



Minutes from the November 15, 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. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds (or via Zoom). 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 was called to order by Chair Ken Berg at 7:31 a.m.

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
District Manager: Darren Newville
NRCS DC: Josh Hanson
Admin Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Admin, Ed, & Outreach Asst: Kristi Rorah

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

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

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

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

Cost Share: none

District Manager's Report: as written and reported by Darren Newville.

District Conservationist's Report:

- Working on CSP payments, EQIP applications, and planning with customers
- EQIP and ACEP application cutoff is November 19

The Wadena Soil & Water Conservation District seeks to achieve and maintain the highest quality and quantity of natural resources possible through wise stewardship for now and the future of human and financial means available.

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County Commissioner's Report:

- Busy with budgets and labor contracts
- AMC policy committee meeting attended, establishes things to lobby for. Discussed payment in lieu of taxes, permitting/statute changes needed for mini generators (electricity generation) because of cleanup/removal expenses, solid waste burners no longer supported by the MPCA, long-term planning is needed

Other Agency Reports: none

Forestry Update: presented by Tom Schulz

- Forestry Association will be meeting in McGregor this week. Good representation of legislators, including Carrie Ruud, will be attending. Will be discussing issues including capacity of DNR Forestry to deliver trees.

Water Plan Update: see manager's report

- MPC has reached out to us regarding a surface water assessment grant next summer

TSA 8 Report: there will be a personnel committee meeting next Monday regarding staffing issues

Meetings/Trainings:

- Region 5 - annual meeting Dec. 9, 5 pm at The Timbers (Staples), requesting 2 representatives from SWCD - Nancy and Anne will attend
- MASWCD convention Dec. 12-14 - who is attending and which events/meals, purchase items for the silent auction
 - Motion to approve up to \$250 to be used for purchase of auction donation item(s) made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Bruce Juntunen. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
- December board meeting will be at 10 a.m.

Staffing: There is a need for an additional technician, to be housed in the Wadena office. Would change the contract amount, could be covered by implementation funding.

Public Comments: none

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.