

**Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting
May 15, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Nobles Soil and Water Conservation District was held May 15, 2024, beginning at 7:33 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Nathan Their. Present were Lynn Darling, Jess DeKam, Nathan Their, Rick Nelson, and Paul Langseth. Also, present were Tiffini Etsinger, Finance & Administrative Coordinator; Scott Runck, District Manager; Nathan Schuck, Resource Specialist; Gene Metz, Nobles Commissioner; Cole Niebauer, Farmbill Biologist; and Aaron Crowley, NRCS.

AGENDA: The Agenda for the May 15, 2024, meeting was reviewed. Langseth moved to approve the agenda as presented. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MINUTES: The minutes for the April 17, 2024, meeting were reviewed. Langseth moved to approve the minutes as presented. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s Report and Bills Payable was presented and reviewed for April 2024. Darling moved to approve the reports, subject to audit, in the amount of \$85,186.55 respectively. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

COST-SHARE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS:

State Cost Share 23 Payment:

01-Slater Trent Slater WSCB \$8,496.06

Nelson moved to approve the above payment. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MRWP FY22 Payments:

FY22-MRWP-83 Dustin Lonneman Nobles WSCB Partial Payment \$29,455.97

Nelson moved to approve the above partial payment. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

MRWP Fund Source Changes:

FY22-MRWP-88; FY24-MRWP-01; MRWP FY24 Funds to MRWP FY22 Funds

Langseth moved to approve the fund source change from MRWP FY24 to MRWP FY22 for the above contracts. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried

MRWP FY22 Cancellation:

FY22-MRWP-86 Stan Nelson WSCB \$29,176.20

Langseth moved to approve the cancellation of the above contract. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried

MRWP FY24 Cancellation:

FY24-MRWP-87 Binford Farms Rock \$45,504.80

Nelson moved to approve the cancellation of the above contract. Langseth seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried

NEW CONTRACTS

FY22-MRWP Extra Funds: Non Structural:

FY22-MRWP-86	Rock	Cover Crop	\$34,200.00
FY22-MRWP-87	Rock	Cover Crop	\$17,460.00
FY22-MRWP-103	Rock	Cover Crop	\$50,000.00
FY22-MRWP-89	Rock	Cover Crop	\$50,000.00
FY22-MRWP-90	Rock	Cover Crop	\$50,000.00
FY22-MRWP-91	Rock	Cover Crop	\$19,440.00
FY22-MRWP-92	Rock	Cover Crop	\$50,000.00
FY22-MRWP-93	Rock	Cover Crop	\$47,700.00
FY22-MRWP-94	Rock	Cover Crop	\$21,240.00

Langseth moved to approve the above cover crop contracts. Nelson Seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried

FY24-MRWP Structural Contracts:

FY24-MRWP-11	Steve Vis	Rock	WWY 412	75%	\$5,769.00
FY24-MRWP-12	Steve Vis	Rock	Cover Crop(w/WWY)		\$10,000.00
FY24-MRWP-13	Joel Hartz	Rock	WWY 412	75%	\$22,230.90
FY24-MRWP-14	Wes Dekam	Pipestone	WSCB 638	90%	\$24,734.65

Langseth moved to approve the above contracts for MRWP. Darling seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

FY24-MRWP Non Structural Contracts:

FY24-MRWP-10	Pipestone	Strip Till/No-Till	\$28,8000.00
FY24-MRWP-15	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$19,440.00
FY24-MRWP-16	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$22,800.00
FY24-MRWP-17	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$47,700.00
FY24-MRWP-18	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$50,000.00
FY24-MRWP-19	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$21,240.00
FY24-MRWP-20	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$50,000.00
FY24-MRWP-21	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$17,460.00
FY24-MRWP-22	Rock	Strip Till/No-Till	\$50,000.00

Langseth moved to approve the above contracts for MRWP. Dekam seconded the motion. Affirmative: Darling, Langseth, Their, Nelson, and DeKam. Opposed: None. Motion Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Etsinger notified the board and staff of the SWCD Governance 101 Training to be held in July at the arrowwood Resort. The Leadership Institute and training will be August 24 -2025 need to register by July 12 2024

District Manager Report – Runck updated the board that the Heron Lake watershed is looking for a new admin.

Resource Specialist Report- Schuck reported on the current tree orders and plans. Also a wetland violation will be reviewed this week.

District Conservationist Report –

Farmbill Biologist Report- Cole Reported that he completed 10 CRP contracts for Yellow Med. He also attended Iowa burn week. He helped with a landowner burn and the Summit Lake burn. The intern starts Monday. CREP bathing period until June 10th. Will be attending JAA training 338 for prescribed burns.

Watershed Districts and Other Reports –

O&O: Langseth updated the Board on Crailsheim. The core of engineers is stalling the project, Houston is redesigning the damn. Cameras installed at Lake Bella Park. Also meet with Landowners around Lake Ocheda to do another draw down to help develop mud flaps.

KLR: none

Des Moines: Nelsen said they applied for the next 40% of funds for the grant. Looking into if a solar field can put cover crop in, how would it work.

Old Business:

New Business:

Supervisor Elections: Etsinger went over with the Board who was up for renewal and when the deadlines where to notify the county.

Area 5 Meeting

Attendance: Runck notified the board that the attendance for these meetings are low and need to be increased. Asked what would help to increase the attendance by our board.

Survey: Runck notified the board that he completed a survey for the area 5 meetings on behave of the board. Asked for at least a 30 notice of meetings in order to relay that to our board.

Audits: KLR/Nobles SWCD/MRWP – Etsinger updated the board concerning the KLR & SWCD upcoming audits for 2023. They are currently in Process and should be completed in June and August. MRWP is getting a mid year financial check in. Etsinger will finish updating the elink reports on what has been billed and completed as of June 30th 2024 and what is completed but not yet billed, for both FY22 & FY24

Soil Health: Runck updated the board on the Soil Health grants and the amount of funding.

MRWP Policy: Etsinger & Runck discussed with the board potentially changing the policy for Farmable Terraces from being funded at a 90% of what a non farmable would be to a flat rate of 65%. This is what most are averaging currently. But having it as a flat rate will make sure that the projects are not getting funded more that they should. So many of the estimates are coming in so over what the actual cost is, it is leaving room for errors to happen with the payments in the end.

The SWCD Board agreed that a flat rate would be better and would like this to be brought to the technical committee.

Calendar of Events:

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for June 17, at 7:30am

ADJOURN: May 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

Secretary