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

**September 10th, 2020 9:00 a.m. at EMS building Pipestone, Minnesota and also via Zoom**

**Board Members Present:**

Ken Christensen, Chairman

Ian Cunningham, Secretary/Treasurer

Larry Fenicle, Programs

Cal Spronk, PR&I

**Board Members Absent:** Bill Folger, Vice-Chairman

**Others Present:**

Les Nath, Kyle Krier, Melissa Rosendahl, Lance Wheeler, Laura DeBeer, Nicole Schwebach, Kyle Kuphal via zoom

Chairman Christensen called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1. **Approve Agenda**

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

1. **Approval of Minutes**

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

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

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

**New Business:**

1. Groundwater Quality Nitrate Reduction Contracts
   1. DeBeer presented 2 cover crop contracts.

Contract # Land Owner Amount Acres

0120 Corey VanStelton $31,560.00 263

0121 Corey VanStelton $18,000.00 150

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

1. AgBMP
   1. Schwebach reviewed the AgBMP process with the board. Discussion was on approving purchases made through the AgBMP program that they should be conservation practices and may vary depending on situation. Schwebach will update lenders on approved practices and remind them purchases need to be approved by SWCD.
2. Employee Review
   1. Lance Wheeler
      1. Wheeler agreed to keep the meeting open during his review. Krier presented the review to the board stating that his review was favorable and suggested to the board that he receive a step increase as of 9/23/20. Cunningham made a motion to approve the favorable review as presented with a step increase. Fenicle seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
   2. Melissa Rosendahl
      1. Rosendahl agreed to keep the meeting open during her review. Krier presented the review to the board stating that her review was favorable and suggested to the board that she receive a step increase as of 10/7/20. Cunningham made a motion to approve the favorable review as presented with a step increase. Spronk seconded the motion. Affirmative: all. Oppose: none. Motion carried.
3. Employee Updates
   1. Wheeler updated the board on cost share and 1W1P projects that are being implemented currently. DeBeer shared that the city of Edgerton is in the beginning stages of looking to purchase some land that is next to their water wells through the Wellhead Protection Partner Grants Program, which is a pilot program that DeBeer will be involved in.

**County Commissioner Report:**

Nath reported the deadline for the CARES Act money is next Friday September 18th. The county is still working on budgets.

**Supervisor Reports:**

Ian – The Department of Ag interviewed Ian and his son Richard on topics such as the agricultural response to climate change, healthy soils, clean water issues and growing a diversified crop. The interview will be part of a webinar aired on 9/23/20.

Christensen – There are $360,000.00 of projects to approve for 1W1P.

Fenicle – Attended the RCRCA meeting.

Spronk – Nothing to report.

**Manager’s Report:**  The SWCD received $40,000.00 in grant funds for low income septic system installations. Pipestone SWCD has been invited on a SRAM tour being held in SD put on by the Moody county SWCD.

**Adjournment:**

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

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Ian Cunningham, Secretary