

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation
District Regular Board Meeting
August 28, 2025
8:15 am
611 Broadway Avee, Suite 10B**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

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. Contract Amendments

- A. June E. Ratz Trust Amendment# 2 for Contract# 24-CC-5 to change the Install by date to 12/31/2025 instead of 7/31/2025 for 314 Brush Management.
(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts)

ii. Vouchers

- A. Greg Speedling Voucher payment for Contract# 25-CC-2 in the amount of \$1,678.00 for Practice 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation.
(Funding source – FY25 Conservation Contracts)
- B.

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. July 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes – **Board Action**

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. July District Financial Statements
Included for your review
- B. July Program Record

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$41,656.74 - **Board Action**

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel
- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes
- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
- D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – (In the packet)
- E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – (In the packet)
- F. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts – (In the packet)
- G. Soil Health/Nutrient Management Tech Report – Deanna Pomije – (In the packet)
- H. Conservation Planning & Outreach Technician – Ella Jurgerson – (In the packet)
- I. BWSR Report –
- J. Other -

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)
- B. Submit Farmer of the Year and Woodland Manager of the Year to MASWCD.
- C. Deanna – Discussion & Presentation of Soil Health Adoption.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Contract Ron Meiners to work with Ella & other staff, training on field walkovers.
- **Board Action**
- B. Townsquare Media July/August Healthy Soils Campaign – **Discussion**
- C. Approve Gareth & Mary Lou Hager Contract# 25-CC-10 in the amount of \$300.00 for 314 Brush Management. Installed by date 12-31-2025 – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY25 Conservation Contracts)
- D. Approve David A & Catherine K Schmidt Trust Contract# 2025WinLaC-Wab003 in the amount of \$350.00 for Woodland Stewardship Plan. Installed by date 6-30-2026 – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY25 WinLaC)
- E. General update on the Soil Health Program.
- F. Approve current batched and ranked 2025 RCPP contracts - August – **Board Action**
- G. Wabasha fiscal agent for a \$18k contract from DNR. 10% available for admin. – **Discussion/Board Approval**
Contract to pay consultants a stipend to write project plans. DNR will administer the associated cost share dollars (\$82,000). These dollars do not come through SWCD. Contract goes through June 30, 2027.

- H. Approve Bernard Schumacher Contract# 23-CWF-WIC-08 in the amount of \$11,520.00 for a 410 Grade Stabilization Structure. Installed by date 11-30-2026 –

Board Action

(Funding source – FY23 West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection)

- I. Upcoming Events

- i. Monday, September 1, 2025, Labor Day – Offices Closed
- ii. Wednesday, Thursday September 10 & 11, 2025, MASWCD – Stewardship Summit: SWCD Governance & Leadership Essentials. St. Cloud.
Sharleen is attending.
- iii. Thursday, October 2, 2025, Area 7 Joint Fall Meeting, SE MASWCD and SE MACDE for Staff & Board. Grand Meadow, MN. Registration is due on September 15th.
After the meeting we will be going to the Chert Quarry/Wanhi Yukon Preserve.
(Walking Trail)
- iv. Thursday, September 25, 2025, Regular Meeting

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Dag
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

XIII. Adjourn

Contract Amendment Form

Organization: <p style="text-align: center;">Wabasha SWCD</p>	Contract Number: <p style="text-align: center;">24-CC-5</p>	Amendment Number: <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <hr/> Board Meeting Date: <p style="text-align: center;">7/24/2025</p>	Amendment Type Date <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount <input type="checkbox"/> Land Occupier <input type="checkbox"/> Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
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Amendment requests that are received outside the executed State grant agreement date, outside the contract practice install date, or grant program policies BWSR staff must be consulted and a grant agreement amendment may be required.

State Grant Agreement Expiration Date: _____ Original Contract Install Date: 7/31/25

Amended Contract Install Date (If applicable): 12/31/2025

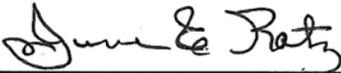
Original Total Amount Authorized: \$423.00 Amended Total Amount Authorized: _____

The Parties whose names are signed below hereby agree that the above-referenced Conservation Practice Assistance Contract is amended as follows:

The contraction expiration date has been changed from 7/31/25 to 12/31/25.

The original contract, as numbered, shall remain in full force and effect, except for those changes made necessary by the amendment.

This Amendment is to take affect on the date of the last signature hereto.

Date <p style="text-align: center;">7/24/25</p>	Land Occupier 
Date 	Landowner, if different from applicant

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have viewed the site where the above listed are to be installed and find that they are needed, and that the amended estimated quantities, costs, or completion date described above are practical and reasonable.

Date <p style="text-align: center;">7/24/25</p>	Technical Assistance Provider 
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Organizational Approval

Date <p style="text-align: center;">7/24/25</p>	Authorized Signature 
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*Attach this form to the Conservation Practice Assistance Contract

PERCENT BASED - VOUCHER AND PRACTICE CERTIFICATION FORM

PAYEE AND COST INFORMATION

Name: Greg Speedling Contract No.: 25-CC-2

Address: 25408 533rd St

City, State, Zip: Plainview, MN 55964

Total Amount

Authorized: \$1,874.50 % Approved: 50% (state) 50% (state & non-state)
(from contract)

Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Cost
Norway Spruce - 1 Gallon Container	160	Individual	\$11.10	\$1,776.00
Flame Willow - Bareroot 12-18"	11	Bundle (25)	\$40.00	\$440.00
				\$0.00
				\$0.00
				\$0.00
				\$0.00
				\$0.00

PROJECT COST: **\$2,216.00**

PAYMENT AND CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

A. Type of request (partial or final): Final

B. Total cost of practice to date: \$2,216.00

C. Eligible amount (total cost x % approved): \$1,678.00 (state) \$1,678.00 (state & non-state)

D. Total other state payment amount: \$0.00

E. Total non-state payment amount: \$0.00

F. Total previous partial payments: \$0.00

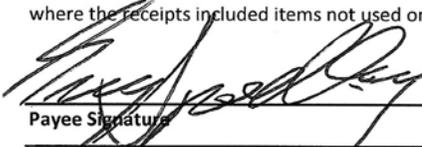
G. Pre-Construction Cover payment amount: \$0.00

H. Maximum payment amount: \$1,678.00

Pre-Con.Cover Ac.	Rate/Ac.

Amount Approved for This Voucher: **\$1,678.00**
(cannot exceed Total Amount Authorized)

I certify that this is an accurate and true summation of the actual costs and quantities of material, labor, and equipment used on the above project. In cases where the receipts included items not used on the project, I have corrected them accordingly.

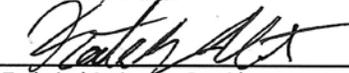

Payee Signature

Aug 21, 2025
Date

I certify that an inspection has been performed and as-built received and that the items identified under the Cost Information section of this form have been completed and are in accordance with the requested practice standards and specifications.

I certify that I have reviewed this voucher and all supporting information, including invoices and paid receipts, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the quantities and billed cost or disbursements are accurate and are in accordance with terms of the contract identified.

