



Minutes from the May 18, 2020 Board Meeting

Pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.021 the regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Monday, May 18, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. via Teleconference 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. 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 Vice Chair Ken Berg at 8:00 a.m.
(due to poor phone reception, Ken asked Darren to run the meeting)*

Members via Teleconference: Vice Chair: Ken Berg
Secretary: Bruce Juntunen
Treasurer: Nancy Benson
Public Relations: Tom Schulz

Others Present via Teleconference: County Commissioner: Chuck Horsager
BWSR Board Conservationist: Chris Pence
NRCS Soil Conservationist: Ivan Reinke
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas

Members Absent: Chair: Brett Dailey

Public Health: Darren reviewed the Public Health Emergency Remote Public Meeting Guidance.

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Tom Schulz to Adopt the Agenda adding discussion of June Board Meeting at the end. Opposed: None, Motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes from previous month: Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve the last month Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: None, Motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: None. Motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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COST SHARE

BWSR State Cost Share:

18-05; Schulz, Thad; authorization to encumber funds for sediment basins with a total cost of \$1,800.00 and cost sharing not to exceed \$1,350.00 or 50% whichever is less in Redeye Township, section 34. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Nancy Benson. Opposed: None. Motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion. *Please note that Tom Schulz abstained from voting.*

Cover Crop Grant: (District Capacity)

CC-01; Clarksean, Dean; authorization to encumber funds for cover crops for a total cost of \$18,000 and cost sharing not to exceed \$13,500 whichever is less for FY 20-22 in Wadena Township, section 30. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve. Opposed: None. Motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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

Soil Conservationist's Report:

- CSP – May 29, 2020 ends the general signup. 13 re-enrollments have been completed so far.
- EQIP – needs to be done by May 29, 2020. Field checks have already started.
- Civil Engineering Tech position opening soon.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Chuck Horsager has decided not to run again. He does have 8 months left.
- The road project from Sebekka to Nimrod has been completed.
- Chuck is on the CoVid-19 committee.

BWSR:

- A meeting with all District Managers was held.
- MMB wants BWSR to reduce the Clean Water Fund by 10-25%
- BWSR currently has 16 vacancies, however, there is a hiring freeze on right now.

Forestry Update: Conference call on May 21, 2020 about Firewise and the state Tree Plan.

Water Plan Update: Covered previously but noted the RE 1W1P 60 day comment period and that we won't have much activity with the Long Prairie watershed.

TSA 8 Report: A meeting is planned for the end of June. The format for this meeting has yet to be determined.

Public Health Update: Darren reviewed. Motion to adopt the Public Health Emergency Resolution by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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MASWCD Resolution: Darren read proposed resolution. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ken Berg to approve submittal of this resolution to the State office by August. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Upcoming Election Filing Date: This was covered previously but the filing dates are May 19-June 2. Joy Weyer is the Elections Coordinator and can be called about questions.

Office Agreement with NRCS – Darren will forward this to everyone for the June board meeting.

June Board meeting – We would like to meet in person in June. Those wishing to still attend teleconference can do so. As previous, information will be provided for teleconferencing. We are planning to hold the meeting at the Wadena County Sheriff's Building on the Fairgrounds.

Public Comments: None

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.