

Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting
October 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held October 19, 2022, beginning at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Paul Langseth. Present were Lynn Darling, Rick Nelsen, Jess DeKam, Nathan Their, and Paul Langseth. Also, present were Tiffini Etsinger, Administrative Coordinator; Scott Runck, District Manager; Will Gallman, Wildlife Biologist II and Nathan Blankers, NRCS.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the October 19, meeting was reviewed. Darling moved to approve the agenda as presented. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MINUTES: The minutes for the September 21, 2022, meeting were reviewed. Nelsen moved to approve the minutes as presented. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2021 SWCD Audit Report: Katie Jacobson presented the audit to the board

- The District's combined net position was \$636,729 on December 31, 2021. This is up from \$540,177 at December 31, 2020.
- The current year activities resulted in an increase of \$96,552. Unrestricted net position changed from \$468,332 at December 31, 2020 to \$589,301 at December 31, 2021.

Nelsen moved to accept the audit as presented. Dekam seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for October 2022. Nelsen moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$16,850.72 respectively. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS:

MRWP: FY22

FY22-MRWP-27-Slater	Nobles	WWY	90%	\$54,493.02
FY22-MRWP-28-Smith	Rock	WWY	75%	\$23,457.38

Nelsen moved to approve the above Waterway contracts, with FY22-MRWP-27-Slater pending the JPB decision for the amounts listed. Dekam seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY22-MRWP-26-Lenz	Nobles	CC	\$10,000.00
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Dekam moved to approve the above Cover Crop contract for the amounts listed. Thier seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY22-MRWP-29-Smith	Rock	CC	\$10,000.00
FY22-MRWP-30-Fluit	Rock	CC	\$10,000.00

Their moved to approve the above Cover Crop contracts for the amounts listed, pending approval from the MRWP JPB. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MRWP: FY22 Payment

FY22-MRWP-06-Jansema	Rock	CC	\$1920.15
FY22-MRWP-07-Oeding	Rock	CC	\$4816.20
FY22-MRWP-21-Petersen	Rock	CC	\$7,643.10

Nelsen moved to pay the above voucher for the amounts listed. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

2021 Local Capacity:

LC21-01-Debeer	William Debeer	WWY	90%	\$19,991.73
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Darling moved to approve the above contract for payment for the amount listed. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Reviewed MCIT report

District Manager Report – Runck updated the board with current projects. He also updated the board with current costs of the upgrades mentioned last month.

Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist Report: Will reviewed current projects and what was left to be finished. He also put in he formal resignation, will be taking a position in SD. With this the board agreed that they would like to continue this position.

District Conservatationist Report – Nathan reported that the team meet the deadline to get the money that came in late to obligate more CSP and EQIP contracts. They have been working on EQIP payments. The EQIP Sign up application acceptance deadline date is November 18th, 2022. They are currently working on CSP 2023 Renewals. Nathan also mentioned RCPP would be another pot of money that producers with MN Ag Water Certification could get practices funded.

Watershed Districts and Other Reports –

O&O: Langseth reported that they were scheduled to remove sediment on prairie view today. Also there was a beaver dam reported on the south end, a trapper was contracted for removal. O&O also helped with the Wetland tours about 200-300 kids participated.

Des Moines: they had a public hearing, nobody showed for it, they are moving along with the planning.

Old Business: Tech position- if we find someone, we can offer the position, special meeting if needed.

New Business:

Tech Position: the position was offered to Nathan Schuck, the board discussed starting date, and rate of pay. Darling moved to hire Nathan Schuck with the starting pay of \$22.83. Dekam seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

SWCD 2021 Audit:

2020 Local Capacity Grant Extension: Etsinger reported to the board that this grant is fully encumbered, but we need to extend the expiration date as a few of the projects are not going to be completed before the expiration date. Nelsen moved to accept the grant extension. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY20 MRWP Grant Extension: Etsinger reported to the board that this grant is fully encumbered, but we need to extend the expiration date as a few of the projects are not going to be completed before the expiration date. Nelsen moved to accept the grant extension. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY2023 Local Capacity: Etsinger went over the workplan with the board. After reviewing plan, the board agreed with the amounts. Langseth moved to approve the workplan. Dekam seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY2023 Soil Health Grant: Scott went over the amount of the grant with the board, and if we would like to utilize this grant. Nelsen moved to accept the 2023 Soil Health Grant. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY2023 Soil Health Work Plan: Runck discussed with the board possible ideas to utilize the funds. The board would like to see a finalized workplan at the next meeting.

2022 Annual Convention & Resolutions: Etsinger discussed the dates and times of the convention and who was planning on attending. Etsinger also went over the resolutions with the board, gathered the tallied votes to submit before the convention. All 5 board members will be going along with the District Manager and Admin Assistant. Darling moved to have the 5 supervisors and 2 District staff attend the convention. Their seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Olson Arena: Runck went over the billing for the upcoming year and how much longer we held the contract for.

SWCD Benefits: Etsinger went over the plan details and rates for the 2024-2025 term. The board agreed with the HSA plan to offer the SWCD staff, and to renew the contract again. Darling moved to accept the HSA plan for the SWCD staff for another 2 years. Nelsen seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

SWCD Staff Wage Adjustments: Runck & Etsinger discussed with the board adjusting Etsinger pay with her taking on additional duties and tasks as she was familiar with the majority of the financials and Grant tracking and reporting. Etsinger discussed updating the job descriptions accordingly. Runck discussed title changes with the board as well. District Administrator and Grant & Financial Coordinator were the two reviewed. The board agreed to have the policy committee meet to review. Runck went over the pay increase options, the board agreed to move Etsinger up on the scale from a level 9 to a level 12 with pay starting at \$28.01. Nelsen moved to increase Etsinger's pay to \$28.01 to start with the next payroll. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Nelsen, Langseth, Their, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

Calendar of Events:

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2022 at 7:30am

ADJOURN: October 19th, 2022 at 9:20am

Secretary