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###### Le Sueur County Soil & Water Conservation District

Le Sueur County SWCD Tel. (507) 419-0365

*181 W Minnesota St Website:* [*www.lesueurswcd.org*](http://www.lesueurswcd.org)

*Le Center, MN 56057*

Minutes from July 13, 2021 regular board meeting of the Le Sueur County SWCD Board of Supervisors. Le Sueur County Justice Center, Le Center, MN.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Struck at 8:00 am.

Members present: Chairman, Jim Struck

 Secretary, Earle Traxler

 Treasurer, Cletus Gregor

 PR&I, Glendon Braun

Members absent: Vice-Chairman, Greg Entinger

Others present: District Manager, Mike Schultz

 District Technician, Joe Jirik

 District Conservationist, Steve Breaker

 NRCS Team Lead, Chris Schmidt

 Soil Conservation Technician, Geoff Popken

 Ditch Specialist, Nik Kadel

 Resource Technician, Karl Schmidtke

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Secretary’s report from June 8, 2021 were read and approved.

June 30, 2021 treasurer’s report was read. Motion by Traxler, second by Braun to approve as read and to pay bills.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Mike informed the board that the legislators passed the state budget and the SWCD will move forward with business as ususal.

Le Sueur County is working towards enforcement on noncompliant buffers. There are currently 3 in the county.

The SWCD and Le Sueur County are working on a Memorandum of Understanding to define payroll, benefits, and other services the county provides the SWCD.

The MASWCD annual convention will be held in person this year. It was discussed that last year’s outstanding conservationist attend also.

Motion by Gregor, second by Traxler to encumber $2654.03 for Dan Sullivan water and sediment control basin projects. Contract #CAP-2020-2

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Braun, second by Traxler to encumber $6031.49 for Dan Sullivan water and sediment contol basin projects. Contract #CAP-2020-3.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Traxler, second by Gregor to encumber $853.25 for Dan Sullivan water and sediment control basin projects. Contract #5-20.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Traxler, second by Braun to make payment in the amount of $512.50 to Greg Schmidt for well sealing. Contract #4-20.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Traxler, second by Gregor to encumber $25,995.00 for Cleveland Township for a grade stabilization structure. Contract #JG-2021-1.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Braun, second by Gregor to make payment in the amount of $16,396.50 to Brad Carlson for water and sediment control basins. Contract #JG-Match-2021-1.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Traxler, second by Braun to encumber $3420.00 for John Peach 38 acres of cover crops. Contract #cc-2019.7.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

The Le Sueur County SWCD Covid-19 preparedness plan was discussed. State and federal regulations and guidelines have ended due to cases decreasing. Motion by Braun, second by Traxler to discontinue the Le Sueur County SWCD Covid-19 plan.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

NRCS/SWCD annual golf tournament will be on Thursday, August 26, 21.

Steve gave the NRCS report. He introduced Geoff Popken, Soil Conservation Technician, who began in the Le Center field office in February. Steve also discussed EQIP funded projects, CRP rental rates, $300/acre is the maximum payment in Le Sueur County, how rental rates are established and CRP re-enrollment plans.

Chris Schmidt updated the board on new employees to his NRCS area, and discussed EQIP and the rising material costs for projects which is affecting landowner participation.

The board discussed the 2022 budget. Motion by Gregor, second by Traxler to approve the budget.

Affirmative: All

Opposed: None

Motion carried

The board and staff adjourned the meeting to attend the Outstanding Conservationist tour. After the tour, the board chose Francis and Shirley Budin as the 2021 Le Sueur County SWCD Outstanding Conservationists of the Year.

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Date Approved District Secretary