

Minutes from the June 17, 2024, 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 Bruce Juntunen at 7:28 a.m.

Members Present: Chair: Bruce Juntunen

Vice Chair: Tom Schulz Secretary: Ken Berg

Public Relations: Jerry Kern Treasurer: Brett Dailey

Others Present: County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau

District Manager: Darren Newville

Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski

Administrative, Education & Outreach Asst: Kristi Rorah Agricultural Conservation Planner: Peter Hendrickx

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to adopt the agenda as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to approve last month's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid and Bills Payable: Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Redeye WBIF Cost Share C21-3238 (EOT):

2023-RE03; Schulz, Tom; Authorization to approve final payment for components of a grazing system (heavy use protection, watering facility), with a total cost of \$2,039.97, cost share payment not to exceed \$1,529.98 or 75%, whichever is less in North Germany Township, sections 5 & 6. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. Tom Schulz abstained from voting.

Soil Health P23-2744:

P23-2744-02; Derby, Jim; Authorization to encumber funds for a windbreak renovation, with a total cost of \$1,160.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$870.00 or 75%, whichever is less in Wadena Township, section 34. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

The Wadena Soil & Water Conservation District seeks to achieve and maintain the highest quality and quantity of natural resources possible through wise stewardship for now and the future of human and financial means available.



County Commissioner's Report: Wadena County is working to establish a county housing authority. The county has hired a company to review work on ditch systems. The county is working on HR issues, the lack of HR staff has cost the county a significant amount in the past.

District Manager's Report: New employee Peter Hendrickx introduced to the board by Darren before presenting the manager's report.

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: none

Other Agency Reports: none

Forestry Update: Presented by Tom Schulz. There will be a meeting in July. Report from the visioning meeting has not been received yet.

TSA 8 Report: The new system is working well so far.

Meetings/Trainings:

• WCA training for Savanna: Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Jerry Kern to approve WCA training. Opposed: none, motion carried.

IT Service Agreement: Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Ken Berg to approve the IT service agreement with Lakes Country Service Cooperative. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: Tom Schulz discussed a wetland issue. He proposed that the SWCD develop a policy on work permission for wetland projects, allowing SWCD personnel to be authorized for a period of 5 years to access the property for inspections and monitoring. The policy would be added as a statement on the notice of decision if approved.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.