

Renville Soil & Water Conservation District
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**MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 13, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING
located at the Renville County Office Building**

Board Members Present: Kathryn Kelly, Mark Koenig, Kevin Kokesch, Dean Schroeder, Jim Hebrink

Staff Present: Holly Hatlewick, Melissa Edmondson

Other Present: None

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kokesch at 7:32 A.M.
- II. Public Address to the Board (2 minutes per person): Dispensed, no citizens present
- III. Consent Agenda, Meeting Minutes, Bills, and Treasurer's Report: Approved the meeting minutes from January 13, 2020 regular meeting, bills, and treasurer's report. **(Koenig, Schroeder) MSC**
- IV. Old Business:
 1. Staff Grievance: Dispensed, no grievances brought forward for this month
 2. SWCD Strategic Plan: Motion to approve the 2019 Strategic Plan. **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**
- V. Personnel Committee Update
 1. Employee wages, relevant to changing duties: The Board would like to review the staff job duties and performance at the time of the June Employee Reviews, then determine whether the employee(s) would receive a wage increase.
- VI. New Business:
 1. Colonial Stipend- \$15 per pp vs. \$30 per month: Motion to change the Colonial Life Stipend from \$30 per month to \$15 per pay period. **(Kelly, Hebrink) MSC**
 2. Soil Health Road Tour: Motion to sponsor the event in the amount of \$500 so long as it fits in the 2020 budget. **(Koenig, Schroeder) MSC**
 3. Anti-Harassment Training:
 4. 2019 Audit Engouement Letter: Motion to use Peterson Company Ltd. for the 2019 Audit. **(Kelly, Koenig) MSC**
 5. Legislature Gathering with SWCD: Board would like the SWCD Legislative Board Meeting to be held on the same day the County is having their Legislature County Board Meeting. Hatlewick will be working with Lisa.
 6. Local Work Group Meeting: Would like to hold the Local Work Group Meeting at the County Governmental Building in March.
- VII. Program Updates
 1. Buffer Law Committee: Hatlewick will get more information on the Buffer Law fine and it will be discussed at the Buffer Law Committee Meeting.
 2. Cost Share Programs
 - a. Buffer Cost Share: Still processing contracts. SWCD is promoting the new deadline that was set in place at the previous board meeting.
 3. Staff Reports

Supervisors: Chair/District 2 **Kevin Kokesch**, Vice Chair/District 4 **Kathryn Kelly**, Treasurer/District 5 **Jim Hebrink**, District 1 **Mark Koenig**, District 3 **Dean Schroeder**

Staff: District Administrator **Holly Hatlewick**, Farm Bill Technician **Karen Wermers**, WCA/Water Plan Coordinator **Cody Dale**, Buffer Specialist/Agricultural Inspector **Michael Sandager**, Administrative Assistant **Melissa Edmondson**

- a. Melissa: Completed eLink Reporting, press releases, financials- billable rate spreadsheets, created a list of bank presidents and mailed a letter requesting funds, created a cellphone policy, Area VI correspondence.
 - b. Supplies: waders- Motion that the SWCD will not supply waders due to liability reasons. **(Koenig, Schroeder) MSC.**
4. NRCS Report, Jeff Kjorness: The Board reviewed and acknowledged the report.
 5. Board Reports
Koenig: Attended the Renville County Water Management Meeting, High Island Watershed Meeting, Technical Services Meeting, Area VI Chairman's Meeting.
Hebrink: No report
Schroeder: 1W1P Policy Meeting
Schmidt: 1W1P Policy Meeting
Kelly: Attended the Buffer Law Committee Meeting, 1W1P Policy Meeting, Employee Reviews (Personnel Committee), January Board Meeting.
Kokesch: Attended the Chairman's meeting.
Hatlewick: Winter reduced tillage and cover crop meeting- February 18, Middle Minnesota Meeting- March 4, Ridge Water College Soil Health Day- March 6, Izaak Walton League- March 7, Legislative Days- March 24 & 25. Cody will take the lead for the Crow Watershed 1W1P. Submitting an application to SARE for some outreach funds. DRAP II verification is complete, sent back approximately \$24,000 due to change in project expenses.
- X. Upcoming meetings and dates to remember: SWCD Board Meeting March 12, Winter reduced tillage and cover crop meeting- February 18, Middle Minnesota Meeting- March 4, Ridge Water College Soil Health Day- March 6, Izaak Walton League- March 7, Legislative Days- March 24 & 25.
 - XI. Motion to adjourn at 10:50 AM. **(Koenig, Schroeder) MSC**

CHAIRMAN