



Minutes from the December 19, 2022, Board Meeting

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held at 10:00 a.m. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ken Berg at 9:58 a.m.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Secretary: Nancy Benson

Others Present:

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau
NRCS Team Lead: Josh Hanson
NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke
District Manager: Darren Newville
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas
District Technician: Alyson Levig

Adopt Agenda: Motion made by Tom Schulz, seconded by Bruce Juntunen, to adopt the agenda as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Tom Schulz to approve the November 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. 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. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Redeye WBIF Cost Share:

2022-RE11; Frolek, Alan; authorization to encumber funds for a forest stewardship plan, with a total cost of \$2,082, cost share payment not to exceed \$1,561.50 or 75%, whichever is less in Leaf River Township, section 26. (Consultant written). Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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BWSR State Cost Share:

2020-08; Bernstetter, Greg; authorization to approve payment for ag waste pit closure, with a total cost of \$11,575.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$7,500 (cap for pit closures) or 75%, whichever is less in North Germany Township, section 31. *These funds will use up the 2020 cost share funds and part of the 2021 funds. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

DC Cost Share:

RCPP-01; Hovius, Austin; authorization to encumber funds for irrigation sprinkler system (VRI), with a total cost of \$75,805.60, cost share payment not to exceed \$15,000 or 75% whichever is less in Aldrich Township, sections 27,28,33,34. He is also receiving federal funds. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

County Commissioner's Report:

- Final levy concluded and contract negotiations done.
- County drainage workgroup: DNR wants to be notified before county drainage projects take place. Bringing this to the legislature.
- Still working to vacate a township road in Thomastown Twp.

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

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: Ivan Reinke reported that payments and modifications are being made for CSP and EQIP. The RCPP signup ended last Friday. Currently working on EQIP application ranking. Also attended wetland compliance training last week.

Other Agency Reports: none

Forestry Update: Head of DNR Forestry attended the last meeting. Received reports from the DNR nursery and The Nature Conservancy.

Water Plan Update:

- Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the Planning MOA for the Crow Wing Watershed. Opposed: none, motion carried.

TSA 8 Report: A severance plan was drafted on Dec. 8 for the dismissal agreement of the engineer.

Meetings/Trainings:

- Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Bruce Juntunen to send Alyson to a Shoreland workshop at St. Ben's on February 2 and to send staff and up to 5 producers to the Soil Management Summit in St. Cloud, December 15-16, 2022. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Joint retreat in March to be planned.

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2023 Meeting Schedule: Motion made by Brett Dailey, seconded by Bruce Juntunen to approve the 2023 meeting schedule. Opposed: none, motion carried. (See attached)

- Suggestion made for sending a calendar invitation for each meeting.

2023 Staffing/Budget – EOT Contract: Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve the 2023 EOT SWCD staffing contract of \$385,000 and the amended 2023 budget. Opposed: none, motion carried.

- Brett Dailey requested a copy of the budget to be sent by email.

Public Comments: Board members asked for a cost estimate to obtain signage for our outstanding conservationists.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.