Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation
District Regular Board Meeting
August 27, 2026
8:15 am
611 Broadway Ave. Suite 10B

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:15 am by Lynn Zabel, Chair
Supervisors Present: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Seth Tenis, Secretary, Dag Knudsen, Member.
Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager
Others Present: Bob Walkers, County Commissioner, Jen Wahls, Landscape Connections LLC

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

New Business Letter D. RCPP Batching – Updated List to approve.
Add C. Under Treasurer's Report - Budget report program funding cost-share.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve the Agenda as updated.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker

V. CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board and may be enacted through one motion. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed by any of the Board members for separate consideration

i. Contracts

A. Contract between Wabasha SWCD and WSB LLC to provide professional services by the Consultant in connection with the project: West Indian Creek 319, MPCA 2026-2027 Ground Water Monitoring, located in Wabasha County, MN. They will be doing the lysimeter monitoring.
B. Emerald Spring Dairy Inc/Maurice Young Contract# 2026-WIC319-5 in the amount of $21,457.20 for Practice 340 Cover Crops for one year, install by date 12/1/2026.
(Funding source – 319 Focus Watershed – West Indian Creek)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda - Contracts.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

ii. **Contract Agreement**

A. Olmsted SWCD additional $12,500.00 funds for MAWQCP sub-agreement. Total funds with addition are $15,000.00.
Contract 01/01/2026 – 12/31/2027.

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve the Consent Agenda – Contract Agreement
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

iii. **Amendment:**

A. Amendment to attachment A between Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture and Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District AgBMP Loan Program – Multiple Lender System-Agreement # M7717 to add $100,000.00 to our funds available.

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda – Amendment.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

iv. **Vouchers:**

A. Vicki Arendt Voucher for Contract# 2026WAGZ-WC-09 in the amount of $1,762.50 for MN Rules, Chapter 4714)
(Funding source – FY26-FY27 WAGZ)

B. Jodi Flynn Voucher for Contract# 2026WAGZ-WC-10 in the amount of $1,987.50 for MN Rules, Chapter 4714)
(Funding source – FY26-FY27 WAGZ)

C. Marty Heins Voucher for Contract# 2026WAGZ-WC-08 in the amount of $13,055.61 for Practice 410 Grade Stabilization.
(Funding source – FY26-FY27 WAGZ)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve the Consent Agenda – Vouchers.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

A. July 23, 2026, Meeting Minutes – **Board Action**

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Secretary's Report as presented.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

A. July District Financial Statements
   Included for your review
B. July Program Record
C. Budget report program funding cost-share.

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Treasurer's Report to the best of our ability until Auditor review.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

A. Monthly Bills in the amount of $32,635.76 - **Board Action**
B. Note: Southeast Service Cooperative – Health Insurance September premium will be paid on 9/1/2026 in the amount of $6,368.96 by automatic withdrawal.

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of #32,635.76 and Southeast Service Cooperative payment of $6,368.96 by automatic withdrawal on 9-1-2026.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel
   Winona Meeting. Stockton Flood Project. Make small ponds, use smaller pipes to release the flood water slowly.
B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes
   Working on the budget. 7% levy increase, hope to get it down to 5% for final. Personnel changes, resignations in the last month. Use staffing analysis.
C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
   Final report for West Indian Creek for our 1st round of funding.
   Making edits, report to MPCA.
   Policy Committee meetings, WinLaC and WAGZ.
   WAGZ – report on listening sessions. 1W1P process – attended one in Rochester. Will be a report on that. More in upcoming meetings.
D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – (in the packet)
   Christina gave her report at the meeting.
E. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts – (In the packet)
F. Soil Health/Nutrient Management Technician Report– Deanna Pomije (in the packet)
G. Conservation Planning & Outreach Technician Report – Ella Schams (In the packet)
H. District Technician Report – Keaton Tollakson (In the packet)
I. BWSR Report –
J. Turkey Trout and Timber Grant Update – Jen Wahls ***(report added to the board packet)***
   Jen gave her report with handouts for those attending the meeting.