Technical Assistance Provider NRCS-CPA 1245 (Practice Approval and Payment Worksheet) can be utilized as the certification of practice completion. An attached completed and signed NRCS-CPA-1245 and as-built can be used as the technical certification on the "Voucher and Certification"


Technical Assistance Provider
8-21-25
Date

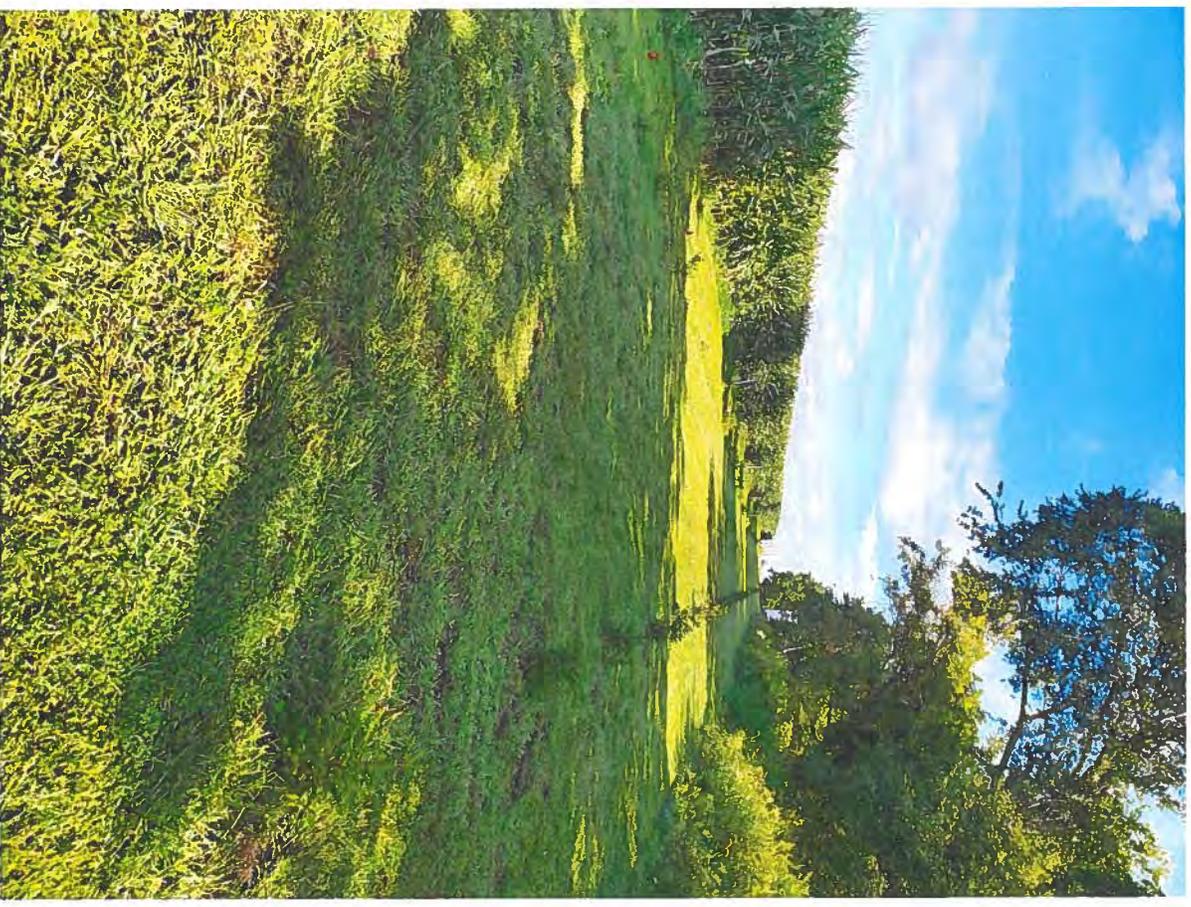

Administrative Sign-off
8/21/2025
Date

25-CC-2, Greg Speedling – Windbreak Renovation & Establishment (380)

12/17/24



8/21/25



Contract Amendment Form

Organization: <p style="text-align: center;">Wabasha SWCD</p>	Contract Number: <p style="text-align: center;">25-CC-2</p>	Amendment Number: <p style="text-align: center;">1</p>	Amendment Type Date <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amount <input type="checkbox"/> Land Occupier <input type="checkbox"/> Practice <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
		Board Meeting Date:	

Amendment requests that are received outside the executed State grant agreement date, outside the contract practice install date, or grant program policies BWSR staff must be consulted and a grant agreement amendment may be required.

State Grant Agreement Expiration Date: _____ Original Contract Install Date: 5/30/25

Amended Contract Install Date (if applicable): 6/30/2025

Original Total Amount Authorized: \$1,874.50 Amended Total Amount Authorized: _____

The Parties whose names are signed below hereby agree that the above-referenced Conservation Practice Assistance Contract is amended as follows:

The contract expiration date has been changed from 5/30/25 to 6/30/25.

The original contract, as numbered, shall remain in full force and effect, except for those changes made necessary by the amendment.

This Amendment is to take affect on the date of the last signature hereto.

Date <p style="font-size: 1.2em;"><i>May 28 25</i></p>	Land Occupier
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have viewed the site where the above listed are to be installed and find that they are needed, and that the amended estimated quantities, costs, or completion date described above are practical and reasonable.

Date <p style="font-size: 1.2em;"><i>5/28/25</i></p>	Technical Assistance Provider
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Organizational Approval

Date <p style="font-size: 1.2em;"><i>5/29/2025</i></p>	Authorized Signature <p style="font-size: 1.2em;"><i>Jess Weber - per board resolution</i></p>
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*Attach this form to the Conservation Practice Assistance Contract

PERCENT BASED CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization: Wabasha SWCD	Contract Number: 25-CC-2	Other state or non-State funds? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):	Canceled <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):
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*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant

Land Occupier Name Greg Speedling	Address 25408 533rd St	City/State Plainview, MN	Zip Code 55964
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* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name: Elgin	Township No: 108	Range No.: 12	Section No. 13	1/4,1/4 SE, NE
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Contract Information

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request cost share assistance to help defray the cost of installing the following practice(s) listed on the second page of this contract. It is understood that:

1. The land occupier is responsible for full establishment, operation, and maintenance of all practices and upland treatment criteria applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objective of the practice is met and the effective life, a minimum of 15 years, is achieved. The specific operation and maintenance requirements for the conservation practice listed are described in the operation and maintenance plan prepared for this contract by the technical assistance provider.
2. Should the land occupier fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the land occupier is liable to the State of Minnesota for the amount up to 150% of the amount of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice unless the failure was caused by reasons beyond the land occupier's control, or if conservation practices are applied at the land occupier's expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.
3. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration of the aforementioned life, it shall be the responsibility of the landowner who signed this contract to advise the new owner that this contract is in force and to notify other parties to the contract of the transfer.
4. Practice(s) must be planned and installed in accordance with technical standards and specifications of the:

Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation 380

5. Increases in the practice units or cost must be approved by the organization board through amendment of this contract as a condition to increase the cost-share payments.
6. This contract, when approved by the organization board or council, will remain in effect unless canceled or amended by mutual agreement, except where installations of practices covered by this contract have not been installed by 5/30/25, this contract will be automatically terminated on that date.
7. Items of cost for which reimbursement is claimed are to be supported by invoices/receipts for payments and will be verified by the organization board as practical and reasonable. The invoices must include the name of the vendor; materials, labor or equipment used; the component unit costs and the dates the work was performed. The organization board has the authority to make adjustments to the costs submitted for reimbursement. Pre-Construction Cover is exempt from having the required invoices/receipts.

Applicant Signatures

The land occupier's signature indicates agreement to:

1. Grant the organization's representative(s) access to the parcel where the conservation practice will be located.
2. Obtain all permits required in conjunction with the installation and establishment of the practice prior to starting construction of the practice.
3. Be responsible for the operation and maintenance of conservation practices applied under this program in accordance with an operation and maintenance plan prepared by the technical assistance provider.
4. Not accept cost-share funds, from state sources in excess of 50%, or state and non-state sources that when combined are in excess of 50% of the total cost to establish the conservation practice. Pre-construction Cover is exempt from the percent reimbursement rate limitations when utilizing the flat rate payment option.
5. To provide copies of all forms and contracts pertinent to any other state or non-state programs that are contributing funds toward this project.

Date 2/12/2025	Land Occupier <i>[Signature]</i>
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
	Address, if different from applicant information.

Conservation Practice

The primary practice for which cost-share is requested is: 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation

Eligible Component Standards & Names 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation	Engineered Practice: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Total Project Cost Estimate \$2,669.00
	Ecological Practice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice is to be installed and find it is needed and that the estimated quantities and costs are practical and reasonable.

