



MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2024, BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:29 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chair: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Public Relations: Wayne Enger

Members Absent: 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
Wadena Liaison: Bruce Juntunen

Agenda: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to adopt the agenda as presented with the addition of an electronic purchase under Public Comments. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Perham FFA: The Perham/Dent FFA gave a report on the Arsenic buried on the Fairgrounds and how it affects the residents of Perham. The report is attached.

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 Wayne Enger, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. 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.

REDEYE WBIF (1.0) – C21-3238

C21-3238-23; Scott Huwe; Blowers Township, section 7; is requesting final payment for his 3-year irrigation water management practice. The final flat rate payment includes both the 2nd and 3rd year payments at a rate of \$500.00/year, for a total of \$1,000.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

C21-3238-24; Jared Huwe; Paddock Township, section 31; is requesting the final payment for his 3-year irrigation water management practice. The final flat rate payment includes both the 2nd and 3rd year payments at a rate of \$500.00/year, for a total of \$1,000.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.



C21-3238-28; Steve Flanagan; Bluffton Township, Section 14; is requesting final payment for his Prescribed Grazing. The total cost of the project was \$23,077.05 with the cost share amount of \$17,307.79, which is 75%. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

REDEYE WBIF (2.0) – C22-7830

6-C22-7830-03; Gary Dornbusch; Corliss Township, section 14; is requesting the final payment for his forest stewardship plan for 210 acres. The final cost was \$870.00 with cost share of \$652.50, which is 75% of the cost. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C22-7830-07; Dennis Brandt; Ottertail & Deer Creek Townships, sections 6 & 8; is requesting cost share assistance for his forest stewardship plan for 120 acres. The estimated cost is \$1380.00 with cost share of \$1,035.00 or 75%, whichever is less. (*Additional funding is coming out of Redeye 3.0 & OT 1.0*). Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF (1.0) – C23-4546

6-C23-4546-25; Richard Saffrin; Dead Lake Township, section 5; is requesting the final payment for his forest stewardship plan for 79 acres. The final cost was \$375.00 with cost share of \$281.25, which is 75% of the cost. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

OTTER TAIL WBIF (2.0) – C25-0116

6-C25-0116-01; Ben Palubicki; Pine Lake & Homestead Townships, sections 21/14; is requesting the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 205 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$5,125.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-02; Russ Palubicki; Ottertail Township, sections 21/27/34; is requesting the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 320 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$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 the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 320 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$8,000.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-04; Jordan Palubicki; Girard & Ottertail Townships, sections 5/23; is requesting the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 190 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$4,750.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.



6-C25-0116-05; Nick Palubicki; Rush Lake & Otto Townships, sections 1/6; is requesting the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 206 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$5,150.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-09; Joe & Becky Esser; Edna Township, section 15; are requesting cost share assistance for their critical area planting (shoreline) practice on Paul Lake. The estimated cost of the project is \$7,875.00 with cost share of \$5,906.25 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-10; Tom Jacob; Rush Lake Township, Section 26; is requesting approval of cost share assistance for his critical area planting (shoreline) practice on Rush Lake. The total estimated cost of the project is \$3,670.00, with cost share of \$2,752.50 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-11; Gretchen Larson, c/o Adam Plummer, Candor Township, Section 14, is requesting cost share assistance for a Forest Stewardship plan. The total estimated cost of the project is \$ 2,000.00, with cost share of \$ 1,500.00 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

[REDEYE WBIF \(3.0\)– C25-0118](#)

6-C25-0118-01; Mark Telehey; Leaf Lake Township, section 21; is requesting final payment for his shoreline protection practice. The final cost of the project was \$16,283.00, with cost share of \$7,500.00 which was the amount authorized. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

6-C25-0118-02; Morgan Czaia; Blowers Township, sections 14; is requesting the final payment for his one-year cover crop practice on 32 acres. The flat rate is \$25/acre, with a final cost share payment of \$800.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: Presented by Darren Newville.

District Conservationist's Report: Presented by Troy Baumgart.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Tonight at 6 pm there is a Cannabis Public Hearing in Fergus Falls.
- OTC met with Wadena County last Wednesday to work together on Ditches.
- WOT Township meeting tomorrow night in Underwood. EMS will be the hot topic of the night.
- The Planning Commission has some issues right now so there are a lot of decisions to be made.

Other Agency Reports: Bruce Juntunen from Wadena SWCD just mentioned that all of their supervisors are attending the MASWCD Convention in December.



Old Business

TSA Update: Becker SWCD will be doing a 3-Day Soil Health Tour toward the end of July 2025. Four sites will be visited, and 60 spaces will be available. Stay tuned for more details.

New Business

Meetings/Trainings:

- Personnel Committee Meeting set for December 12, 2024 @ 7:30 a.m.
- Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve those attending the Soil Management Summit in January. Opposed none, motion carried.

Health Insurance: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve switching the employees' health insurance benefits from BCBS to Medica Passport for next year. This will save the district a good amount of money. Opposed: none, motion carried.

MASWCD Donation: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve a \$150 donation for an Envirothon Sponsorship for the convention. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the purchase of a Meeting Owl to use for Teams meetings. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Adjourn: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve adjourning. Opposed: none, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.