X. OLD BUSINESS

A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)

B. Nominations by staff for 2026 MASWCD awards – (Closes 9/4/2026)
Outstanding Conservationist Award – Dan Wagner
Forest Steward Award – Richard Oeckler - **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the nominations of Dan Wagner for the Outstanding Conservationist Award and Richard Oeckler for the Forest Steward Award for the MASWCD Annual Convention.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approve IRS mileage rate change effective 7/1/2026 to .76 per mile for business purposes – **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the IRS mileage rate change effective 7/1/2026 to .76 per mile for business purposes.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

B. Medical insurance renewal information for 2027 has been received and the VSP toolkit is here. Once all information has been received and when compiled, a personnel committee meeting or treasurer and 1 personnel member date will need to be set. – **Informational**
Terri will contact Treasurer, Klennert and one of the Personnel Committee – Lynn or Chet for meeting on benefits when all the information is available.

C. Approve David Brennan JR Contract# 26-CC-5 in the amount of $420.00 for Practice 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment – Installed by date 7/30/2027 – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY26 Conservation Contracts)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve David Brennan JR Contract# 26-CC-5 in the amount of $420.00 for Practice 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment – Installed by date 7/30/2027.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

D. Soil Health RCPP 2026 August Ranking / Batching – **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve the Soil Health RCPP 2026 Ranking / Batching for August.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

E. Approve Contract# 79-3-52 in the amount of $5,000.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. Completed by date 12/1/2026. ***Contract approved in the batch approval.***
(Funding source – FY25-FY28 Soi Health RCPP–Round 3)

F. Approve Gerald and Tami Folkert Amendment#1 to Contract# 2026WAGZ-WC-12 to change the amount to $17,933.18 from $16,838.60 and change install by date from 11/30/2026 to 12/1/2027 for Practice 410 Grade Stabilization – **Board Action** (Funding source – FY26-FY27 WAGZ)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Gerald and Tami Folkert Amendment# 1 to Contract# 2026WAGZ-WC-12 to change the amount from $16,838.60 to $17,933.18 and change the install by date from 11/30/2026 to 12/1/2027 for Practice 410 Grade Stabilization.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

G. 2024 Economic Impacts of the Minnesota Conservation Delivery Partners – The 2024 IMPLAN Report – **Informational**
Joint Project between BWSR, NRCS and MASWD.

XII. Board Reports

A. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag reported
Quarterly meeting by zoom.
Reviewed Grant and Financial Statements for FY24-FY25 and FY26-FY27.
Update on Zumbo Regional water Trail. Sites upstream, going ahead.
Midpoint Assessment of 1W1P commencing next year.

B. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn

C. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB - Dag

D. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

E. Upcoming Events:
   i. Monday, September 7, 2026, Labor Day – Office Closed
   ii. Wednesday, September 23, 2026, - Area 7 Fall Meeting at Owatonna Eagles/Owatonna. 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. This is for Supervisors and Employees.
   iii. Thursday, September 24, 2026, Board Meeting

XIII. Motion to Recess Regular Meeting and go in to Closed Session – Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Recess the Regular Meeting and go in to Closed Session.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XIV. Closed Session – Board Action

A. **Minnesota Healthcare Consortium (Medica) 2027 Health Insurance Renewal - Statewide Pool Rates and Benefits Confirmation for Wabasha Soil & Water Conservation District effective 1/1/2027.**

Discussion

XV. Motion to Reopen Regular Meeting – Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Reopen the Regular Meeting
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudson, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XVI. Approval of the following – Board Action

A. **Minnesota Healthcare Consortium (Medica) 2027 Health Insurance Renewal - Statewide Pool Rates and Benefits Confirmation for Wabasha Soil & Water Conservation District effective 1/1/2027.**

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Minnesota Healthcare Consortium (Medica) 2027 Health Insurance Renewal – Statewide Pool Rates and Benefit Confirmation for Wabasha Soil & Water Conservation District effective 1/1/2027
Motion includes accepting the options we previously had for 2026 and renewing with MHC for 2027.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XVII. Adjourn – Board Action

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to Adjourn the meeting at 9:50 am.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

on behalf of

Respectively Submitted By:

Seth Tentis, Secretary