Date 2/18/25	Technical Assistance Provider <i>[Signature]</i>
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Pre-Construction Cover

Is allowed when temporary cover is necessary for the future installation of structural conservation practices. A flat rate payment of up to \$150 per acre, not to exceed 10 acres, is allowed as part of a state cost-share contract for the installation of structural practice(s).

Amount / Acre (NTE \$150/acre)	Number of Acres (NTE 10 Acres)	Total Amount

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization board or council has authorized the following for financial assistance, total not to exceed 50.0% of the total cost to establish the conservation practice plus the pre-construction cover total amount if utilizing the flat rate payment option.

Amount	Program Name	Fiscal Year
\$1,895.08	Conservation Contract	2025

Date 2/18/25	Authorized Signature <i>[Signature]</i> per board resolution	Total Amount Authorized \$1,874.50
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[Type here]

380 – Windbreak Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation
Implementation Requirements

[Type here]

Practice Specifications Approval and Completion Certification

Provided Practice Cost information

Site-specific cost estimate, or specifications for the producer to develop a cost estimate or obtain the bid themselves.

Job Class Information (List Practice Job Class)

380 ESJAA Fact Sheet Job Class: II

Design Installation and Layout Approval

Designed By: Katelyn Abts	Date: 2/10/2025	Designer's Job Approval Authority: II <input type="button" value="v"/>
Approved By: Katelyn Abts	Date: 2/10/2025	Approver's Job Approval Authority: II <input type="button" value="v"/>

Record of Completion and Check Out Certification

Treated Acres	Date Completed by Client	Date Certified	Approver's Initials
1.44	8/13/2025	8/21/2025	KA

Additional documentation to support practice certification is in the Case File.

Certification Statement

I certify that implementation of this conservation practice is complete, meets criteria for the stated purpose(s), and meets the NRCS conservation practice standard and specifications.

Printed Name: Katelyn Abts	Date: 8/21/2025
Title: Natural Resource Technician	Certifier's Job Approval Authority (JAA): II
Signature: 	

Notes:

I visited the site on 8/21/25 and confirmed that trees were planted according to plan and NRCS standards and specifications for practice code 380.

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation
District Regular Board Meeting
July 24, 2025
8:15 am
611 Broadway Avee, Suite 10B**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:15 am by Co-Chair, Chet Ross

Supervisors Present: Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Seth Tentis, Secretary, Dag Knudsen, Member.

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

*Others Present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, Christina Taylor, NRCS, Chris Schmidt, NRCS Team Lead, Luther Newton, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations, Colleen Pawlenty, FSA
Frank Klennert, Citizen*

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve The Agenda.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

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. Contract Amendments

- A. Kenneth Heise Amendment# 1 for Contract# 25-CC-8 to change the authorized amount to \$1,909.06 from \$1,743.61 for 380 Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation and 490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation.

(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts \$150.99 and FY25 Conservation Contracts \$1,758.07)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Contract Amendment# 1 for Contract# 25-CC-8. for Kenneth Heise.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

ii. Vouchers

- A. Kenneh Heise Voucher in the amount of \$1,909.06 for Contract# 25-CC-8 for 380 Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation and 490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation.
(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts \$150.99 and FY25 Conservation Contracts \$1,758.07)
- B. Steve Evers Voucher in the amount of \$14,832.37 for Contract# 23-CWF-WIC-04 for NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization Structure.
(Funding source – FY23 West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection)
- C. Richard Oeckler Voucher in the amount of \$500.00 for Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-14 for Forest Stewardship Plan.
(Funding source - FY24 Watershed Based Funding (WAGZ))
- D. Gary Stoning Voucher in the amount of \$1,320.00 for Contract# 25-CC-9 for 327 Conservation Cover.
(Funding source – FY25 Conservation Contracts)

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve the Vouchers on the Consent Agenda.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. June 26, 2025, Meeting Minutes – **Board Action**

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve the Secretary's Report.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. June District Financial Statements
Included for your review
- B. June Program Record

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to the approve the Treasurer's Report to the best of our ability.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$86,867.22 - **Board Action**

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$86,867.22.

Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel
- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes
***Negotiations with the 5 Unions in August.
State cuts have been pushed back a year or two. Will have time to prepare.
No idea on Federal budgets, how it will impact locally.***
- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
***Quarterly billings. 2 mid-year reports are larger.
Onboarding Ella. Official start date 7-14-2025.
Event for WIC. Drone demo, to do drone seeding pilot. Cover acres producers
signed up for. Contract directly with drone operator and seed person. Matt Kruger
got individuals interested in the event. Had around 36 people that attended.
Gearing up for RCPP Soil Health Grant. Waiting for it to be executed. Deanna
putting together contracts. Working with producers & plans to be approved.***
- D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – (In the packet) Gave report at the meeting.
***Spending time with people to see if on track and ready to be certified.
EQIP -20 active contracts. Eliminated 14 of the older plans.
Start CRP plans for people signed up.
People with concerns coming in are for grassed waterways, grade stabilization
structures and cover crops. Questions on how to get rid of buckthorn. Looking for
Technical and Financial Assistance.
Bob asked about Pasture Grassland CRP. Collen said that for CRP, there are basic
details. No requests yet. Would work with Dean Thomas for technical part, if
interested. Sign up until August. Typically, people don't proceed.
They would have to have a grazing plan and follow specific rules. Bob is interested
and would like an information sheet.***
District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – (In the packet)
- E. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts – (In the packet)
- F. Soil Health/Nutrient Management Tech Report – Deanna Pomije – (In the packet)
- G. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant Report -Sue Cerwinske -
- H. BWSR Report –
- I. FSA Agency Report – Colleen Pawlenty
***Busy with acreage reporting.
Busy with CRP signups. Fiscal year end, get them approved.
Supplemental Disaster Relief Program. Stage 1 - 400 applications received for year
2023 and 2024 disaster events. 50% of the applications have already been done
in-house. No deadline.
Stage 2 in September. For shallow losses not included in Stage 1.
Neither of the offices were affected by layoffs. Both offices, Wabasha and Goodhue
are fully staffed. 5 Program Analysts in Goodhue and 3 in Wabasha.***

- J. Chris Schmidt, NRCS Team Lead
*Based out of Faribault. Boundary division.
 Vacancy in Wabasha for District Conservationist. Critical vacancy.
 Done with CRP status reviews. Shift to completing CRP Conservation Plans
 CSP, CRP & EQIP wrapping up. Obligated for CSP & EQIP.
 Sign up 8/1 for EQIP for Spring. Start planning earlier.
 Training is still going on, limited travel. Christina is doing the annual Conservation
 Planning course over a 3-week time-period. Keeping it local, 3 locations.
 Team concept – align number of employees to Supervisor, at 10 to 1 ratio.
 Chris supervises the customer service team in the South Metro.*
- K. Luther Newton, Assistant Staff Conservationist for Field Operations
*Based most of the time in Rochester. He comes from the NW corner of the state,
 near Canada border. His boss is Troy Daniels, Board Conservationist.
 Supervises 20-25 of the area District Conservationists.
 We are in a stall pattern. Limited travel and limited spending. Purchasing has 1
 card for 3 states. Cut-off 8/1/2025. Some have stocked up on paper.
 Mandated return to office. Some employees never left. Some were hired remotely
 and don't know where to go. Communication was not good.
 Need to get to a new normal. Plan rolled out for current staff. Plan to reduce to a
 certain number. We don't know what that number is. Voluntary staff shifting
 within department. Move laterally, not promotion. Hiring freeze.*

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)
*Terri showed social media campaign video for Well Inventory and one for
 Soil Health for Cover Crops, Nutrient Management and Farm Planning.*

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Craig Breuer Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-04 in the amount of \$2,000.00 for
 Practice 351 Well Decommissioning. Install by date 5/30/26-**Board Action**
 (Funding source – FY25 Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro (WAGZ)
*Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Craig Breuer Contract#
 2025WAGZ-WC-04 in the amount of \$2,000.00 for Practice 351 Well
 Decommissioning. Installed by date 5/30/26.
 Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
 Opposed: None
 Motion Carried*
- B. Approve Jary Holst Contract# 2025WinLac-Wab-001 in the amount of \$13,222.14 for
 a NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization Structure. Installed by date 11/30/2025-
Board Action
 (Funding source – FY25 WinLac 1W1P)
*Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Jary Holst Contract#
 2025WinLac-Wab-001 in the amount of \$13,222.14 for a NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade
 Stabilization Structure. Installed by date 11/30/2025.
 Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
 Opposed: None
 Motion Carried*

