

NICOLLET SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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ST. PETER, MN 56082
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MINNESOTA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Minutes of the Nicollet Soil and Water Conservation District, 501 7th Street, Nicollet, Minnesota,
August 1, 2018.

Meeting was called to order by Chair – Kral at 8:33 A.M.

Members Present: Chair, John Kral
 Treasurer, Robby Gieseke – Absent
 Secretary, Bruce Hulke
 Vice Chair, Tim Braun

Others Present: District Manager, Kevin Ostermann
 District Watershed/Farm Bill Technician, Eric Miller
 Administrative Assistant, Judy Beetch
 District Technician, Blake Honetschlager
 NRCS, April Sullivan
 Great River Greening, Susie Carlin – Absent
 County Commissioner, John Luepke

Upon a motion by Hulke and seconded by Braun, it was moved to approve the agenda with 1 addition. Ayes Braun, Kral, Hulke. Carried.

Upon a motion by Hulke and seconded by Braun, it was moved to approve the minutes of the July 11th, 2018 meeting. Ayes Braun, Kral, Hulke. Carried.

Upon a motion by Braun and seconded by Hulke, it was moved to approve 62 paid bills for July 2018 totaling \$102,479.78 (Checking Account), and 2 bills for \$10,880.79 for July 2018 (Grants Account). Ayes Braun, Kral, Hulke. Carried.

Upon a motion by Hulke and seconded by Braun, it was moved to approve the August 2018 Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Ayes Braun, Kral, Hulke. Carried.

Old Business: Ostermann gave the recommendation to wait on the garage until fall or spring; the District will then know more about future grants and funding.

New Business:

Tour of Nicollet Office: The Board and others present toured the new office space after the meeting was adjourned.

Office Cleaning: A motion was made by Braun and seconded by Hulke, to hire a person to clean weekly, over the weekend, for \$15.00 per hour, with the District supplying the cleaning supplies. This will include vacuuming, mopping, dusting shared spaces, bathrooms, taking out the trash, vacuuming blinds once a month and washing windows quarterly. Ayes, Braun, Hulke, Kral. Carried.

Conservation Farmer: Outstanding Conservation Farmer nominees are due Sept. 16th. Possible farmers were discussed, and it was decided to table this topic and revisit at the next Board Meeting happening on Sept. 5th.

2019 County Budget Request: Ostermann explained the expenses and income expected for 2019. Because of several grants ending next year, \$50,000 additional dollars will be requested. This was informational, and no motion needed.

TSA GIS Grant: BWSR approved that staffing funds could instead be spent on equipment. For \$3,400 the District can update the GPS equipment, purchase a new desk top computer, and possibly an I-pad to use in the field. A motion was made by Hulke and seconded by Braun to purchase new equipment with the funds and match 20% or approximately \$3,400.00. Ayes, Braun, Hulke, Kral. Carried.

Cost Share:

A request was presented to the Board for partial payment on TW 27(15) Contract with Galen Anderson for a Buffer Strip on his property. Estimated cost of the project is \$1,518.00. Upon a motion by Hulke and seconded by Braun, it was moved to approve partial payment on Buffer Strip Contract TW 27(15) for Galen Anderson for \$1,518.00. Ayes Braun, Hulke, Kral. Carried.

The District received a request from Jeffrey Mandelkow 38(18) to enter into a Buffer Cost-Share Contract for the installation of buffers on his property. Estimated costs for this project are \$996.00 and technical assistance cost of \$249.00. Upon a motion by Braun and seconded by Hulke, it was moved to approve assistance in the amount of \$1,245.00 or 100% of the total cost of Buffer Cost-Share 38(18) Jeffrey Mandelkow. Ayes Braun, Hulke, Kral. Carried.

A request was presented to the Board to approve the Nicollet SWCD Program Policy on Wetland Restoration Incentives, whereas landowners who enroll in wetland restoration through CRP will receive grant-funded incentives to achieve a total land rental rate of \$400/acre/year. The amount of the incentive payment will be based on the rental rate offered by CRP and is not to exceed \$200/acre/year. If a landowner does not wish to enroll land into CRP, previous grass seeding policy rate applies - \$300/acre/year with a \$50/acre/year landowner in-kind contribution. Upon a motion by Braun and seconded by Hulke, it was moved to approve the Nicollet SWCD Program Policy on Wetland Restoration Incentives. Ayes Braun, Hulke, Kral. Carried.

