



Minutes from September 15, 2025, 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
Secretary: Brett Dailey
Treasurer: Jerry Kern
Public Relations: Bruce Juntunen

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke
District Manager: Darren Newville
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg to adopt the agenda as presented with the addition under Forestry: MFRC West Central Landscape Agreement. 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 Bruce Juntunen, second by Ken Berg, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to renew CD # 1193 for 5 months at a rate of 4.05%. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to approve the draft audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

Cost Share

Redeye WBIF Cost Share C25-0118:

8-C25-0118-02; Bell, Richard; Bullard Township, Section 8; is requesting cost share assistance for a Forest Stewardship Plan. The estimated cost of the project is \$530.00 with cost share of \$265.00 or 50% whichever is less. The is the allowable amount for a new plan enrolling in 2C tax class for 2026. Plan will be written by Joel Holden. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Redeye WBIF Cost Share C22-7830:

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8-C22-7830-10; Flanagan, Steve; Leaf River Township, Section 2; is requesting cost share assistance for cover crops on 15 acres. This is a one-year, single species flat rate/acre contract of \$25/acre. The estimated cost of the project is \$375.00. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C22-7830-07; Perius, Kevin; Wadena Township, Section 15; the incorrect acreage and approval amount were entered in the cost share report and minutes, so we need to amend those amounts in our minutes. The cost share report to the board on 8-18-2025 was for 14 acres and \$490.00, but the signed contract is actually on 30 acres for \$750.00. This is a one-year, single species flat rate/acre contract with a flat rate of \$750.00. The cost share payment should be \$750.00. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C22-7830-07; Perius, Kevin; Wadena Township, Section 15; is requesting a final cost share payment for his cover crop practices on 30 acres. This is a one-year, single species flat rate/acre contract with a flat rate of \$750.00. The cost share payment is \$750.00. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Budgets, salaries, and tax increases oh my! That is the current focus of the county.
- Final ditch hearing still to come.

District Manager's Report: Read by Darren.

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: Read by Ivan.

Other Agency Reports: None present.

Forestry Update: A meeting was held last Friday. 2 speakers were present. One speaker, from BWSR, presented a new app called FERN that will be discussed at BWSR Academy in late October.

Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, second by Ken Berg to approve Darren to sign the MFRC Agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

TSA 8 Report: Nothing new to report.

Meetings/Trainings:

- Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Ken Berg to send Darren or Anne to the Managers Meeting in St. Cloud on September 24-45, 2025. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, second by Jerry Kern to send staff to BWSR Academy in Baxter on October 21-23, 2025. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- The Red Eye Policy Committee will be meeting on October 20, 2025 after the Wadena board meeting.

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MN Paid Leave: Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to pay 100% of the MN Paid Leave for Supervisors/Staff. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Job Approval Authority (JAA): Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to accept Savanna Anderson & Peter Hendrickx JAA. They were both approved for the following practices: 360 Watering Facility Closure, 442 Sprinkler Package, and 449 Irrigation Water Management (IWM). Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: White Earth Indian Tribe has expressed interest in participating in the Crow Wing Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF).

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

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