



Watonwan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors – Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

108 8th Street South, St. James, MN 56081

The Watonwan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office in St. James, Minnesota on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Rich Enger at 8:32 am.

SWCD Members Present: Chairman, Rich Enger
Vice Chairman, Noren Durheim
Secretary, Steve Sodeman
PR&I, Bret Braaten

Others Present: Land Management Director, Dave Haler
Solid Waste Administrator / Assistant Zoning Administrator, Kyla Schломann
SWCD Assistant Manager, Carrie Schultz
District Technician I, Laura Quiring
District Technician II, Jacob VanRyswyk
PF Farm Bill Biologist, Jake Dearborn
County Commissioner, Dillon Melheim
County Auditor, Kelly Pauling
BWSR BC, Jill Sacket - Eberhart

AGENDA

Motion by Durheim, second by Bergeman to approve the January 10, 2023 amended agenda.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Durheim, second by Bergeman to approve the December 19, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING

SWCD Audit: Pauling went through the audit report with the board.

Treasurer's Report: discussion on treasurer's report.

Bills to Pay:

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durheim to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$8,197.48.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Supervisors Per Diem:

Motion by Bergeman, second by Braaten to approve leaving per diem rates the same for 2023.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

BOARD REPORTS

Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA): Policy Mtg 1/13/23 Tech Mtg 1/25/23

MASWCD Area VI: Chairman's Mtg 2/1/23

South Central TSA: No update

Commissioner Report: 2023 Pettersen is Chair, Melheim is Vice Chair. JD final hearing/pmt complete.

SWCD ACTION ITEMS / BUSINESS ITEMS

Supervisor Statement of Economic Interest: Schultz informed all board members present that this should be done by the end of the month.

EAB and SWCD's Role: Schultz informed the board that we would be here as a resource for the landowners.

Local Work Group Meeting: Schultz will connect with NRCS and the DNR and get a meeting set up for March. Schlomann will work with the Eagles Club on rental of space.

Mileage Reimbursement Rate = \$0.65 per mile for 2023:

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve the mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.65/mile for 2023.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Official Authorization of 2023

Motion by Durham, second by Bergeman to approve the County being the financial authorization for 2023 with Madelia Times Messenger being the newspaper for 2023.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Approval for Staff Signatory:

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve Dave Haler and Carrie Schultz as the staff signatories for the BWSR Financial Reports.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve Dave Haler, Kyla Schlomann, Carrie Schultz, and Laura Quiring as the staff signatories for Well Sealing Cost-Share.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve Dave Haler, Carrie Schultz, and Jacob VanRyswyk as the staff signatories for Walk in Access (WIA).

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve Dave Haler, Carrie Schultz, and Laura Quiring as the staff signatories for Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM).

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

State Cost-Share rates 2023:

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve well sealing cost share at the rate of 50% up to \$550 per well, Rock intakes at the rate of \$550 and Hickenbottoms at a rate of \$200 per intake.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Board Seats and Committees

2022 Board Seats	New 2023 Board Seats
Chairman - Rich Enger	Chairman - Rich Enger
Vice Chairman - Noren Durham	Vice Chairman - Noren Durham
Secretary - Steve Sodeman	Secretary - Steve Sodeman
Treasurer - Jordan Bergeman	Treasurer - Jordan Bergeman
PR & I - Bret Braaten	PR & I - Bret Braaten

2022 Committees	New 2023 Committee Elections
County Liaison Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman	County Liaison Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman
Personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bret BraatenJordan Bergeman	Personnel <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bret BraatenJordan Bergeman
Watowan River Comprehensive Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerNoren Durham (1st Alternate)Steve Sodeman (2nd Alternate)	Watowan River Comprehensive Management Plan Main: Rich Enger 1 st Alternate: Noren Durham 2 nd Alternate: Steve Sodeman
Annual Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman	Annual Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman
GBERBA Representative <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman	GBERBA Representative <ul style="list-style-type: none">Rich EngerSteve Sodeman
South Central TSA Representative <ul style="list-style-type: none">Noren DurhamBret Braaten (1st Alternate)	South Central TSA Representative Main: Noren Durham 1 st Alternate: Bret Braaten
Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full Board	Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full Board
Cost-Share <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full Board	Cost-Share <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full Board
Environmental Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">Steve Sodeman	Environmental Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">Steve Sodeman

EQIP	EQIP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Bergeman • Steve Sodeman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Bergeman • Steve Sodeman
Grants	Grants
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Board
PR & I and Legislation	PR & I and Legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Bergeman • Bret Braaten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jordan Bergeman • Bret Braaten
Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA)	Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Board

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve leaving Board Seats and Committees the same for 2023.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

GBERBA Cot-Share Contract Approvals

- A.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-27
 Estimate cost: \$465.00
 50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$232.50
 Funding: WWIMP Grant 41
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning
- B.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-28
 Estimate cost: \$995.00
 50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$497.50
 Funding: WWIMP Grant 41
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning
- C.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-29
 Estimate cost: \$1070.00
 50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$535.00
 Funding: WWIMP Grant 41
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning
- D.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-30
 Estimate cost: \$1070.00
 50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$535.00
 Funding: WWIMP Grant 41
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve payment of contracts WBIF-WW-21-83-27, WBIF- WW-21-83-28, WBIF-WW-21-83-29, and WBIF-WW-21-83-30.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

Contract Amendment Approvals:

- A.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-26
 Original Land occupier: Neil Kettner
 Original practice life: 20 years

Funding: WWIMP Grant 41
 Practice: well decommissioning
 New Land occupier: Neil Kettner
 New practice life: perpetuity
 Reason: To reflect who the contract is with correctly and to match policy

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve amendments to contract WBIF-WW-21-83-26.

Affirmative: Braaten, Bergeman, Durham, and Enger
 Opposed: None Motion carried

Well Sealing cost share update

A. Contract: 21-LCG-AW-01
 Estimate cost: \$1395.00
 50% up to \$500.00 cost share: \$500.00
 Funding: FY21 local capacity grant
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

*This contract was pre-approved, SWCD has given staff approval to do so

SWCD Cost-Share Payment Approval:

A. Contract: 21-LCG-AW-01
 Estimate cost: \$1,395.00
 Actual cost: \$1,362.50
 50% up to \$500.00 cost share: \$500.00
 Funding: FY21 Local Capacity Grant
 Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve payment of contract 21-LCG-AW-01.

Affirmative: Braaten, Bergeman, Durham, and Enger
 Opposed: None Motion carried

SWCD PROGRAM UPDATES & REPORTS

Staff Agency Reports:

WCA LGU: No Report
 Farm Bill Biologist: Verbal Report
 NRCS District Conservationist: No Report
 SWCD Assistant Manager: Verbal Report
 District Technician I: Verbal Report.
 District Technician II: Verbal Report
 BWSR: Verbal Report

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

1/13/2023	GBERBA Policy	Staff/Supervisors
1/25/2023	GBERBA Tech	Staff/Supervisors
2/1/2023	Area VI MASWCD Chairman’s Mtg (virtual)	Rich
2/14/2023	SWCD Monthly Board Meeting	Staff/Supervisors

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve the upcoming meetings as listed above.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None Motion carried

OTHER BUSINESS: None

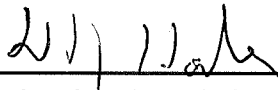
ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Enger adjourned the meeting at 10:25 am.

Next Regular SWCD Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 8:30 am at the District Office.



District Supervisor



District Administrator