



### **Minutes from the March 21, 2022, Board Meeting**

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held on Monday, March 21, 2022, at 7:30 a.m. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds. No meeting was held in February due to weather conditions.

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Ken Berg at 7:31 a.m.*

#### **Members Present:**

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

#### **Others Present:**

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau  
NRCS DC Team Lead: Josh Hanson  
District Manager: Darren Newville  
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski  
NRCS Soil Conservation Technician: Ivan Reinke

#### **Members Absent:**

Secretary: Nancy Benson

**Adopt Agenda:** Add MDA Central Sands JPA. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to adopt the agenda with addition. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Approve Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve January's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented for February. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented for March. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Bills Paid and Bills Payable:** Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented for February. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented for March. Opposed: none, motion carried.

#### **Redeye WBIF Cost Share:**

2022-RE01; Patrick Strouth; Authorization to encumber funds for a Forest Stewardship Plan, with total cost of \$770.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$577.50 or 75%, whichever is less in Bullard Township, section 22. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

2022-RE02; Steven Flanagan; Authorization to encumber funds for prescribed grazing, with a total cost of \$ 3,099.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$2,324.25 or 75%, whichever is less in Leaf River Township, section 2. Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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***BWSR State Cost Share:***

20-07; Morgan Czaia; Authorization to encumber funds for a field windbreak, with a total cost of \$427.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$320.25 or 75%, whichever is less in Rockwood Township, section 31. Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***Cost Share Policy Updates:*** Motion made by Brett Daily, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve the policy updates as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***District Manager's Report:*** as written and reported by Darren Newville.

***NRCS District Conservationist's Report:*** as presented by Josh Hanson.

- EQIP: 7 applications were pre-approved for funding.
- Working on 12 CSP applications for planning for 2022 sign up.
- Will be hiring a DC in the Wadena office.
- Local Work Group meeting planned for April after the regular board meeting.
- Reviewed Civil Rights.

***County Commissioner's Report:***

- Tax process has started. County is controlled by the State. Expect 20-60% tax increase this year.

***Forestry Update:*** There was a meeting last week in McGregor. Topic was Beavers and they were given a chart on what to do if you have a beaver problem. Discussion was also held on ramping up for the "Million Acres," and climate smart tree planting projects.

***Water Plan Update:*** Meeting on Tuesday at MPCA to receive training on using their Sonde machine for surface water monitoring this summer. The Crow Wing watershed group met March 1 and plans to apply for 1W1P funds. There are 14 LGU's involved. It was decided that Ken Berg will be the Policy Member, with Bruce Juntunen as the Alternate.

***TSA 8 Report:*** Both engineering technicians have resigned. The TSA has applied for a \$20,000 PRAP grant from BWSR. Staffing for the remainder of the year was discussed.

***2022 Election Information:*** Ken Berg, Nancy Benson, and Brett Dailey are all up for re-election. If running again they will need to file with the county between May 17-31, 2022.

***Agreements for signatures:*** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to sign the agreement for AIS Staff with Always There Staffing. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to sign the agreement for Walk in Access with DNR. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz to sign the agreement for the MDA Central Sands Amendment. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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**Meetings/Trainings:**

- Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve Mitch Janson to attend the MACFO conference. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Tom Schulz for Anne to attend a human resources seminar in St. Cloud presented by MCIT. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Fair Booth:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve \$100 for an indoor spot at the county fair in June.

**Education:** Darren reviewed the educational ideas the staff has come up with. The appreciation dinner in coordination with EOT was of interest.

**MASWCD SWCD Aid Legislation:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey for Darren to pen letter to legislators in support of the proposed SWCD Aid Legislation.

**Public Comments:** none

**Meeting Adjourned:** Meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.