



Minutes from the October 18, 2021, Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7:30 a.m. by either in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds or via Zoom due to the Public Health Pandemic Emergency declared under Chapter 12 by the Governor. A notice of the meeting was posted on the door of the SWCD Office Location (4 Alfred Street NE) and explained how the public was able to participate in the meeting if not attending in person. The meeting followed all the requirements for an electronic meeting as spelled out in MN Statutes 13D.021 Subdivision 1, 1-4.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ken Berg at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Chair: Ken Berg
Vice Chair: Bruce Juntunen
Treasurer: Tom Schulz
Secretary: Nancy Benson

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Admin Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Admin, Ed, & Outreach Asst: Kristi Rorah

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to adopt the agenda. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes from previous month: Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve the last month's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid and Bills Payable: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

Cost Share:

20-01; Wenzel, Kurt; Blueberry Township, section 14; authorization to approve payment for a critical area planting with a total cost of \$3,925.33 and cost sharing not to exceed \$2,944.00 or 75% whichever is less; Motion made to approve by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Nancy Benson. Opposed: none, Motion carried.

20-05; Trout, John; Leaf River Township, section 16; authorization to approve payment for a well sealing with a total cost of \$750.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$250.00 or 50% whichever is less; Motion made to approve by Nancy Benson, seconded by Tom Schulz. Opposed: none, Motion carried.

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20-06; Redeemer Lutheran Church; Blueberry Township, section 27; authorization to encumber funds for an unused well sealing with a total cost estimate of \$1,275.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$500 or 50% whichever is less; Motion made to approve by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz. Opposed: none, Motion carried.

District Manager's Report: as written and reported by Anne Oldakowski.

District Conservationist's Report: none

County Commissioner's Report:

- Work at fairgrounds and the hospital is underway, including sewer and road upgrades going to the hospital
- County Coordinator position will be separate from County Engineer position going forward
- County forming committee to address former potlatch lands

BWSR Report: none

Forestry Update: presented by Tom Schulz; new grant to upgrade equipment for SWCDs

Water Plan Update:

- Redeye postcards: sent out, some calls received but not a huge response
- Met with Hubbard to discuss Crow Wing watershed

TSA 8 Report: committee will meet November 1 for employee evaluations

MASWCD Resolutions: (moved up on agenda) Resolutions and resolution process were discussed. Supervisor votes will be submitted to MASWCD by November 1.

- Resolution 1: Minnesota Wetland Conservation Agency Coordination
- Resolution 2: State Cost-Share For Septic System Replacement
- Resolution 3: Increased State Cost-Share For Unused Well Sealing
- Resolution 4: Job Approval Authority Coordination
- Resolution 5: Public Water Inventory Map Re-Addition Public Hearings
- Resolution 6: Outdoor Heritage Funds Available For Private Shoreline Stabilization & Naturalization Projects
- Resolution 7: BWSR Continued Forestry Support
- Resolution 8: Advocating For The Development Of The Private Forest Management Memorandum Of Understanding And The Creation Of The BWSR Forest Conservation Program
- Resolution 9: Local-State-Federal Partnership On Forestry In Minnesota
- Resolution 10: Develop & Maintain Contact List Of Locally-Active Conservation Organizations To Increase Legislative Effectiveness
- Resolution 11: Cost Sharing For Removal Of Tile Intakes
- Resolution 12: Climate-Smart Agriculture
- Resolution 13: Right Of Way Vegetative Management
- Resolution 14: Increased Payment Rate For Easement Delivery

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8:25 am Cedar Walters and Zach Fjestad joined via Zoom

Film Plastic Recycling:

- Presentation by Cedar Walters and Zach Fjestad of Otter Tail County on the film plastic recycling program
- Full information on Otter Tail, Wadena, and Todd County websites
- Program currently has 160 containers and 60 more are being purchased
- Approximately a dozen containers located in Wadena County

8:47 am Cedar Walters and Zach Fjestad left the meeting

Equipment Purchases:

- Tires have been purchased
- Will not be purchasing iPads for supervisors use at this time
- Arvig is installing fibre to the building, will have improved internet access.

Meetings/Trainings:

- Joint SWCD Manager and WD Administrator Meeting to be attended by Darren and Anne. Motion made to approve by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson. Opposed: none, Motion carried.
- Staff have signed up for virtual BWSR Academy sessions.

Public Comments: none

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 9:02 am