



MINUTES FROM MAY 21, 2025, BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lyle Dittmann at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chair: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Members Absent: Public Relations: Wayne Enger

Others Present: County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS Soil Conservationist: Olivia Schmitz
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas
EOT SWCD Intern: Sam Kopveiler
Wadena SWCD Intern: Connor Adams

Introductions were made by the Summer Interns.

Agenda: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to adopt the agenda as presented.
Opposed: none, motion carried.

Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the previous Board Meeting Minutes with the following correction: Removing Bruce Albright's name at the top as he did not call the last meeting to order. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Bruce Albright, seconded by Steve Inwards, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to accept the engagement letter from Peterson Ltd to perform the audit this year. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid & Bills Payable: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger, to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

COST SHARE

MULTIPLE GRANTS

P23-1461-03; Rick Benke; Edna Township, section 22; is requesting cost share assistance for an irrigation sprinkler system. The total estimated cost of the project is \$22,230.00 with cost share of \$16,672.50 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



P23-1461-04; Rick Benke; Edna Township, section 22; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for one year. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 for the year. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-32; Rick Benke; Edna Township, section 22; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for two years. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 per year. The second year will be coming from the OT WBIF 2.0 grant. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P23-1461-05; Kenny Moenkedick; Perham Township, section 7; is requesting cost share assistance for an irrigation sprinkler system. The total estimated cost of the project is \$7,738.93 with cost share of \$5,804.20 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P23-1461-06; Kenny Moenkedick; Perham Township, section 7; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for one year. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 for the year. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-33; Kenny Moenkedick; Perham Township, section 7; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for two years. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 per year. The second year will be coming from the OT WBIF 2.0 grant. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P23-1461-07; Double D Farms; Gorman Township, sections 8/10; is requesting cost share assistance for an irrigation sprinkler system. The total estimated cost of the project is \$12,593.00 with cost share of \$9,444.75 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P23-1461-08; Double D Farms; Gorman Township, sections 8/10; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for one year. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 for the year. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-34; Double D Farms; Gorman Township, sections 8/10; is requesting cost share assistance for irrigation water management for two years. The total flat rate cost share is \$500 per year. The second year will be coming from the OT WBIF 2.0 grant. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

[REDEYE WBIF C22-7830 \(2.0\)](#)

6-C22-7830-08; Pine Breeze Farms/Jeremy Sweere; Inman Township, section 26; is requesting final payment for a well sealing. The total cost was \$700.00, with cost share of \$525.00, which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



REDEYE WBIF C25-0118 (3.0)

6-C25-0118-04; Etter Farms; Paddock Township, section 1; is requesting the first year payment of his 3 year contract for strip till. The flat rate payment for 80 acres is \$1,800.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF C23-4546 (1.0)

6-C23-4546-24; Mike Dombeck; Perham Township, section 8; is requesting payment for the second year of his 3 year contract for no till. The flat rate payment for 120 acres is \$2,700.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF C25-0116 (2.0)

6-C25-0116-12; Forrest Briard; Gorman Township, section 16; is requesting final payment for an ag waste pit closure. The total cost for the project was \$24,895.00, with a cost share payment of \$15,000.00, which is the maximum approved amount. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-13; Marvin Duane Koehler; Pine Lake Township, section 24; is requesting cost share assistance for a forest management plan for 69 acres. The estimated cost is \$1,000.00 with cost share of \$250.00 or 25%, whichever is less. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

LOCAL CAPACITY

P23-2495-01; Tim Hendrickson; Paddock Township, sections 2/3; is requesting cost share assistance for a prescribed grazing practice. The estimated cost is \$21,446.25, with cost share of \$16,084.69 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: Presented by Darren Newville.

District Conservationist's Report: Presented by Olivia Schmitz.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Currently the state is on hold as far as the budget goes.
- There have been 24 planning permits so far this year. Most of them are for storage units.
- There will be a bus tour tomorrow to evaluate the roads in the county.
- Currently 79% of the babies in Otter Tail County are vaccinated for Measles.
- The State of MN is arguing about whether to start school before or after Labor Day.

Other Agency Reports: none present.



Old Business

TSA Update: nothing to report at this time.

Storage Building: Contracts and bids were reviewed. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Terry Greenwaldt to accept the bid from Foltz Building. Opposed: none, motion carried.

New Business

Meetings and Trainings:

- Area Meeting, June 17th, 2025. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve those wishing to attend. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Area I Admin Session: June 2-3, 2025. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Resolutions: Resolutions brought forward were reviewed. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to bring these to the Area I meeting in June. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Marco Lease: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the new copier lease. We will be getting a new copier machine, which will result in approximately \$16/mo. savings. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Sick Time Donation: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to allow Mitch to donate sick time to Nicole for her maternity leave. The board did not approve the policy change at this time, but decided to table it for the next meeting for more discussion. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.