- C. Approve 1864 Joseph Roemer Farm LLC Amendment# 1 to Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-05 to change address to 22205 699th St. Wabasha, MN 55981- **Board Action**
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Tentis to approve 1864 Joseph Roemer Farm LLC Amendment# 1 to Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-05 to change address to 22205 699th St. Wabasha, MN 55981.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Approve 1864 Joseph Roemer LLC Voucher payment for Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-05 in the amount of \$3,768.10 for NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization Structure – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY24-FY25 Greater Zumbro Watershed Based Funding (WAGZ))
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve 1864 Joseph Roemer LLC Voucher payment for Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-05 in the amount of \$3,768.10 for NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization Structure.
(Funding source – FY24-FY25 WAGZ – Greater Zumbro Watershed Based Funding)
- E. Nominations for Outstanding Conservation Farmer of the Year. – **Discussion**
Terri had asked Stacy Miller and Deanna has been working with Alan Jostock.
Write up on whoever accepts the nomination.
Woodland Manager – No nominees currently.
- F. List of potential 2025 RCPP Soil Health cover crop contracts. Pending grant execution. **(Moved to Letter J.)**
- G. Resolution 07242025-1 - Signature Authority for Terri Peters to sign the list of RCPP cover crop contracts once the grant is executed. – **Board Action**
(Moved to Letter J.)
- H. Approve Reiter Living Trust/William Reiter Amendment# 1 to change Total Amount Authorized to \$43,950.59 from \$35,412.30 for Contract# 2024WinLac-WAB-008
NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization & 412 Grassed Waterway – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY23-FY24 WinLac)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Reiter Living Trust/William Reiter Amendment# 1 to change the Total Amount Authorized to \$43,950.59 from \$35,412.30 for Contract# 2024WinLac-WAB-008.
NRCS (FOTG) 410 Grade Stabilization Structure & 412 Grassed Waterway
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried.

- I. Approve Partial Payment Voucher for Reiter Living Trust/William Reiter for Contract# 2024WinLac-WAB-008 in the amount of \$1,857.59 – **Board Action** (Funding source – FY23-FY24 WinLac) Completed Grass Waterway.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Partial Payment Voucher for Reiter Living Trust/William Reiter for Contract# 2024-WinLac-WAB-008 in the amount of \$1,857.59.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- J. 2025 Soil Health RCPP
- i. Final policy and cost share rates – decision/**Board Action**
Policy ranking criteria approved by NRCS. Cost share policy practices listed. We chose eligible practices and rates. Max rate allowable. Different steps for FSA eligibility.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve the Final policy and cost share rates.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- ii. Authority for Terri to sign grant agreement and cost share contracts that are batched and ranked – decision – **Board Action**
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve Authority for Terri to sign grant agreement and cost share contracts that are batched and ranked.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Oppose: None
Motion Carried
- iii. Current batched and ranked 2025 RCPP contracts pending grant execution – **Board Action**
List is ranked and batched. Ella & Deanna worked on contracts. Can be up to 4 years, # of acres and total funding request. NRCS requires batch & ranking, once a month to move forward with projects. Starting with \$180,000.00, once that is encumbered, we can ask for an additional \$120,000.00. Board members will only see information that we can share at the Board Meetings. Terri can sign the contracts once the grant is executed.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve the Current batched and ranked 2025 RCPP contracts pending grant execution.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- K. Approve Alan Jostock Voucher in the amount of \$339.50 for Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-02 for 327 Reduced Tillage, No-Till – 1st year payment of 2-year contract Contingent upon Technical Assistance sign-off. – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY24 Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Alan Jostock Voucher in the amount of \$339.50 for Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-02 for 327 Reduced Tillage, No-Till - 1st year payment of 2-year contract. Contingent upon Technical Assistance sign-off.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- L. Approve Alan Jostock Voucher in the amount of \$204.00 for Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-03 for 329 Residue Management, No Till – 1st year payment of 2-year contract. Contingent upon Technical Assistance sign-off. – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY24 Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to approve Alan Jostock Voucher in the amount of \$204.00 for Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-03 for 329 Residue Management, No Till – 1st year payment of 2-year contract. Contingent upon Technical Assistance sign-off.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- M. Upcoming Events
- i. August 5, 2025, Southeast MN Forage Field Day & Dairy Tour at Hyde Park Holsteins – Kevin Siewert. 61944 Wabasha Cty Rd 6, Zumbro Falls. 9:45 am – 2:00 pm. RSVP at mfa@midwestforage.org Flyer on website.
 - ii. Terri will be on vacation from August 23 – August 27th.
 - iii. August 28, 2025, Regular Board Meeting
 - iv. September 10 & 11, 2025, MASWCD – Stewardship Summit: SWCD Governance & Leadership Essentials. Registration Deadline – August 22 St. Cloud. Sharleen signed up.
 - v. County Fair dates July 30 – August 2
(We'll have Tap-In staff doing nitrate testing August 1st from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. **Table with NRCS and FSA. Tent for demos. Deanna will be doing Soil Health demo 2 times. Katelyn will have Monsters with Leaves display. Any board members can drop in whenever they can to cover booth.**
 - vi. July 31st We are part of a BWSR Board Conservationist Tour at the Hager RIM site.
Katelyn is working in Cooks Valley, just before Gorman Creek Project. RIM Forest Buffer Project. Couple of RIM easements are going in and in completion stages. This will be included in the tour.

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag
Greater Zumbro Watershed Policy Committee (1W1P) August 21st.
(Oronoco start and bus tour)
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
WinLaC Policy Committee Meeting – August 11 in St. Charles.
(Tour of stream restoration project)
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – Dag
Just had a meeting on July 17th, and they meet 2x/year
Looked over finances. 0-100% projects, that they -have money to cover 8-9 months.
Project descriptions. Dean Thomas had 3 projects that he reported on converting from row crops to grazing and livestock operations. Forage, water systems. EQIP funding. Direct water quality changes.
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen
Gave report about the West Indian Creek event at Whippoorwill.

- ***Additional item – Terri found a driver to move the no-till drill from place to place. Chuck Fick and one other person interested. If the person would be using our truck, we would need a copy of his license and insurance card.***
Discussion on the rate per hour pay.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Knudsen to approve whoever is hired to pull the No-Till Drill for us, we will pay at a rate of \$20.00 an hour.
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XIII. Adjourn

Motioned by Knudsen and seconded by Klennert to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 am
Affirmative: Klennert, Tentis, Knudsen, Ross
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted By:

Seth Tentis, Secretary

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District

Cash Balances

As of July 31, 2025

	<u>Jul 31, 25</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Money Market- Bank of Alma	58,946.42
Money Market WNB Financial	7,476.80
Peoples State Bank Money Market	335,878.03
Petty Cash	100.14
WNB Financial	67,421.10
Total Checking/Savings	<u>469,822.49</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>469,822.49</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>469,822.49</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District

