

**Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting
March 17, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held March 17, 2021 beginning at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Lynn Darling. Present were Lynn Darling, Rick Nelsen, Nathan Their, Jim Knips, and Paul Langseth. Also present were John Shea, District Manager; Tiffini Etsinger, Administrative Assistant; Scott Runck, District Technician; Nathan Blankers, and Cheryl NRCS.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the March 17, 2021 meeting was reviewed. Nelsen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MINUTES: The minutes for the February 17, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Their moved to approve the minutes as presented. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for February 2021. Their moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$81,974.99, respectively. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS:

MRWP Cost-Share – 25 contracts to review

Nelsen moved to approve the 25 cost-share contracts, pending approval from the MRWP Joint Powers Board. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Their moved to approve the Harlen Groenewold cancellation for \$13,803.08. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Nelsen moved to approve the Jeff Lais Amendment for \$1500.00. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2020 Local Capacity

LC20-01-Enninga	Mark Enninga	WWY	\$28,138.37
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Nelsen moved to approve Mark Enninga contract for \$28,138.37. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

C20-02-3Bfarms	Jeff Bullerman	WSCAB	\$36,618.75
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Their moved to approve Jeff Bullerman contract for \$36,618.75. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Shea reviewed the MASWCD Locally Led Conservation online training option for the Board members. He also notified the Board we registered for Legislative days zoom meeting for March 18th.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT: none

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST: Nathan shared with the Board that Will started Monday. He will take some of the CRP workload. March 26th EQUIP new deadline. NRCS has also been finishing up making payments for cover crops. They are halfway done ranking EQIP applications, and the deadline was extended to March 26 because of software issues. The CSP classic application cutoff is March 26th, we sent out letters to see if the expiring contracts would like to apply again. The 1026s (drainage request) have still been coming in. They are catching up at Region C and Certified Wetland Determinations are having a month or two turnarounds. Nathan shared that he is currently taking an engineering bootcamp training that is twice a week for three hours each time. In addition, he also had trainings but virtual (local work group training) and training that were completed in Aglearn.

Cheryl mentioned they sent letter to all CRP due March 31st to reapply. Those that do not reapply there is a 2-year cooling off period. Not eligible for CRP for 2 years if they decline. EQUIP-plan is to work on apps asap, and then request more money, 431,000 for 4 counties. Farmstead ranked amongst the area.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT: none

WATERSHED DISTRICTS & OTHER REPORTS: Shea informed the board Nobles SWCD sent a letter to HLWD to gather items and they picked everything up.

Langseth spoke about the Carpe catch was a bust on Okabena. O and O - passed plan and report.

Shea reported that the fishermen may do an open water netting, due to seeing how many fish are in the lake.

Bruce Heitkamp new County Administrator.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pheasants Forever Position – Will has been hired, remote work on and off. From Brookings area. Should be working here fully after April 15.

NEW BUSINESS

Updated Photos of Board & Staff Members – We would like to get new photos of the Board and staff.

JAA Comp: Nathan, Jim, John, meeting on Tech pay. TSA 1.50 per practice pay increase. \$1.00 per practice JAA certified. Approved the \$1.00 increase, and we will not have to send out projects for approval, and Scott can make changes and approve out in the field. 26.32 per hour it was \$2.00 increase for the 2 practices he will be certified in. Their moved to approve the increase per practice, Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Local Work Group Update- meetings and training to get people in for funding. New updates and changes, more localized now.

Legislative Update – Paid for the zoom meeting so we can listen in

MRWP – Update April 14th meeting to cover the contracts and funding. May RCPP funds should have an answer if we have those funds. 2.5 million in funds.

Admin Time off Request – Tiffini requests 1 day off 2 weeks before her 6-month probation is done for sons' graduation. Their moved to approve the time off request. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

AgBMP Delegation: All duties delegated to the SWCD staff. Their moved to approve all duties for AgBMP be delegated to SWCD staff. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Summit Lake 11 – Rural Water Easement was not approved as drawn. After the committee approves the new proposed easement then Board Chair can sign it. Their moved to approve easement pending the new approval. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for April 21st at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURN

Paul Langseth, Secretary