



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

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023**

108 8<sup>th</sup> 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, June 13, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Rich Enger at 8:37 am.

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

**Others Present:** Land Management Director, Dave Haler  
Solid Waste Administrator / Assistant Zoning Administrator, Kyla Schlomann  
SWCD Assistant Manager / Ditch Inspector, Carrie Schultz  
District Technician I, Laura Quiring  
District Technician II, Jacob VanRyswyk  
County Commissioner, Dillon Melheim  
District Conservationist, Karen Boysen  
PF Farm Bill Biologist, Jacob Dearborn,  
FSA Director, Chelsea Holleman

## AGENDA

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve the June 13, 2023 amended agenda.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

## MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Sodeman, second by Durheim to approve the May 9, 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

## FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING

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

### **Bills to Pay:**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$16,156.61.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman

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Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Supervisor Per Diem:**

Date	Meeting Attended	Rich Enger	Noren Durham	Bret Braaten	Steve Sodeman	Jordan Bergeman
1/10/2023	January SWCD Board Meeting			X		
3/14/2023	March SWCD Board Meeting					X
4/11/2023	April SWCD Board Meeting			X		
4/14/2023	GBERBA Exec. Meeting	X				
5/9/2023	May SWCD Meeting	X	X		X	
5/19/2023	GBERBA Policy Meetng	X				
6/13/2023	June SWCD Board Meeting	X	X	X	X	X

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve supervisors per diem as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA):** update from Enger. Schultz asked the board for their input on cost share percentages so she can bring it to the next meeting.

**MASWCD Area VI:** Next meeting 6/21/23 - they would like supervisors to attend and give input on on how they can play a more active role moving forward.

**South Central TSA:** Next meeting 6/27/23

**Commissioner Report:** Touched on the tax meeting that was held. Some discussion on the hold ups with a ditch project.

**SWCD ACTION ITEMS / BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Pheasants Forever Local Powers Agreement:**

Motion by Sodeman, second by Bergeman to approve the signing the PF Local Powers Agreement for FY24 matching up to \$4,000.00.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**Blue Earth River 1W1P:**

Motion by Sodeman, second by Bergeman to opt out of the Blue Earth River 1W1P planning process.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**Minnesota River – Mankato Watershed 1W1P:**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to support a resolution for the Minnesota River – Mankato Watershed 1W1P.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**GBERBA Cost Share Projects**

**A.** Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-32

Estimate cost: \$1500.00

50% up to \$1,000.00 cost share: \$750.00

Funding: WWIMP Grant 41

Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

Motion by Bergeman, second by Braaten to approve contract WBIF-WW-21-83-32 for a well decommissioning.

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

**GBERBA Cost Share Payments**

- A. Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-29  
Estimate cost: \$1070.00  
Actual cost: \$1070.00  
50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$535.00  
Funding: WWIMP Grant 41  
Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning
- B. Contract: WBIF-WW-21-83-30  
Estimate cost: \$1070.00  
Actual cost: \$1070.00  
50% up to \$1000.00 cost share: \$535.00  
Funding: WWIMP Grant 41  
Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve payment of contract WBIF-WW-21-83-29 in the amount of \$535.00 and contract WBIF-WW-21-82-30 in the amount of \$535.00.

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

**Well Sealing cost share payment approval**

- A. Contract: 21-LCG-AW-03  
Estimate cost: \$1030.00  
Actual cost: \$1030.00  
50% up to \$550.00 cost share: \$515.00  
Funding: FY21 local capacity grant  
Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning
- B. Contract: 21-LCG-AW-04  
Estimate cost: \$785.00  
Actual Cost: \$785.00  
50% up to \$550.00 cost share: \$395.50  
Funding: FY21 local capacity grant  
Practice: 351 Well Decommissioning

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve payment of contract 21-LCG-AW-03 in the amount of \$515.00 and contract 21-LCG-AW-04 in the amount of \$395.50.

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

**SWCD PROGRAM UPDATES & REPORTS**

**Staff Agency Reports:**

- WCA LGU: No Report.
- Farm Bill Biologist: Verbal Report
- NRCS District Conservationist: Verbal Report
- SWCD Assistant Manager: Verbal Report

District Technician I: Verbal Report.  
District Technician II: Verbal Report  
BWSR: No Report – Jill on Maternity leave until July  
FSA Director: Verbal Report

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

6/14/2023	Local Work Group	Staff / Supervisors
6/21/2023	Area VI Meeting	Staff / Supervisors
6/27/2023	TSA	Noren

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

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to adjourn at 10:19 am.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None Motion carried

**Next Regular SWCD Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 8:30 am at the District Office.**

  
District Supervisor

  
District Administrator