08/19/25

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis

As of July 31, 2025

	Jul 31, 25
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Money Market- Bank of Alma	58,946.42
Money Market WNB Financial	7,476.80
Peoples State Bank Money Market	335,878.03
Petty Cash	100.14
WNB Financial	67,421.10
Total Checking/Savings	469,822.49
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivable	84,210.95
Total Accounts Receivable	84,210.95
Total Current Assets	554,033.44
Fixed Assets	
15000 · Furniture and Equipment	
Computer	7,523.00
Laptops for Distrcit Techs (2)	3,149.22
Right of Use Asset - Building	94,217.00
Samsung Tablets	1,548.69
15000 · Furniture and Equipment - Other	147,513.54
Total 15000 · Furniture and Equipment	253,951.45
17000 · Accumulated Depreciation	
Accum. Amortization-Building	-34,547.00
17000 · Accumulated Depreciation - Other	-117,761.78
Total 17000 · Accumulated Depreciation	-152,308.78
Total Fixed Assets	101,642.67
Other Assets	
Prepaid Items	
Prepaid Rent	920.43
Prepaid Items - Other	831.25
Total Prepaid Items	1,751.68
Total Other Assets	1,751.68
TOTAL ASSETS	657,427.79
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	242.52
Total Accounts Payable	242.52
Other Current Liabilities	
Compensated Absences Payable	21,653.68
Deferred Revenue	
FY23 Capacity	4,746.00
FY23 CWF - WIC	35,266.57
FY24-25 Dept of Rev SWCD Alloca	37,970.79
FY24 BWSR Soil Health Staffing	133,710.28
FY24 Conservation Contracts	2,406.89
FY25 Buffer Law Implementation	18,506.94
FY25 BWSR Soil Health Delivery	29,679.11
FY25 Conservation Contracts	9,634.63
FY25 Easement Delivery (RIM)	-133.99
FY25 LWM	601.03
FY25 WCA	1,835.34

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District

08/19/25

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis

As of July 31, 2025

	<u>Jul 31, 25</u>
Total Deferred Revenue	274,223.59
2110 · Direct Deposit Liabilities	-11,761.49
25500 · Sales Tax Payable	5.51
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>284,121.29</u>
Total Current Liabilities	284,363.81
Long Term Liabilities	
Long Term Liability	
Right of Use Asset-Lease Liabil	62,828.00
Total Long Term Liability	<u>62,828.00</u>
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>62,828.00</u>
Total Liabilities	347,191.81
Equity	
Fund Balance- Unrestricted	201,395.71
Investment in Capital Assets	38,814.67
32000 · Owners Equity	89,270.83
Net Income	-19,245.23
Total Equity	<u>310,235.98</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>657,427.79</u>

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
Profit & Loss
 July 2025

	Jul 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Charges for Services	
Plat Book Sales	35.00
Roller Crimper Rental	400.00
Tree Sales	40.00
	475.00
Total Charges for Services	475.00
GW Observation Well Monitoring	0.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	
State	
FY23 CWF - WIC	16,333.37
FY23 SE Landscape - MN DNR	1,235.54
FY23 WinLaC	0.00
FY24-25 Dept of Rev SWCD Alloca	24,741.41
FY24-FY25 DWP Karst (TKR)	270.90
FY24-FY25 WAGZ	66,358.62
FY24 BWSR Soil Health Staffing	8,657.92
FY25 Buffer Law Implementation	422.94
FY25 Conservation Contracts	3,228.06
FY25 Easement Delivery (RIM)	513.57
FY25 LWM	2,263.68
FY25 WCA	1,004.38
FY25 WinLaC	0.00
MAWQCP	31,342.38
	156,372.77
Total State	156,372.77
Total Intergovernmental Revenues	156,372.77
Total Income	156,847.77
Gross Profit	156,847.77
Expense	
District Operations	
Other Services and Charges	
Advertising Expense	100.00
Building Rent	1,650.00
Conferences and Conventions	283.52
Education and Information	2,324.52
Employee Expenses	10.90
Employee Mileage	227.43
Fees and Dues	206.68
Internet Expense	105.04
Postage	78.00
Supervisor's Mileage	437.50
Vehicle Expenses	
Chevrolet Silverado Vehicle Exp	60.55
Hyundia Tucson Vehicle Expense	77.90
	138.45
Total Vehicle Expenses	138.45
Total Other Services and Charges	5,562.04
Personnel Services	
Employee Salary Permanent	26,653.32
Employer Health Insur (Opt Out)	960.19
Employer HSA contributions	625.00
Employer Life and Health	
66000 · Payroll Expenses	1,458.00
Employer Life and Health - Other	7,800.40
	9,258.40
Total Employer Life and Health	9,258.40
Employer Share FICA	1,742.00
Employer Share Medicare	407.39

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
Profit & Loss
 July 2025

	Jul 25
Employer Share PERA	1,999.00
Supervisor's Compensation	1,375.00
Total Personnel Services	43,020.30
Supplies	
Office Supplies	84.93
Total Supplies	84.93
Total District Operations	48,667.27
Project Expenditures	
District	
Tree Expense	0.39
Total District	0.39
Federal	
319 Focus Small Wtrshd-W.Indian	2,359.28
Total Federal	2,359.28
State	
FY23 CWF - WIC	14,832.37
FY23 SE Landscape - MN DNR	755.53
FY23 WCA	1,857.59
FY24-FY25 DNR Forestry	19,404.84
FY24-FY25 WAGZ	4,811.60
FY24 Conservation Contracts	150.99
FY24 MDH - Well Inventory	1,500.00
FY24 WinLaC WRAPS Proj-MPCA	3,160.00
FY25 Conservation Contracts	3,077.07
MAWQCP Administration	23,771.61
Total State	73,321.60
Total Project Expenditures	75,681.27
Total Expense	124,348.54
Net Ordinary Income	32,499.23
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Income	
Interest Earnings MM's	699.46
Total Interest Income	699.46
Total Other Income	699.46
Net Other Income	699.46
Net Income	33,198.69

10:37 AM
08/27/25

Cash Basis

Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District Monthly Bills Listing August 28, 2025

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Aug 28, 25						
Liability Check	08/28/2025	12418	Auditor/Treasurer of Wabasha County		WNB Financial	-8,877.65
Liability Check	08/28/2025	EFT	VSP Vision Care		WNB Financial	-74.31
Liability Check	08/28/2025	12419	GarcoBooks Payroll Service	September/Vision Insurance	WNB Financial	14,949.16
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12420	Gregory Speeding	Created by Payroll Service on 08/27/2025	WNB Financial	-1,678.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12421	HBC	25-CC-2 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Estab & Renovation	WNB Financial	-105.04
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12422	Independent School District No. 813	Internet 8-02 to 9-01-2025	WNB Financial	-267.99
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12423	Jennifer Wahls-C	Busing for 5th grade Field Day	WNB Financial	-9,750.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12424	Mittel Schule, Inc.	DNR SELC LSR, TTT Expenses July, 2025	WNB Financial	-1,650.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12425	Office Depot	September, 2025 Rent	WNB Financial	-242.52
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12426	Olmsted County Public Works	Envelopes, Ink, Copier Paper	WNB Financial	-17,774.24
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12427	Terri Peters (Expenses)	July Greg Klingler - MAW/QCP expenses	WNB Financial	-144.90
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12428	Townsquare Media St. Cloud	Mileage for Fair, WinLac and WAGZ	WNB Financial	-1,000.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/28/2025	12428	Wabasha County Highway Department	July/August Healthy Soils Campaign 7/17-8/31	WNB Financial	-92.09
				July gas 36.73 gal Hyundai & Silverado	WNB Financial	

~~52,705.90~~
41,656.74

8/28/2025

Christina Taylor Soil Conservationist

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)-No Changes this month

- 20 Active CSP contracts worth \$1,068,713.50; \$386, 100.50 has already been paid
- In the process of going on site visits to certify CSP practices on active contracts; annual payment letters have been sent out
- 4 pending applications, that number is expected to increase by the end of October
- Currently taking new applications and beginning the planning process, sign up deadline is **31 October 2025**

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program)-No changes this month

- 21 Active EQIP contracts worth \$1,014, 050.11 with over \$619,024.11 has already paid
- 20 Applications are pending status for FY 26; ranking deadline is January 9th, 2026

RCPP-EQIP (Regional Conservation Partnership Program- EQIP)

- No applications submitted.
- One active contract

CRP

- CRP Sign up was May 12-June 6, 2025.
- Acceptance/Rejection date was 27 June. There are 24 plans that need to be written, these are being worked on, 20 by the SWCD staff, and need to be completed NLT 19 September

Other Notes

Most requested technical assistance topic continues to be soil erosion control and prevention on HEL fields. Producers are trying to find better ways to mitigate soil erosion both from wind and from heavy rain events.

