



Minutes from April 20, 2026, Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held at 7:30 a.m. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Schulz at 7:31 a.m.

Members Present: Chair: Tom Schulz
Vice Chair: Ken Berg
Treasurer: Jerry Kern
Public Relations: Bruce Juntunen

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

Members Absent: Secretary: Brett Dailey

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern, to adopt the agenda with the following addition: Under Cost Share add Pump Policy. 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 Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg to renew CD 5436, which matures on 5/5/2026, for 4 months @ 3.75%. Opposed; none, motion carried.

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

Cost Share

Discussion was held regarding our current Irrigation Pump Cost-Share Policy. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, second by Ken Berg to change the current policy to reflect a 2 pump, per producer, per year maximum with a \$10,000 maximum/pump. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Redeye WBIF

Requesting an amendment to the March minutes to change the contract number for Brett Bergeron from **8-C25-0118-07** to **8-C25-0118-10**. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern 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 5/18/2026



8-C25-0118-07; Roth Riverside Farms Inc; Aldrich Township, section 17; is requesting final payment for a fertigation retrofit pump. The total cost of the project was \$6,800.20, with cost share payment of \$5,000, the approved maximum payment. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Crow Wing WBIF

8-C25-0310-05; Smith, Heidi; Bullard Township, section 1,2 and Lyons Township, section 36; is requesting final payment for a Forest Stewardship Plan. The total cost of the project was \$2,820.00 with cost share payment of \$1,410.00 or 50% whichever is less. The is the allowable amount for a new plan enrolling in 2C tax class. Plan written by Anne for 280 acres. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0310-14; Giza Revocable Trust; Lyons Township, Section 15; is requesting cost share assistance for their Forest Stewardship Plan on 86 acres. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,150.00 with cost share assistance of \$575.00 or 50%, whichever is less. Plan to be written by Anne. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0310-15; Jon Krause; Thomastown Township, Section 34; is requesting cost share for a fertigation pump conversion. The total estimated cost of the project is \$10,498.00 with cost share assistance of \$7,873.50 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Ken Berg abstained from voting.*

Soil Health RCPP

80-1-03; Gary Duncan; Aldrich & Wing River Townships, Sections 5, 32; is requesting cost share assistance for a No Till practice on 33 acres. Flat rate cost share is \$1,056.00 at \$32/ac. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

County Commissioner's Report: Not present.

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 next meeting will be held on May 21, 2026

TSA 8 Report: Everything is going well. The officers remained the same. Staff will sign off on grants.

Retreat recap/discussion: The report from the moderator was sent out and discussion was held at this meeting.

Meetings/Trainings: For information purposes only. The Local Work Group Meeting will be held after our May meeting, May 18 at 9:00 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.



Resolutions: None brought forward, however if anyone does come up with any resolutions, they should do so at the next meeting.

MDA Central Sands Nitrate Monitoring Network RMB Proposal: \$16,471.00 for the setup of 400 nitrate sampling kits to be mailed out to households in the network, analyze the samples that are returned, provide reports to each landowner, and a final project report back to the SWCD and MDA. Anne will provide the 2025 summary report to the supervisors.

Area VIII Donation: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to donate \$300 to the Area VIII Envirothon. Opposed: none, motion carried.

2026 Elections - District 1, Ken Berg; District II Brett Dailey; District III Jerry Kern: Filing dates are May 19-June 2 with a \$20 filing fee.

Public Comments: none

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.