented the board with a Farm Bill Grant amendment. Explaining that this amendment includes two years of funding and extends the grant deadline until December 31, 2019. Motion by Folger Seconded by Christensen to accept and sign the proposed grant amendment. Motion passed.

Reports:

Cunningham- provided the board a NACD and National Farm bill update, he said that he has just returned after being in DC for the last week.

Krier- informed the board that he has submitted an application for 319 funding to implement a pasture management program. There were 41 applications submitted to MPCA. A phone interview was held last week on the submittal.

Purdin- No report

Johnson- Reported that he attended a meeting with DNR where the new County flood plain maps were presented. The final maps will be getting approved in the near future. Nath, reported that he recently attended a Prime West Health meeting.

Adjournment:

There being no further business; Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Arvin Pater, Secretary