Brush management is also a topic that people request assistance on, buckthorn is the main problem

No personnel changes this month

Monthly Report – August 2025

Matt Kempinger

Projects

- Prepare contract for 1 grade stabilization structure project
- Plan for amendments for 2 contracts
- Finalize and review designs with landowner for 1 grade stabilization structure
- Survey for 2 structural projects
- Design work for 3 structural projects
- Reporting for 2 structural projects
- Visit 2 new farms for assistance with resource concerns
- Assist DNR with ongoing audit of Gorman Creek

Others

- Equipment Rental Program management
- Coordinate extension of review period for 1 large scale WCA application
- Review 1 WCA application
- Review 3 sites for preliminary WCA technical assistance
- Manage 1 potential WCA violation
- Assist new staff with GIS setup
- General project and contract management
- Answered general resource questions from the public and assisted where possible

Katelyn Abts – August 2025 Board Report

Programs

Conservation Contracts

- 1 Brush Management contract ready for board approval
- 1 Windbreak project finished and ready for payment voucher approval

WinLaC

- 1 Forest Stewardship Plan contract ready for board approval

MN Department of Health Wabasha County Well Inventory

- 253 wells inventoried

RIM (Reinvest in Minnesota)

- 6 RIM inspections

RCCP

- Worked on 2 conservation cover projects

Training

Plant ID for EQIP planting and accessing Quality and Maintenance

Report to the Wabasha SWCD Board – Aug. 28, 2025

Deanna Pomije, Soil Health Nutrient Management Specialist

Nutrient Management Work:

- Finalized revisions on the Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) 390 acres for Ted Mehrkens for EQIP, collaborating with Kate Bruss, TSA and reviewer Aaron Janz, NRCS. I plan to also complete a Manure Management Plan for them as required by MPCA & their annual 2026 manure management plan. Met 8/21 with partners to discuss/coordinate the timeline for their CNMP plan approval, potential funding request and proposed construction into 2026.
 - NRCS staff finished their review of the plan. Plan to set aside time in Sept. for these revisions, mostly mapping updates needed.

Soil Health Work:

Cover Crops:

- This past month was all about cover crop sign-ups and processing these applications, mostly under the RCPP program, three contracts under the WINLaC watershed, another using other local funds and coordination of the West Indian Creek Watershed cover crop drone application sign-up.

RCPP Soil Health Funding:

- Work By the Numbers:
 - July batching - 8 cover crop applications (6 contracts have been signed), 1 dropped out
 - 366 acres of cover crops
 - 5 contracts are multiple years
 - 79 acres of no-till
 - Aug. batching - 16 applications for cover crops
 - 1,039 acres of cover crops
 - 8 contracts are multiple years
 - 200 acres of no-till
- Cover crop applications involve the following planning: Discussions with producers on their operation specifics and how cover crops fit into it for improving their soil health. USDA compliance reviews and NRCS program duplicate checks. Developing a contract and seeding plan. Working with clients to determine fields to be planted and make decisions on seed mixes. Requesting job approval authority (JAA) sign off on the seeding plans by various partner staff (TSA, Olmsted & Winona). Completing an NRCS environmental review form for each contract with the final sign-off from Goodhue NRCS.

West Indian Creek cover crop drone sign-up:

- Finalized the WIC drone cover crop sign-up for ordering seed mixes in time for the planned planting around Labor Day.
- Gathered maps from producers to confirm area to be seeded and chosen mix. Three producers signed up for added acres under RCPP using the WIC mixes.
- Result: 806 acres to be drone seeded with 11 producers, mostly using the rye overwintering mix

Outreach & Meetings:

Soil Health Demo. at County Fair 7/31-8/1:

Presented around the characteristics of health soil and the various practical tests to measure soil health over time. Conducted the soil stability test, comparing a healthy and not so healthy soil side by side. Friday's demo. was bad timing as the dairy show was going on at the same time. Both days resulted in very informal presentations with about 5 people attending each day. On Thursday I spoke with a couple of our contracted clients.

Discuss this year's conservation award application with Jostock. He's very excited about this opportunity.

Elgin DWSMA Local Advisory Team Meeting 8/13:

The MDA staff presented on the proposed chosen Best Management Practices (BMP) for implementation within the DWSMA area. The MDA is ready to prepare for publication these BMPs. In general, the BMPs involve reducing nitrogen application rates and seeding perennials within the area. This DWSMA area has a long 10-year resident time, so those in the watershed will have 10-years to reach a certain level of BMP implementation to prevent further degradation of the groundwater (demonstrate nitrogen reduction). Before the 10-year mark, MDA will conduct an evaluation to assess the areas level of BMP adoption. There were 5 landowners in attendance.

Coffee 'n Conservation:

- The August 26 event was at 6pm at the Front Porch in Kellogg with a cover crop species topic. We had 2 producers in attendance and a great discussion over various cover crop species and insight from an experienced organic producer.
 - 22 total to-date new producers / landowners in attendance
 - Great conversation around a variety of conservation topics: erosion, nutrient management, cover crops, tillage, weed control & manure composting.
 - Flyer prep., email – call producers for attendance
- Transitioning these events to every other month to do a better job at outreach, getting people to attend and allowing enough time for cover crop and nutrient management work.

August Board Report

Ella Jurgerson- Conservation Planning and Outreach Technician

Soil Health Work

-Working with landowners on getting signed up for cover crops through the RCPP program. I have been working on several plans for various landowners. Planning includes making contracts, seeding plans, plan maps, soil maps, environmental reviews, implementation requirements, and submitting these things for technical review. Apart from planning the RCPP grant requires other steps such as checking eligibility through FSA and NRCS.

WIC Monitoring

-Continuing to monitor the lysimeters at Jake Meyers and Patrick judges' farms. We received a new pump this month which makes the process a lot less time-consuming. I have been taking samples from each lysimeter after we receive and 1+ of rainfall. I did run into some trouble with all of the lysimeters at one farm and suspect that they have been a treat for the gophers, waiting to hear back from Bahareh at UW-River Falls on next steps to fixing this problem.

Well Inventory

-Terri obtained past well testing records from Olmstead County lab, I have been organizing data on a spreadsheet to later convert to an Arc GIS map.

-Continuing work with Katelyn on entering well inventory data that we get in through the mail when someone submits the survey, I have also spent some time organizing data from our online survey. Like the test results we hope to eventually turn the spreadsheet data into an Arc GIS map.

Outreach Work

-Working with Deanna on planning Coffee and Conservation Event. Making a Flyer and distributing it. Talking to landowners about the gathering and giving them information. July's event focused on composting manure, and I attended it while I was still in AmeriCorps. August's event focuses on cover crop species; Deanna and I have both chosen 5 species to research and share information on with landowners.

Training

-I have been working on training while I have time. I am working on the conservation planner 1 training on Ag Learn and have also been doing training on BWSR's online learning site related to soil health.

FLAT RATE BASED CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization: Wabasha SWCD	Contract Number: 25-CC-10	Other state or non-state funds? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):	Canceled <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	---	--	---

*If a contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant

Land Occupier Name Gareth & Mary Lou Hager	Address 1091 East Ave	City/State Zumbrota, MN	Zip code 55992
--	---------------------------------	-----------------------------------	--------------------------

* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name: Watopa Twp	Township No.: 109	Range No.: 10	Section No.: 7	1/4,1/4 NW, SW
-------------------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Contract Information

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request cost share assistance to help defray the cost of installing the following practice(s) listed on the second page of this contract. It is understood that:

1. The land occupier is responsible for full establishment, operation, and maintenance of all practices and upland treatment criteria applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objective of the practice is met and the effective life, a minimum of years, is achieved. The specific operation and maintenance requirements for the conservation practice listed are described in the operation and maintenance plan prepared for this contract by the technical assistance provider.
2. Should the land occupier fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the land occupier is liable to the State of Minnesota for the amount up to 150% of the amount of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice unless the failure was caused by reasons beyond the land occupier's control, or if conservation practices are applied at the land occupier's expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.
3. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration of the aforementioned life, it shall be the responsibility of the landowner who signed this contract to advise the new owner that this contract is in force and to notify other parties to the contract of the transfer.
4. Practice(s) must be planned and installed in accordance with technical standards and specifications of the:

Brush Management - 314
5. Increases in the practice units or cost must be approved by the organization board through amendment of this contract as a condition to increase the cost-share payments.
6. This contract, when approved by the organization board or council, will remain in effect unless canceled or amended by mutual agreement, except where installations of practices covered by this contract have not been installed by 12/31/25, this contract will be automatically terminated on that date.
7. Reimbursement requests must be supported by a completed voucher.

