



Minutes from the October 19, 2020 Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 7:30 a.m. at the ~~Wadena County Sheriff's Building on the County Fairgrounds at 500 Birch Ave NW~~ the SWCD office at 4 Alfred Street NE, Wadena. *There was an issue with the Sheriff's building so the meeting was moved to the SWCD office. In order to maintain social distancing everyone was spread throughout the building and some joined the meeting via teleconference; therefore, a roll call vote was taken on each item needing voting.*

A teleconference option was also provided 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 Chair Brett Dailey at 7:49 a.m.

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

NRCS DC: Josh Hanson
County Commissioner: Chuck Horsager
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Admin Secretary: Chantal Tougas

Present via Teleconference:

BWSR: Chris Pence

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

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ken Berg to Adopt the Agenda. 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 Ken Berg, 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 Ken Berg, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve the September Treasurer's Report as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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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Bills Paid and Bills Payable: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Ken Berg 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.

CWL Crow Wing River Forestry Plan Writing:

37 – Marthaler, Patrick; cost share up to \$450.00 or 75% whichever is less in Bullard Township, section 10 (consultant written). Motion made by Ken Berg, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve final payment. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

40 – Soule, Joe; cost share up to \$1,081.28 or 75% whichever is less in Meadow Township, sections 27, 34 (consultant written). Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve final payment. 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: Continuing with CSP sign ups. Deadline for EQIP is November 20, 2020.

County Commissioner's Report:

- The low-income septic grants available through the county have been spent.
- The county received \$1.7 million for the CARES act. \$500,000 has been allocated for business relief.

BWSR:

- BWSR Academy is full.
- Working with the St. Paul office to extend 2018 District Capacity funds to 2022 for Cover Crop payments.
- Need to give a 3-6 month heads up for grant amendments/extensions.

Forestry Update: No meetings. The NRCS RCPP AFA grant that the DNR applied for was not funded.

Water Plan Update: Previously discussed, see manager's report.

TSA 8 Report: At the meeting on October 7, 2020 held via zoom, the budget was reviewed. There is a lot of uncertainty, however, confident in keeping staff on.

Resolutions: Discussed and board members cast their votes.

Draft Audit: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve it to be sent to BWSR and the State of MN. Opposed: none, motion carried. A roll call vote was held, and all members voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comments: None.

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