



Minutes from the July 18, 2022, 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 Ken Berg at 7:31 a.m.

Members Present:

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

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
BWSR: Pete Waller
NRCS: Josh Hanson
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey, to adopt the agenda. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Nancy Benson, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve the previous month Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

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

Cost Share:

DC 2018 Cost Share:

DC 2018-01; authorization to encumber funds for ag waste pit closure, with a total cost of \$5,700, cost share payment not to exceed \$4,275.00 or 75%, whichever is less in Wadena Township, section 34. Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

*Note – we have used DC 2018 cost share funds in the past for our three cover crop contracts with a different contract naming convention (CC-01 Clarksean, CC-02 Schock, CC-03 Mathews)

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Redeye WBIF Cost Share:

2022-RE05; authorization to encumber funds for cover crops. This is a three-year contract for a total flat rate in the amount of \$7,200 (\$15/acre for 160 acres) in Wadena Township, section 2 and Aldrich Township, section 24. Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: 6 EQIP applications were funded, 6 CSP applications were preapproved for a total of 1,888 acres. 2 Irrigation applications were ranked for RCPP. The DC position will open soon in Wadena County.

County Commissioner's Report:

- The Ag plastics collection is not working as well as hoped
- Negotiations still in process, 25 employees have not signed
- Waiting on budget requests

Other Agency Reports: Pete Waller is now Wadena SWCD's BWSR representative, he attended our board meeting to introduce himself. He also added there are 8 different RIM's available.

Forestry Update: presented by Tom Schulz

- Independent forestry writers attended the last meeting
- Grand Rapids is looking into Spruce research later this week

Water Plan Update: The Red Eye funding is being spent. Things are moving along well.

TSA 8 Report: Review of the PRAP report. The PRAP survey was given to Area VIII SWCD's.

2023 Preliminary Budget: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Nancy Benson to approve the preliminary budget for presentation to the county. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Lease Renewal: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve the new lease agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Equipment: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve the purchase of a Drone and Camera for the district with a total of \$4,000 combined. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Award Nominations: Discussion was held regarding the nomination for MASWCD awards for the 2022 convention. More discussion to be held at the next meeting.

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Meetings/Trainings:

- Tom is requesting to attend a meeting in Grand Rapids on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 with an over night stay. Motion made by Bruce Juntunen, seconded by Brett Dailey to approve the over night stay. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Tom Schulz abstained from the vote.*

Public Comments: We are saddened by the loss of Board Member Dennis Reynolds, June 30, 2022, of the East Otter Tail SWCD. He was also a liaison to the Wadena SWCD Board and attended their meetings quite frequently.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 8:46 a.m.