Applicant Signatures

The land occupier's signature indicates agreement to:

1. Grant the organization's representative(s) access to the parcel where the conservation practice will be located.
2. Obtain all permits required in conjunction with the installation and establishment of the practice prior to starting construction of the practice.
3. Be responsible for the operation and maintenance of conservation practices applied under this program in accordance with an operation and maintenance plan prepared by the technical assistance provider.
4. Not accept any other state or federal funds for this practice.

Date 7/23/25	Land Occupier <i>Sarah E. Hager</i>
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
	Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice

The primary practice for which cost-share is requested is **Brush Management (314)**

Eligible Component Standard & Name Brush Management (314)	Engineered Practice: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Total Project Cost Estimate \$300.00
	Ecological Practice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice is to be installed and find it is needed and that the estimated quantities and costs are practical and reasonable.

Date 8/6/25	Technical Assistance Provider <i>Kate A. [Signature]</i>
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Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization board or council has authorized the following for financial assistance, total not to exceed a rate of: \$300/acre

Amount	Program Name	Fiscal Year
\$300.00	Conservation Contract	2025

Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized
		\$300.00

FLAT RATE BASED CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization: Wabasha SWCD	Contract Number: 2025WinLaC-Wab003	Other state or non-state funds? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):	Canceled <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):
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*If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant

Land Occupier Name David A & Catherine K Schmidt Trust	Address 230 3rd St E	City/State Wabasha, MN	Zip code 55981
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* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name: Greenfield Twp	Township No.: 110	Range No.: 10	Section No.: 16	 1/4, 1/4 NE, NE
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Contract Information

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request cost share assistance to help defray the cost of installing the following practice(s) listed on the second page of this contract. It is understood that:

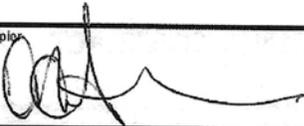
1. The land occupier is responsible for full establishment, operation, and maintenance of all practices and upland treatment criteria applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objective of the practice is met and the effective life, a minimum of 0 years, is achieved. The specific operation and maintenance requirements for the conservation practice listed are described in the operation and maintenance plan prepared for this contract by the technical assistance provider.
2. Should the land occupier fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the land occupier is liable to the State of Minnesota for the amount up to 150% of the amount of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice unless the failure was caused by reasons beyond the land occupier's control, or if conservation practices are applied at the land occupier's expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.
3. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration or the aforementioned life, it shall be the responsibility of the landowner who signed this contract to advise the new owner that this contract is in force and to notify other parties to the contract of the transfer.
4. Practice(s) must be planned and installed in accordance with technical standards and specifications of the:

Plan must be prepared by a Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Certified Plan Writer and registered with the DNR.
5. Increases in the practice units or cost must be approved by the organization board through amendment of this contract as a condition to increase the cost-share payments.
6. This contract, when approved by the organization board or council, will remain in effect unless canceled or amended by mutual agreement, except where installations of practices covered by this contract have not been installed by 6/30/26, this contract will be automatically terminated on that date.
7. Reimbursement requests must be supported by a completed voucher.

Applicant Signatures

The land occupier's signature indicates agreement to:

1. Grant the organization's representative(s) access to the parcel where the conservation practice will be located.
2. Obtain all permits required in conjunction with the installation and establishment of the practice prior to starting construction of the practice.
3. Be responsible for the operation and maintenance of conservation practices applied under this program in accordance with an operation and maintenance plan prepared by the technical assistance provider.
4. Not accept any other state or federal funds for this practice.

Date 20 Aug 25	Land Occupier  DAVID SCHMIDT
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
	Address, if different from applicant information: 250 3rd St EAST, WABASHA, MN 55981

Conservation Practice

The primary practice for which cost-share is requested is

Eligible Component Standard & Name Woodland Stewardship Plan	Engineered Practice: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Total Project Cost Estimate \$350.00
	Ecological Practice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice is to be installed and find it is needed and that the estimated quantities and costs are practical and reasonable.

Date	Technical Assistance Provider Mark Miller Digitally signed by Mark Miller Date: 2025.07.08 11:47:58 -05'00'
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Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization board or council has authorized the following for financial assistance, total not to exceed a rate of: 350/plan

Amount	Program Name	Fiscal Year
\$350.00	WinLaC	2023

Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized \$350.00
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Soil Health RCPP 2025 Ranking / Batching							August 2025
Contract #	Total Ranking Points	Practice (code)	Funding Request	Acres	Contracted Years	Rate	Comments
79-25RCPP-14	10	Conservation Cover (327)	\$1,800	3	1	\$600/acre	
79-25RCPP-11	0	Conservation Cover (327)	\$2,400	4	1	\$600/acre	
79-25RCPP-12 (revised from July)	40	Cover Crops (340)	\$20,000	100	4	\$50	HU producer, combined contracts, \$13,600 increase requested from July
79-25RCPP-03	25	Cover Crops (340), Reduced Tillage - no-till (329)	\$30,000	100	4	\$60 & \$20	cover crops & no-till
79-25RCPP-20	25	Cover Crop (340)	\$5,148	28.6	3	\$60	
79-25RCPP-15	25	Cover Crops (340)	\$870	14.5	1	\$60	
79-25RCPP-16	25	Cover Crops (340)	\$4,776	79.6	1	\$60	
79-25RCPP-20	25	Cover Crop (340)	\$5,148	28.6	3	\$60	
79-25RCPP-05	20	Cover Crops (340), Reduced Tillage - no-till (329)	\$11,000	100	1 & 3	\$50 & \$20	HU Producer, cover crops & no-till
79-25RCPP-04	20	Cover Crops (340)	\$3,600	20	3	\$60	
79-25RCPP-19	15	Cover Crop (340)	\$7,520	37.6	4	\$50	
79-25RCPP-21	10	Cover Crops (340)	\$6,000	100	1	\$60	
79-25RCPP-17	5	Cover Crop (340)	\$7,140	35.7	4	\$50	
79-25RCPP-18	5	Cover Crop (340)	\$13,750	69	4	\$50	
79-25RCPP-02	5	Cover Crop (340)	\$2,895	57.9	1	\$50	
79-25RCPP-25	5	Cover Crop (340)	\$4,510	90.2	1	\$50	
	0		\$126,557	868.7			
	0		After July, Funds Remaining \$74,090				

Pending contract signatures, technical sign-off and eligibility reviews

PERCENT BASED CONSERVATION PRACTICE ASSISTANCE CONTRACT

General Information

Organization: Wabasha SWCD	Contract Number: 23-CWF-WIC-08	Other state or non-State funds? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):	Canceled <input type="checkbox"/> Board Meeting Date(s):
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* If contract amended, attach amendment form(s) to this contract.

Applicant

Land Occupier Name Bernard Schumacher	Address 58121 COUNTY ROAD 4	City/State PLAINVIEW, MN	Zip Code 55964
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* If a group contract, this must be filed and signed by the group spokesperson as designated in the group agreement and the group agreement attached to this form.

