

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
September 26, 2024
8:15 am
(New SWCD Office)
611 Broadway Ave.
Suite 10B**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Lynn Zabel, Chair called meeting to order at 8:24 am

Supervisors Present: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Seth Tentis, Member

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others Present: Christina Taylor, NRCS, Frank Klennert, citizen

On the Phone: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, Sheila Harmes, Winona County Water Planner, Whitewater Watershed Project Coordinator, Sue Cerwinske, Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant.

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve The Agenda as presented with one change. Take the deletion of Letter O. in Consent Agenda.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, 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.

- A. Signed Budget Increase for AgBMP, \$300,000.00. Amendment to Attachment A between MN Dept of Agriculture and Wabasha SWCD AgBMP Loan Program – Multiple Lender System – Agreement #M7717.
- B. Johannah E. Schmitz Voucher payment for Contract# 24-SDWGPh2 -1 in the amount of \$949.78 for a Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System.
(Funding source – FY24 Safe Drinking Water Phase 2)
- C. Ben Klein Contract# 20-WWDWP-10 in the amount of \$4,800.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY20 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)
- D. Ben Klein Contract# 20-WWDWP-11 in the amount of \$240.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY20 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)

- E. Eric Klein Contract# 20-WWDWP-12 in the amount of \$2,405.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY20 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)
- F. Eric Klein Contract# 20-WWDWP-13 in the amount of \$1,038.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year - Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY20 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)
- G. Chuck Fick Contract# 23-CS-4 in the amount of \$1,912.50 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY23 State Cost Share)
- H. Dan Wagner Contract # 2024WAGZ-WC-11 in the amount of \$4,500.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY24 WAGZ – (Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
- I. Meyer's Seeds Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-12 in the amount of \$2,110.50 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY24 WAGZ – (Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
- J. Larry Gates Voucher for Contract# 23-SHCS-2 in the amount of \$2,000.00 for 1st year of Practice 340 Cover Crops.
(Funding sources – FY23 Soil Health-Cost Share)
- K. Chuck Fick Voucher payment for Contract# 23-CS-4 in the amount of \$1,912.50 for Practice 340 Cover Crops.
(Funding source – FY23 State Cost Share)
- L. Justin Nooker - Driftless Guardians, LLC Contract for Services Agreement with Wabasha SWCD to provide technical assistance to private land owners.
Contract with the MN DNR- WinLaC 1W1P Forestry Implementation.
- M. Dave Hager Voucher payment for Contract 24-CC-1 in the amount of \$300.00 for Practice 314 Brush Management.
(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts)
- N. Hyde Park Holsteins AgBMP Loan application in the amount of \$155,000.00 for a Mono Slope Heifer Facility to house heifers 3 to 6 month of age. Will have covered manure storage. Improving water quality.
- O. Jesse Polson AgBMP Loan application in the amount of \$5,000.00 for a 3 pt Back Blade to construct and maintain waterways. Direct run off.
- P. Lisa Klein AgBMP Loan application in the amount of \$20,000.00 for a Guidance system for cultivator to give more accurate mechanical weed control versus spraying.
- Q. Reiter Living Trust (William Reiter) Contract# 20-WWDWP-17 in the amount of \$1,550.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year - Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY20 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)
- R. Silver Spirit Farm LLC Contract# 2024WinLac-Wab-003 in the amount of \$1,500.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source FY24 WinLac Partnership)
- S. Mike Rahman Contract# 23-CS-3 in the amount of \$1,670.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops. One year – Install by date 11/1/2024.
(Funding source – FY23 State Cost Share)

- T. Chad Schumacher Voucher payment for Contract# 2022WAGZ-WC-11 in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops – 3rd and final year.
(Funding source – FY22 WAGZ)

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Consent Agenda with deletion of Letter O.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. August 22, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Secretary's Report as written.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. August District Financial Statements

Included for your review

- B. Program Record – August

The full spreadsheet was sent to the board in advance

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zable

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$48,209.50- Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$48,209.50.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

Budget approved 5% levy increase. \$131,000 for SWCD.