NRCS Report: April Sullivan gave a report. See attached.

Supervisor & Staff Report: Ostermann and Honetschlager met with MN Dot regarding a Mitigation project along Hwy 169.

Reports from staff were presented and included in the meeting packets.

Other Business: None

Next Meeting: Sept. 5th, 2018 at 8:30 A.M.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Hulke and seconded by Braun to adjourn the meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 A.M. Ayes Braun, Kral, Hulke. Carried.

Approved: _____

Secretary  _____

Nicollet SWCD Program Policy on Wetland Restoration Incentives

Landowners enrolling into USDA FSA CRP Program:

Landowners who enroll land in wetland restoration (CP-23, 23A, 27 and 37) through CRP will receive grant-funded incentives to achieve a total land rental rate of \$400/acre/year. The amount of the incentive payment will be based on the rental rate offered by CRP, and is not to exceed \$200/acre/year.

For example: If a landowner receives a CRP rental rate of \$280/acre/year. The incentive payment will be \$400/acre/yr - \$280/acre/yr = \$120/acre/year. This will be paid as a one-time, up-front payment.

Landowners not enrolling into USDA FSA CRP Program:

If a landowner does not wish to enroll land into CRP, previous grass seeding policy rate applies - \$300/acre/year with a \$50/acre/year landowner in-kind contribution.

Tile modification may be necessary depending on project locations. Hydrophytic vegetation may occur either via seeding or natural recruitment following cessation of cropping.

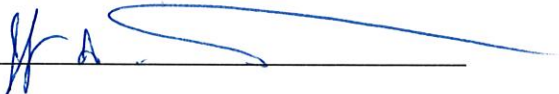
The Nicollet SWCD wetland restoration program is contingent upon the availability of dedicated funding through grants to watershed programs (i.e. Clean Water Assistance Grant 2013, Targeted Watershed Demonstration Grant). Once these and any future dedicated wetland restoration program funds are depleted the incentive program will lapse until additional funds are secured.

The land occupier or landowner is responsible for the operation and maintenance of practices applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objective of the practice is met and the effective life, a minimum of 10 years, is achieved. Full establishment and maintenance of all conservation practices to achieve the upland treatment criteria are considered a Nicollet SWCD Cost Share Program requirement for the life span of the practice receiving financial cost-share assistance. Should the land occupier or landowner fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the land occupier or landowner is liable to the Nicollet SWCD for the amount up to 150% of the amount of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice. The land occupier or landowner is not liable for cost-share assistance received if the failure was caused by reasons beyond the land occupier or landowner's control, or if conservation practices are applied at the land occupier or landowner's expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.

Date Approved: August 1, 2018



Bruce Hulke, SWCD Board Chair



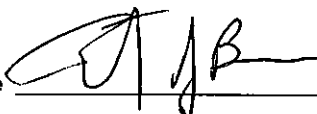
BWSR Representative

Aug 1, 18

Nicollet SWCD
Monthly Treasurer's Report
July 31, 2018

	Jul 31, 18
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · Nicollet County Bank	194,196.07
11000 · Nicollet County Bank Grants	91,775.09
12000 · Nicollet County Savings	365,535.90
Total Checking/Savings	651,507.06
Total Current Assets	651,507.06
TOTAL ASSETS	651,507.06
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
21000 · Unearned Revenue	
UR - BWSR 2017 Capacity	16,145.39
UR - BWSR 2018 Capacity	114,400.00
UR - Clean Water 2017	46,242.50
UR - Cost Share 2016	8,620.12
UR - Cost Share 2017	12,862.00
UR - Cost Share 2018	12,862.00
UR - Cost Share Buffer 2018	78,330.00
UR - Cost Share FR #2	14,900.58
UR - Cost Share FR #3	91,534.00
UR - Cost Share FR #3 B	25,000.00
UR - Targeted Watershed	91,775.09
Total 21000 · Unearned Revenue	512,671.68
24000 · Payroll Liabilities	
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	36.91
Total 24000 · Payroll Liabilities	36.91
Total Other Current Liabilities	512,708.59
Total Current Liabilities	512,708.59
Total Liabilities	512,708.59
Equity	
32000 · Retained Earnings	230,991.12
Net Income	-92,192.65
Total Equity	138,798.47
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	651,507.06

District Treasurer/Date

 8-1-18