



MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, BOARD MEETING

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

Members Present: Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Public Relations: Wayne Enger
Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Others Present: County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS District Conservationist: Troy Baumgart
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas

Members Absent: Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards

Agenda: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to adopt the agenda as presented with additions. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Bruce Albright, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Bruce Albright to renew the CD that matured on 9/15/2024 for 6 months at the interest rate of 4.85%. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Bruce Albright to sign the Management Letter for the 2023 Audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

REDEYE WBIF – C21-3238

C21-3238-22; Justin Dittmann; Homestead Township; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$20/acre for 320 acres, with cost share of \$6,400.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *(Please note that Lyle abstained from voting)*

C21-3238-31; Larry Huwe; Butler Township, Section 19; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$35/acre, with cost share of \$3,675.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



6-C21-3238-35; Randy Thompson; Homestead Township, Section 29; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$35/acre, with cost share of \$1,155.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C21-3238-36; Arlin Wanderi; Corliss Township, Section 12; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$35/acre, with cost share of \$1,400.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

REDEYE 1W1P 2.0 – C22-7830

6-C22-7830-03; Gary Dornbusch; Corliss Township, Section 14; is requesting an amendment to his cost share assistance for his forest stewardship plan as he purchased an additional 60 acres north of his property. The original estimated cost of the project was \$700.00 with cost sharing of \$525.00. The amended estimated cost is now \$870.00 with cost sharing of \$652.00 or 75%, whichever is less. (Consultant written plan, 210 acres) Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF – C23-4546

6-C23-4546-20; Mark Riestenberg; Edna Township, Section 24; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice, with acres reduced from 137 to 60 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share of \$1,500.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-26; Brandon Kern; Otter Tail Township, Section 1; is requesting final payment for his well sealing. The total cost of the project, excluding permit fee, was \$500.00, with cost share of \$357.00 which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF – C25-0116

Note: the next 6 cover crop contracts were pre-approved by the District Manager as allowed for in our cost-share policy for time sensitive projects.

6-C25-0116-01; Ben Palubicki; Pine Lake & Homestead Townships, Sections 21,14; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 205 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$5,125.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-02; Russ Palubicki; Ottertail Township, Sections 21,27,34; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 320 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$8,000.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-03; Ron Palubicki; Pine Lake & Perham Townships, Sections 12,18,27; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 320 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$8,000.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



6-C25-0116-04; Jordan Palubicki; Girard & Ottertail Townships, Sections 5,23; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 190 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$4,750.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-05; Nick Palubicki; Rush Lake & Otto Townships, Sections 1,6; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 206 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$5,150.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-06; Jaden Meyer; Pine Lake Township, Section 28; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year single-species cover crop practice on 84 acres. The flat rate cost share is \$25/acre, with cost share not to exceed \$2,100.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-07; David Uhren; Folden Township, Section 28; is requesting cost share assistance for Waste Facility Closure. The estimated cost of the project is \$ 13,900.00 with cost share of \$ 10,425.00 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

[REDEYE WBIF – C25-0118](#)

6-C25-0118-01; Mark Telehey; Leaf Lake Township, Section 21; is requesting cost share assistance for a Shoreline Protection practice. The total estimated cost of the project is \$15,575.00 with cost share assistance not to exceed \$7,500.00 which is the maximum. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

[BLUFF AND OAK CREEK – P22-3257](#)

P22-3257-02; David Curtis; Newton Township, Section 12; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$35/acre, with cost share of \$1,225.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P22-3257-03; Henry Dykhoff; Bluffton Township, Sections 8 & 30; is requesting final payment for his cover crop practice. The flat rate cost share is \$35/acre, with cost share of \$630.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: Presented by Anne Oldakowski.

District Conservationist's Report: Presented by Troy Baumgart

County Commissioner's Report:

- Wayne Stein is retiring from the County Auditor position in Otter Tail County on December 31, 2024.
- Going green is a hot topic now and Electric Car purchased by Local Government Units are receiving grants.
- Land Acquisitions are being discussed.
- Cannabis bill is at a standstill due to discussion of locations, etc.
- A citizen wants to see Phelps Mill running for the next festival as well as bringing back the softball fields.
- EMS is receiving negative feedback for wanting to limit services.



Other Agency Reports: none present.

Old Business

TSA Update: nothing to report.

LCCMR Pilot Extension Request: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve a resolution to request an extension. Opposed: none, motion carried.

New Business

Meetings/Trainings: Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve those wanting to attend the MASWCD Convention this year. Opposed: none, motion carried.

FY 2024 USDA Forest Service IRA Funding: Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the Resolution. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve a Letter of Collaboration. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: none.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.