Conservation Practice Location

Township Name: Highland	Township No: 109	Range No.: 11	Section No. 21	1/4,1/4 SW 1/4, SW 1/4
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Contract Information

I (we), the undersigned, do hereby request cost share assistance to help defray the cost of installing the following practice(s) listed on the second page of this contract. It is understood that:

1. The land occupier is responsible for full establishment, operation, and maintenance of all practices and upland treatment criteria applied under this program to ensure that the conservation objective of the practice is met and the effective life, a minimum of 15 years, is achieved. The specific operation and maintenance requirements for the conservation practice listed are described in the operation and maintenance plan prepared for this contract by the technical assistance provider.
2. Should the land occupier fail to maintain the practice during its effective life, the land occupier is liable to the State of Minnesota for the amount up to 150% of the amount of financial assistance received to install and establish the practice unless the failure was caused by reasons beyond the land occupier's control, or if conservation practices are applied at the land occupier's expense that provide equivalent protection of the soil and water resources.
3. If title to this land is transferred to another party before expiration of the aforementioned life, it shall be the responsibility of the landowner who signed this contract to advise the new owner that this contract is in force and to notify other parties to the contract of the transfer.
4. Practice(s) must be planned and installed in accordance with technical standards and specifications of the:

USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide

5. Increases in the practice units or cost must be approved by the organization board through amendment of this contract as a condition to increase the cost-share payments.
6. This contract, when approved by the organization board or council, will remain in effect unless canceled or amended by mutual agreement, except where installations of practices covered by this contract have not been installed by 11/30/2026, this contract will be automatically terminated on that date.
7. Items of cost for which reimbursement is claimed are to be supported by invoices/receipts for payments and will be verified by the organization board as practical and reasonable. The invoices must include the name of the vendor; materials, labor or equipment used; the component unit costs and the dates the work was performed. The organization board has the authority to make adjustments to the costs submitted for reimbursement. Pre-Construction Cover is exempt from having the required invoices/receipts.

Applicant Signatures

The land occupier's signature indicates agreement to:

1. Grant the organization's representative(s) access to the parcel where the conservation practice will be located.
2. Obtain all permits required in conjunction with the installation and establishment of the practice prior to starting construction of the practice.
3. Be responsible for the operation and maintenance of conservation practices applied under this program in accordance with an operation and maintenance plan prepared by the technical assistance provider.
4. Not accept cost-share funds, from state sources in excess of 90%, or state and non-state sources that when combined are in excess of 90% of the total cost to establish the conservation practice. Pre-construction Cover is exempt from the percent reimbursement rate limitations when utilizing the flat rate payment option.
5. To provide copies of all forms and contracts pertinent to any other state or non-state programs that are contributing funds toward this project.

Date 8-26-25	Land Occupier <i>Bernard Schumacher</i>
Date	Landowner, if different from applicant
	Address, if different from applicant information:

Conservation Practice

The primary practice for which cost-share is requested is: **410 - Grade Stabilization Structure**

Eligible Component Standards & Names 342 - Critical Area Planting	Engineered Practice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Total Project Cost Estimate \$12,800.00
	Ecological Practice: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

Technical Assessment and Cost Estimate

I have the appropriate technical expertise and have reviewed the site where the above-listed practice is to be installed and find it is needed and that the estimated quantities and costs are practical and reasonable.

Date 8-26-25	Technical Assistance Provider <i>Matthew Koenigsmann</i>	Project design and needs reviewed by technician with appropriate JAA. Signed plans and As Builts can be used to support this technical certification if requested.
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Pre-Construction Cover

Is allowed when temporary cover is necessary for the future installation of structural conservation practices. A flat rate payment of up to \$150 per acre, not to exceed 10 acres, is allowed as part of a state cost-share contract for the installation of structural practice(s).

Amount / Acre (NTE \$150/acre)	Number of Acres (NTE 10 Acres)	Total Amount

Amount Authorized for Financial Assistance

The organization board or council has authorized the following for financial assistance, total not to exceed 90.0% of the total cost to establish the conservation practice plus the pre-construction cover total amount if utilizing the flat rate payment option.

Amount	Program Name	Fiscal Year
\$11,520.00	2023 West Indian Creek Watershed Restoration and Protection	2023

Date	Authorized Signature	Total Amount Authorized \$11,520.00
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Southeast
Minnesota
Association of
Soil & Water
Conservation
Districts

**AREA 7
JOINT
FALL
MEETING**

Southeast
Minnesota
Association of
Conservation
District
Employees

**Thursday,
October 2**

Registration starts @ 9am

Meeting starts @ 9:30

Grand Meadow Community Center

116 Grand Ave E, Grand Meadow, MN 55936

+

**Grand Meadow Chert Quarry |
Wanhi Yukan Preserve**

25578 730th Ave, Grand Meadow, MN 55936

REGISTER BY **SEPTEMBER 15**

to:

teresa.demars@riceswcd.org

20 *registration fee*



Search



The Grand Meadow Chert Quarry/Wanhi Yukon Preserve
The Quarry Story



The Wanhi Yukan Trail, a self-guided experience, is open to the public Spring-Fall, annually, beginning July 1, 2025. Visitors can enjoy the serenity of the park-like trail in the woods, or experience a **self-guided walking tour** with signage in English and Dakota that explains its historic and cultural significance. To learn more about the Chert Quarry Preserve, or how to donate to the Chert Quarry Endowment Fund to guarantee its future, please contact the Mower County Historical Society.



THE GRAND MEADOW CHERT QUARRY – Wanhi Yukan

Archaeological and Cultural Preserve

Mower County is home to a very special archaeological site, which is only recently coming into public view. The Grand Meadow Chert Quarry Archaeological and Cultural Preserve, located northwest of Grand Meadow, is 8 acres of undisturbed oak savanna and 5 acres of restored prairie that had a unique role in Native American history. Among the scattered trees are 100 'chert' (or flint) quarry pits, large holes left just as they were when dug by Native Americans seeking stone for making tools, between 400 and 3,000 years ago. The quarry pits are clearly visible in this photo above, made by using a technique called 'Lidar' that removes the vegetation from the image.

The original pitted landscape covered nearly 200 acres, with at least 2,000 of these quarry pits. This small remnant, preserved in a wooded lot over the past century by the Maurice and Bernice Thorsen family, is now owned and protected by [The Archaeological Conservancy](#). Management of the site is the responsibility of the Mower County Historical Society and the Prairie Island Indian Community, with environmental assistance from the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District and staff from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.



A nodule of Grand Meadow Chert

Grand Meadow Chert is a type of high-quality stone, like 'flint,' that was used by ancestors of today's Dakota-speaking people. They relied on this chert to make the chipped stone tools needed for daily living, including knives, hide scrapers, awls, punches, spear points and arrowheads. The earliest known use of the stone from this chert quarry is a spear point used to kill a buffalo at Granite Falls, MN nearly 8,000 years ago. This easily-recognized gray chert has been found by archaeologists at Precontact cultural sites in 52 counties in the state, and in Iowa and Wisconsin.



Maynard Green & Lee Radzak at the Quarry – 1980

For many years no one knew where the gray chert seen in so many excavations at ancient villages came from. Then in 1980 a local expert rock collector, Maynard Green, introduced the site to a team of archaeologists from the Minnesota Historical Society. The team confirmed Mr. Green's astute interpretations, and the Grand Meadow Chert Quarry was officially recorded and later added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The leader of that research team, archaeologist Tom Trow, is now working with the MCHS staff and the Indigenous descendants of those who dug these pits to open the site to public. A walking trail, with signage in both English and Dakota

as part of a self-guided tour, will be opened to the public in 2025 – thanks in part to two grants from the Minnesota Historical Society’s Legacy funds and to our many community partners and generous donors.

Meanwhile, MCHS acquired from Maynard Green’s family his invaluable collection of artifacts, all found in Mower County over his lifetime. We are preserving and protecting those materials, and making them available for researchers. Thanks to his family and to our supporters, you can see those artifacts on display at our main building in Austin. The exhibit highlights the Quarry and puts it in the context of Native American history in southern Minnesota over thousands of years.



The Maynard Green Exhibit at the Mower County Historical Society in Austin,
MN

To plan a visit to the exhibit or to ask about educational tours of the Grand Meadow Chert Quarry for schools and colleges, please contact MCHS staff by calling 507-437-6082.