

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

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held February 17, 2021 beginning at 7:26 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Lynn Darling. Present were Lynn Darling, Paul Langseth, Rick Nelsen, and Nathan Their. Also present were John Shea, District Manager; Tiffini Etsinger, Administrative Assistant; Scott Runck, District Technician; Nathan Blankers, NRCS; and Bob Demuth, County commissioner.

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

MINUTES: The minutes for the January 20, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Nelsen moved to approve the minutes as presented. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for January 2021. Langseth moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$78,063.81, respectively. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS:

MRWP Cost-Share

FY20-MRWP-10-Peters	Judy Peters	Jackson WWY	\$8,935.20
FY20-MRWP-20-Overgaard	Loren Overgaard	Rock WASCB	\$1,105.56
Southwest Prairie TSA	Qtr. 3 Services	Pipestone	\$891.98

Langseth moved to approve the 2 cost-share contracts, and TSA invoice for the MRWP. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2018 Local Capacity

2018-LC-08-Lais	Tom Lais	WASCB	\$2,102.28
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Nelsen moved to approve Tom Lais contract for \$2,102.28. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2018-LC-06-Drost	Jesse Drost	WWY	\$16,699.50
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Langseth moved to approve Jesse Drost contract for \$16,699.50. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Shea reviewed the Minnesota Lidar Funding with the board. Flyover Missouri River Basin is slated for the summer.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT: Shea spoke to the board about HLWD Jan had retired and Catherine resigned. Discussed the office and that we will send out a letter informing the HLWD that we will not be housing the staff or equipment until a mutual agreement has been made. Olsen Arena, on hold currently until it warms up. Staff has picked up there clothing to be logood. Shea has \$43.00; Etsinger \$24.12; and Runck \$50.00 left in funds for clothing this year. Legislative days will be virtual this year. The local Capacity bill was listed with funds coming out of the clean water funding for 2021/2022.

DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST: Nathan reported that CRP has been worked on. General sign up has been extended a bit. CRP and EQIP payments have been wrapped up. EQIP applicants need to be ranked, and the deadline is March 5th for the 70 applicants for funding. Nathan briefly reviewed how they do the ranking for EQIP for the 2021 ranking. New employees have been hired, Dylan in the Pipestone location and Patrick in Luverne. The Slayton position has been filled by Lindsay.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN REPORT: Scott reported that he has been working on designs and the tree orders. JAA has been requested for Scott. He has sent 5 up for waterways. He has been approved for waterways and underground outlet.

WATERSHED DISTRICTS & OTHER REPORTS: O and O meeting was short. Dan has been checking ice levels. Ocheda will not freeze out this year. There is more ice and oxygen levels have dropped. When things warm up the levels will increase.

Bob Demuth reported that Bill Brockberg was recognized for his years of service. Someone is in the works of being hired for his position. Resolution passed for local road improvement for Adrian on 6th Ave. Laken township, bridge was approved by resolution for the road as water was running over the road. Township road allocation paid for by taxes, the checks will be mailed out to the townships. Bob also mentioned the bill passing with Zero emissions by 2035, by resolution has been opposed, it is a metro issue, this will be going up to the Governor.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pheasants Forever Position – First round interviews done last week, 5 are scheduled for today for the second round.

NEW BUSINESS

a.)2020 Annual Report: Etsinger and Shea presented the Board with the annual plan for 2020, highlighting the various programs and funding. Langseth moved to approve the report. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

b.) Computer Lodge Contract: Langseth moved to approve the Computer Lodge contract for \$3,000.00 for 40 hours. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

C&D.) Handbook-Technician Compensation for JAA: Shea explained to the board that he talked with Russ at TSA on how they handle this. They move up on the PayScale when the tech gets approval for each class. TSA also gets approval from board. Langseth talked about doing a bonus when approved and then getting the pay set up for the following year. After more discussion it was decided that a personal meeting will need to be called and a plan made and brought to the board and developed into the handbook.

e.) Local Work Group: A meeting or survey needs to be set up. Due to COVID-19, a survey might be the best option. KLR, and local township members. Survey for next meeting to be approved.

f.) Legislative Days: Legislative days will be virtual this year.

g.) MASWCD area 5 meeting: Feb 2/18/21 virtual meeting this year verses Marshall.

h.) Pheasants Forever Banquet/Sponsorship: Shea pointed out that they do not want to sell our trees due to it being a drive through viewing of the auction, and then bid online event. Shea asked if the board wanted to sponsor the event again for \$300.00. Langseth moved to sponsor the banquet at \$300, Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, and Their. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for March 17th at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURN 8:15 a.m.

Paul Langseth, Secretary