



Minutes from December 15, 2025, Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held at 10:00 a.m. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Schulz at 10:01 a.m.

Members Present: Chair: Tom Schulz
Vice Chair: Ken Berg
Secretary: Brett Dailey
Public Relations: Bruce Juntunen

Members Absent: Treasurer: Jerry Kern

Others Present: NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke
District Manager: Darren Newville
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas

Adopt Agenda: Addition of discussion of new vehicle in public comments. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, second by Ken Berg, to adopt the agenda with the addition. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approved Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve last month's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Opposed: none, motion carried. Certificates of deposit maturing: CD 4528 and 5421. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg to renew both CDs for 5 month terms. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid and Bills Payable: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Cost Share

Red Eye WBIF

8-C22-7830-04; Brett Dailey; Rockwood Township, Section 25, requesting a partial payment for his fencing, watering facility & heavy use area protection. The total cost of this portion of the project was \$17,361.40, with cost share of \$13,021.05 which is 75% of the project cost. His prescribed grazing, pasture/hay land planting will be completed in 2026. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Brett Dailey abstained from voting.*

8-C22-7830-10; Steve Flanagan; Leaf River Township, Section 2, is requesting his final cost share payment for his Cover Crop practice. The total cost of the project was \$125.00 with cost share of \$125.00. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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
Approved 1/20/2026



8-C25-0118-03; Brad Kempe; Wadena Township, Section 35, is requesting cost share assistance for a well-sealing. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,600.00 with cost share of \$750.00 which is the maximum allowable. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

County Commissioner's Report: Discussed budget and levy to be passed this week and utilizing some reserve funds. Tom Schulz mentioned that Cass County utilizes a brine maker for winter roads and saw a significant reduction in salt usage.

District Manager's Report: Read by Darren Newville.

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: Read by Ivan Reinke.

Other Agency Reports: None present.

Forestry Update: The SWCD Forestry Association met on November 20 with presentations on trees sales, EAB, the new FERN estimator tool, and forest management guidelines. The group will be having a booth at the MASWCD Convention about the benefits of SFIA and RIM.

TSA 8 Report: Nothing to report.

Meetings/Trainings: None.

Public Comments: Discussion on updating one of our vehicles. Anne provided options of new and used vehicles in the area. The board agreed to a price limit of \$45,000 with trade in of the van. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. Tom talked about the resolution on creating a sustainable grazing incentive act similar to forestry. Tom also thanked staff for making it possible that Kyle could be present at the MASWCD Award Ceremony on Tuesday of the convention.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.