



Minutes from the August 16, 2021, Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Monday, August 16, 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 7:33 a.m.

Members Present:

Chair: Ken Berg
Vice Chair: Bruce Juntunen
Treasurer: Tom Schulz
Secretary: Nancy Benson
Public Relations: Brett Dailey

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
NRCS DC: Josh Hanson
BWSR: Chris Pence (Zoom)
District Manager: Darren Newville
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 Brett Dailey to adopt the agenda. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

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

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

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

BWSR State Cost Share:

20-05; Trout, John; Authorization to encumber cost share for well sealing. Motion made to approve by Brett Dailey, seconded by Tom Schulz. Opposed: none, Motion carried.

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

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.

An Equal Opportunity Employer



District Conservationist's Report:

- CSP – 8 applications pre-approved, 5 moving forward.
- EQIP – 8 moving forward, 1 application for water quality pre-approved.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Budget meetings and union negotiations are ongoing.
- Normally hold 3 meetings/month however several have been cancelled which has affected budget meetings and negotiations.
- County contributes to EDA
 - Sebeka – have torn down several abandoned/run-down buildings
 - Expanding ride services

BWSR Report:

- Presented via zoom by Chris Pence:
 - sending ditch law information requested by Tom and contact info of additional resources
 - local capacity is being worked on, no numbers available yet

Forestry Update: Tom attended July meeting. There was a presentation by Dan Steward regarding former Potlatch lands. There are 3500 ac in Wadena County currently owned by Conservation Fund. Goal is to transfer to public ownership.

Water Plan Update: Outreach beginning in the next month for the Redeye 1W1P. Postcards will be sent and Ben is putting together talking points for phone calls.

TSA 8 Report: Notice of meeting will be sent out, to be held at the Area Tour. TSA engineering staff looked at project at Behrn's site.

Meetings/Trainings:

- Area meeting will be Sept 23-24.
 - Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to send representatives to Area 8 meeting. Opposed: None. Motion carried.
- BWSR Academy registration Oct 26-28
 - Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Brett Dailey to send staff as needed. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

MASWCD Awards: Deadline for nominations is Sept 17. Suggestion made to nominate Crampton for conservationist and/or forestry award. They have 208.3 ac in RIM easement. Suggestion made to nominate Lori Grandal(?) for teacher award.

Public Comments: None

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn made by Ken Berg, seconded by Bruce Juntunen. Opposed: None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

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.

An Equal Opportunity Employer