



Minutes from May 18, 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 7:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Chair: Tom Schulz
Vice Chair: Ken Berg
Treasurer: Jerry Kern
Public Relations: Bruce Juntunen
Secretary: Brett Dailey

Others Present:

NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke
NRCS District Conservationist CST Leader: Josh Hanson
BWSR Board Conservationist: Pete Waller
District Manager: Darren Newville
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Education & Outreach Administrative Asst: Kristi Rorah

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen, to adopt the agenda with the following addition: Under Cost Share add cost share policy proposal for pasture/hayland planting. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to renew CD 5511 for 4 months at 4% and CD 5514 for 11 months at 4%. Opposed; none, motion carried.

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

Cost Share

Discussion was held regarding adding Pasture/Hayland Planting, NRCS Practice 512, to our Cost-Share Policy. Staff recommended a onetime flat rate payment of \$100/acre, with a 5-year practice/contract life, capping it at 160 acres with no hay in the rotation for the past 5 years, and requiring planting at least a 2 species mix. (see attachment). Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey 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 6/15/2026



Redeye WBIF

8-C25-0118-11; Sahr, Roberta; Wing River and Bullard Townships, sections 1; 6 and 7; is requesting cost share assistance for a forest stewardship plan on 180 acres. The estimated cost of the project is \$2,100.00 with cost share payment of \$1,050.00 or 50% whichever is less. Plan to be written by Anne. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0118-02; Bell, Richard; Bullard Township, Section 8; is requesting final payment for his Forest Stewardship Plan on 39 acres. The total cost of the plan was \$523.00 with the cost share amount of \$261.50.00 or 50% whichever is less. This plan was written by Joel Holden. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0118-09; Steve McDonald; North Germany Township, Section 15; is requesting final payment for his Forest Stewardship Plan on 126 acres. The total cost of the plan was \$880.00 with the cost share amount set at \$430.00 or 50% whichever is less. This plan was written by Joel Holden. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Crow Wing WBIF

8-C25-0310-16; Grustayer Inc.; Blueberry Township, sections 35,36; is requesting cost share assistance for an updated forest stewardship plan on 270 acres. The estimated cost of the project is \$3,500.00 with cost share payment of \$875.00 or 25% whichever is less. Plan to be written by Anne. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, second by Brett Dailey 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: Pete Waller reported that BWSR is waiting to hear an update regarding the recent voting in the state legislature.

Forestry Update: The next meeting will be this week to discuss future planning.

TSA 8 Report: Nothing new to report.

Meetings/Trainings

- Midwest Farm Energy Conference, June 16-17, Morris, Registration \$100 + hotel: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to approve attendance for Tom and anyone else who may want to attend. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Area 8 meeting, June 26, 2026, Bemidji: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve attendance for anyone who may want to attend. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- CAI Short Course, July 20th – 22nd, New Ulm – Registration \$250 + Hotel: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to approve for staff to attend. 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 6/15/2026



Resolutions: None brought forward.

JAA: Approval of concurrence for Peter Hendrickx. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve concurrence for JAA for Peter Hendrickx. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: none

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:21 a.m.