



### **Minutes from the January 19, 2021 Board Meeting**

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Tuesday, January 19, 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 Brett Dailey at 7:30 a.m.*

Oath of Office was read by everyone out loud.

#### **Reorganization of the Board of Supervisors as follows:**

	<u><b>Current Positions</b></u>	<u><b>Reorganized Positions</b></u>
<b>Members Present:</b>	Chair: Brett Dailey	Chair: Ken Berg
	Vice Chair: Ken Berg	Vice Chair: Bruce Juntunen
	Secretary: Bruce Juntunen	Secretary: Nancy Benson
	Treasurer: Nancy Benson	Treasurer: Tom Schulz
	Public Relations: Tom Schulz	Public Relations: Brett Dailey

#### **Others Present:**

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau  
NRCS DC: Josh Hanson (Zoom)  
Wadena Cty Hwy Dept: Ryan Odden  
Wadena Cty Hwy Dept: Darin Fellbaum  
Bolton & Menk, Inc.: Phil Martin (Zoom)  
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski  
Admin Secretary: Chantal Tougas

Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve the Reorganization of the Board of Supervisors.  
Opposed: none, motion carried.

Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve to keep the current committee appointments.  
Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Adopt Agenda:** Motion made by Ken Berg, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to Adopt the Agenda with the following addition. Approve JAA & Certified Conservation Planner for Nathan Wiese. Opposed: None. Motion carried.

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

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**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ken Berg 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. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to amend the previous motion to include those listed on the agenda. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**BWSR State Cost Share:**

20-02; Petersen, Scott; authorization to encumber funds for a field windbreak with a total cost of \$455.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$341.25 or 75% whichever is less in Meadow Township, section 11. Motion made by Ken Berg, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**CWL Crow Wing River Forestry Plan Writing:**

*We will be submitting an invoice to the grant for these forestry plans:*

44 – Gruber, Paul; cost share up to \$382.50 or 75% whichever is less in Blueberry Township, section 35 (40 acres). Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

*Approve final cost share payment for:*

31 – Quam, Alan; cost share up to \$943.20 of 75% whichever is less in Huntersville Township, section 36 (consultant written). Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**District Manager's Report:** as written by Darren Newville and read by Anne Oldakowski. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ken Berg to approve Nathan Wiese for CCP & JAA. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Soil Conservationist's Report:**

- ✓ 2020 CSP payments paid in 2021 have been completed
- ✓ Getting ranking set up for EQIP
- ✓ Quite a few positions open

**County Commissioner's Report:**

- Getting organized with new commissioners
- Had a meeting regarding Potlatch land sale to The Conservation Fund

**Forestry Update:** MNSWCD Forestry meeting was last Thursday with a presentation from Blandin on a carbon program. Tom also noted there is a MN Forest Resources Council meeting later today and looking to get funds to update the West Central Landscape plan.

**Water Plan Update:** Included in District Manager's report.

**TSA 8 Report:** At the meeting last week several things were approved. The hosting agreement with Crow Wing SWCD, the budget, funding for a project in Koochiching area, and a new wage schedule.

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**Meetings/Trainings:** Motion made by Ken Berg, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve Anne to attend the Shade Tree Course in March. Opposed: none, motion carried. Legislative Days is March 18, 2021 and will be virtual this year with focus on SWCD capacity and funding. More discussion when we receive more information from MASWCD.

**Area 8 Chair/Manager Meeting:** Nancy noted that the Area is not meeting in person yet but is open to ideas of where to host upcoming meetings.

**Wadena County Highway Dept:** Ryan Odden gave a presentation on an engineered solution for surface water management at the county fairgrounds. He asked if there were any concerns and the group had a short discussion. The project is slated for 2021 and they would like our support for the project. We will write a letter of support for this.

**Federal Mileage Rate:** The federal mileage rate has decreased from 57.5 to 56 cents per mile. No vote is needed.

**Per Diem:** Currently set at \$75.00 and noted a resolution was passed for MASWCD to seek legislation to allow SWCD boards to set this at a maximum of \$125. Nothing new has been heard on this.

**Official Newspaper** – Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Tom Schulz to use the Review Messenger as our official newspaper. Opposed none, motion carried.

**Official Financial Institution** – Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Nancy Benson to use Bremer Bank as our official financial institution. Opposed none, motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.