

**Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting
June 16, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held May 19, 2021, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Lynn Darling. Present were Lynn Darling, Rick Nelsen, Nathan Thier, Jim Knips, and Paul Langseth. Also, present were John Shea, District Manager; Tiffini Etsinger, Administrative Assistant; Scott Runck, District Technician; Will Gallman, Pheasants Forever Biologist; Nathan Blankers, NRCS; Bob Demuth, County Commissioner.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the June 16, 2021, meeting was reviewed. Langseth moved to approve the agenda as presented. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for May 2021. Langseth moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$44,992.41, respectively. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS:

Local Capacity-

FY19-LC-06-Diekman	Jeff Diekmann	WWY	\$1,433.55
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Knips moved to approve the payment of the contract in the amount of \$10,039.32 for Jerry Loonan. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Knips, Langseth and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MRWP Cost Share-

FY20-MRWP-16-Zwaan	from Henry Zwaan to Monte Zwaan
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Nelsen moved to approve the name change for the Zwaan Contract. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Knips, Langseth and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

The board approved Shea to sign the amendment for the Zwann contract. Nelsen moved the approval. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Knips, Langseth and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY20-MRWP-37-Voss	Eugene Voss	Nobles	WWY	\$15,404.91
FY20-MRWP 02-Rollag	Craig Rollag	Rock	WWY	\$19,529.55
FY20-MRWP-09-Van Hill	Glenda Van Hill	Rock	WWY	\$14,505.75
FY20-MRWP-19-Overgaard	Loren Overgaard	Rock	WWY	\$6,923.38
FY20-MRWP-16-Zwaan	Monte Zwaan	Rock	WWY	\$8,502.09

Nelsen moved to approve the 5 cost-share contracts for the MRWP. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

District Manager Report – Put in a riser for the shut off valve. The tile is 10ft deep. Had it open for a bit to drain so we can work on it. Both basins were full. Spraying for thistles, we might have to spray for it this yet. We will double check. Food plots are hoping to be done this week. The duck houses, one has been used but not successful. Possibly ask DNR for more donated houses. Tree matting is almost done. John and Scott have been trying to get it all done.

District Technician Report - none

District Conservationist Report - I have been working on EQIP applications some are preapproved, approved and obligated already. I started to complete residue checks on EQIP and CSP. We can start to make payments on the EQIP contracts for residue now. NRCS completed a EQIP engineering spot check on a roof structure last week. I have also been completing status reviews for EQIP and CSP contracts to let them know what needs to be completed this year and if land has changed. Looking for potential modifications. Patrick (Grazing Specialist), Dilan (SCT Luverne) and Jeremy Larson and I reviewed a grazing contract in person on his farm. Pat and I went to another grazing site yesterday to promote a grazing system. I recently was at a local training for CRP in pipestone. There is more training for CRP to come in the next couple of weeks. 1026s (drainage request) has still been coming in. They are catching up at Region C and Certified Wetland Determinations have been completed in less than a month on the requests that do not require a field visit. There is also CSP sign up to screen. We also have one contract preapproved in Nobles County. It is time to coordinate the Local Work Group meeting and I have been asking around to see what other counties have done or will do. The influence from the local level has never been recognized as highly as now and it is important to get there input this year.

Watershed Districts and Other Reports – Langseth reported that OnO Biggest issue is the carp trap update on Okabena. Lots of carp still in Okabena. Looking at what options they have to manage Okabena and Ocheda draw down. Installing camera at bell park to deal with issues. Sunset bay carp alternatives out there. It has been collecting sediment from the west. Will it need to be dredged...? Bob- mentioned school is set on artificial turf.

Bob Demuth reported that there was three retirements, Tom and Steve retired. Still looking for an engineer. Rocky coming back part time possible. Sheriff Kent retired; Ryan Kruger was awarded the position. Ryan has a way of bringing all of the departments together. Emergency Management was filled she will be the deputy administrator and emergency management.

Old Business: Shea mentioned we are working with fish and wildlife to start the process of getting the dock replaced this summer. Hoping all of the funding goes through.

New Business

MRWP-

Policy update: Shea reported that it was passed at the last Joint Powers board meeting.

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report: BWSR notified us that in preparation for the fiscal year end Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), which BWSR is responsible for submitting to Minnesota Management and Budget, we are required to compile specific financial information on grants that exceed \$500,000. We are identified as the day-to-day contact for a grant(s) that fit these criteria. They are requesting that we update the financial information for the grant in eLINK no later than **August 27, 2021**. They will be looking at spent and billed as of 6/30/2021, work completed as of 6/30/2021 but billed after that date, work completed as of 6/30/2021 but not yet billed.

Administrative Contract: Shea asked that we continue the contract until December 31, 2025. Langseth moved to approve the administrative contract for the MRWP. Knips seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Request the funding for the PTMapp: Shea spoke with the board about the PTMapp and how it would be beneficial for the SWCDs to have and use. The board members agreed and requested the funds to get the data loaded into it. Langseth moved to approve funds for PTMapp. Thier seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Voucher Certification Date 1st of the Month: Shea spoke with the board members regarding getting the invoices turned into us by the first of the month. Etsinger would then enter everything into the most updated voucher form and send back to the SWCD within a week for them to get all the signatures. This is to help keep everything uniform within the grant, and to be more efficient. The board agreed. Knips moved to have the invoices due by the first of the month. Thier seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Admin Assistant Position – Shea updated the board that Tiffini’s probation ended on the 14th. He met with the personal committee, and they agreed upon a \$0.75 raise per hour will be awarded. Knips moved the pay increase. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Nelsen, Knips and Thier. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2018 Local Capacity Grant Reconciliation: Etsinger and Shea updated the board that we have turned in all the data requested by BWSR for the reconciliation. So far it looks good. Waiting for the final results

Heron Lake Watershed – Contract for services- Heron Lake sent us a letter about possibly doing work for them. After the Board members and SWCD staff discussed it, it was determined Nobles SWCD does not currently have the time or staff to take on the duties of the Heron Lake Watershed.

Local Work Group- John has the Worthington fire hall lined up for the work group, for July 21st from 9 to 11. Work with NRCS and get it announced and put in the public announcements that we are having a meeting. NRCS and SWCD works with everyone to see what projects need to be done. Watersheds, county some landowners, board supervisors all invited.

Calendar of Events:

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for July 21st at 7:30 a.m. at the Worthington Fire Hall

ADJOURN: June 16, 2021, at 8:45am.