Big increase for Health insurance 28.5%

City of Zumbro Falls, mail in ballots only. Sent them misprinted ballots that will be discarded when returned and will work on correcting for general election.

- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
Moving more from old office to new location
New staff Deanna and Ella AmeriCorps member.
Helped organize Agroforestry Institute. Deanna and Katelyn attended training.
Meeting with MDA, talk about EPA petitions, action
Olmsted has contract for Osmosis Systems
Meeting with EPA – talked about inspections they are doing.
Permits with feedlots could get an inspection visit
- D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – In the packet
- E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – In the packet
- F. Conservation Planning and Outreach Technician Report– Jenna Rasmusson –
- G. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts – In the packet
- H. Soil Health/Nutrient Management Tech Report – Deanna Pomije – In the packet
- I. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant Report -Sue Cerwinske – In the packet
- J. BWSR Report -
- K. Other agencies – Sheila report with Board report for WinLaC

**** Terri introduced Ella Jurgerson, AmeriCorps member and Deanna Pomije, Soil Health/Nutrient Management staff to the board.**

Ella talked about her projects she will be working on and Deanna talked about what she will be working on.

X. OLD BUSINESS

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

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve attendance for the MASWCD Area 7 SWCD Supervisors & Employees Fall Meeting at Jay C. Hormel Nature Center in Austin on October 22, 2024. \$15.00 each.
Registration due Oct. 11th– Board Action
 Supervisors that are attending add to registration.
 Lynn, Sharleen, Frank, Chet and leave open for Seth and Dag
Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the attendance for the MASWCD Area 7 SWCD Supervisors & Employees Fall Meeting at Jay C. Hormel Nature Center in Austin on October 22, 2024. Registration \$15.00 each.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- B. Approve any staff who choose to attend BWSR Academy at Cragun's Conference Center, Brainerd. October 29-31, 2024
*Registration due October 4th, Costs \$75.00 per day, per employee. – Board Action
 Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve any staff deemed necessary to attend the BWSR Academy at Cragun's Conference, Brainerd. October 29-31, 2024*
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. Registration is open for the MASWCD Annual Convention on December 2-4, 2024 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Bloomington, MN.
Registration deadline is November 18, 2024 - Informational/Who will attend-
Board Action
Lynn, Sharleen and Frank will attend. Maybe Karen. Terri will register for them. Dag may do his own registering.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve any staff that would like to attend the MASWCD Annual Convention on December 2-4, 2024 at the Double Tree by Hilton in Bloomington, MN
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- D. Approve Warren Craig Beighley Contract# 23-CS-2 in the amount of \$255.00 for Practice 314 Brush Management – **Board Action**
 (Funding source – FY23 State Cost Share)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Warren Craig Beighley Contract# 23-CS-2 in the amount of \$255.00 for Practice 314 Brush Management.
Affirmative:
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P (WAGZ)– Dag
Dag and Jenna both attended the Aug. 29th WAGZ Policy Committee meeting.
Dag's report from that meeting is in the packet.
Next meeting is November 7th,
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
 Forestry / RIM setup, volunteers. BMP mapping, St. Mary's University presentation on aerial imagery of waterways, ponds and features to get idea where they are.
 Sheila reported that Winona SWCD gave updates on projects and the project area for WinLaC.
 Continuous CRP grant for 2025 for WinLaC approved and executed.
 FY2025 Watershed Based Implementation funds approved, not executed yet, but will be very soon.
 Whitewater – appreciate the work Jenna has been doing recruiting farmers to participate for cover crops.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB - Dag
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

F. Upcoming Events:

- i. Monday October 14, 2024, Indigenous Peoples Day – Office Closed
- ii. Tuesday October 22, 2024, MASWCD Areal 7 SWCD Supervisors & Employee Fall Meeting at Jay C. Homel Nature Center, Austin, MN
- iii. Wednesday October 23, 2024 Coffee & Conversation at SWCD office.
- iv. Thursday October 24, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
- v. Tuesday – Thursday, October 29–31, 2024, BWSR Academy at Cragun's

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 am.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively submitted by:



Dag Knudsen, Secretary