



PENNINGTON SWCD BOARD MEETING
(Held at the Northland Community College)
February 15, 2024
1:00 P.M.

Supervisors Present:

Linda Hanson, Chair
ADawn Nelson, Vice Chair
Kevin Wilde, Secretary
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer
Ricky Peterson, PR

Staff Present:

Peter Nelson, District Manager
Donna Christianson, District Coordinator
Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist
Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician
Erika Olson, Resource Technician
Logan Handyside, Engineer
Justin Muller, Engineering Technician
Kyle Dahlquist, Conservation Corps Apprentice
Nico Bennett, NRCS
Micah Ranum, Farm Bill Biologist

Absent:

Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator

The meeting was held at Northland College, Room #705. Linda Hanson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. Linda completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve the revised agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve the January 18, 2024, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Donna reviewed the 2023 Annual Financial Report. **Greg made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve the unaudited 2023 Annual Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

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Peter reviewed the 2023 North Pod Financial Report. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the 2023 North Pod Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

Donna reviewed the January 2024 Financial Report. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the January 2024 Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

Ricky made a motion, seconded by ADawn to approve payment of the following bills:

Verizon	\$ 102.68
Sjoberg's	\$ 66.95
Pennington Cty Auditor/Treasurer	\$ 15.00
Chase Card Services	\$ 2,000.48
The Times	\$ 46.00
Lakes Country Service Coop	\$ 467.74
Marco	\$ 56.67
Verizon	\$ 95.68

All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by ADawn authorizing Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer, to sign the Northern State Bank Pledge Agreement. All in favor, motion carried.

Erika presented two updated logo samples to the Board. They chose the design with the two rivers, fields, and sun but asked that the color of the rivers be changed to a lighter blue. Erika will have Dain from Red Canoe Cre8tive make the changes.

The Legacy Event Center has been reserved for April 9th as the venue for the 2024 Pennington SWCD Banquet. Evergreen Catering will be serving the meal. Tim Eggebraaten will provide the entertainment. The Board decided to keep the ticket cost at \$15.00. They also asked to check with the Legacy Event Center regarding a cash bar for the event.

Bryanna went over options for AIS awareness purchases this year. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Greg to pay Linder's Angling Buzz \$400.00 and NCOR \$3,000.00 for their AIS prevention services, and purchase up to \$3,000.00 of AIS awareness promotional items (towels, bags, and cell phone holders) for 2024. All in favor, motion carried.**

The staff would like to hold a rain barrel presentation/construction event that could be partnered with the Rivers & Rails Brewing Company in July. The cost for a kit is \$45.00 and we would have to either purchase or ask for donations of 55-gallon drums to paint. A fee for the event would be charged based on how much funding could be raised through grants, the employee's association, and community ed. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Kevin approving the rain barrel presentation/construction event. All in favor, motion carried.**

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Donna explained we have poster contest sponsors that provide funding for 4 winners (3 individual and 1 mural winner). When judging the posters, we have found more mural posters could have won if we had funding. Donna asked if the District would start covering any funding difference for mural winners. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Ricky for the District to cover any difference in funding for 4 poster contest winners. All in favor, motion carried.**

Two pictures were submitted for February's photo contest. The Board chose the "Last Catch of the Day" photo submitted by Debra Hoversten as the winner.

It was brought to the Board's attention that our current building is being sold. Discussion took place about the District purchasing the building. Peter checked with MCIT about any barriers. As long as the building's appraisal and tenant leases are strong, there wasn't an issue. The District's lease ends in July. Discussion took place about submitting a low offer. Another suggestion was to put out a Request for Proposal to see what other options may be available. **ADawn made a motion, seconded by Kevin to put out a Request for Proposal for a building space. All in favor, motion carried.**

Employee reports were available for review.

The NRCS report was available for review.

The Farm Biologist report was available for review.

Grant Nelson's report was available for review.

Correspondence – None for review.

The next Board meeting will be held at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room on March 21st at 1:00 p.m.

ADawn made a motion, seconded by Greg to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Kevin Wilde, Secretary