



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE

Todd County

• MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

215 1st Avenue South, Suite 104

Long Prairie, MN 56347

Phone: 320-732-2644 Fax: 320-732-4803

MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 13, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Vice Chairperson Buchholz called the Thursday, April 13, 2023 meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was held in person at the Historic Courthouse located at 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call for Introductions.

Board members present in person were: Leland Buchholz, Wayne Wendel, Dale Katterhagen and Barb James.

Board members absent: Tom Williamson.

Others present in person were: Deja Anton, District Manager, Adam Ossefoort, Division Director, Tim Ebnet, Conservation Technician, Dylan Pratt, Conservation Technician, Josh Votruba, Conservation Technician, Kasen Christiansen, Conservation Technician, Randy Neumann, Commissioner, and Barb Becker, Commissioner.

Attending Remotely: Doug Host with Clifton Larson Allen and Sarah Katterhagen, Program Coordinator. Host left after his presentation. S. Katterhagen had difficulties with sound.

Buchholz asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Wendel to accept the revised agenda for the regular April 13, 2023 meeting with the following of revisions:

- Add – Approve entering into Fiscal Agent Agreement for the Long Prairie WBIF 2023
- Add – To discuss whether or not we should bring forward a policy to cap pit closure projects – this was suggested by EOT SWCD

Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen, James. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by James to approve the minutes as disbursed from March 9, 2023 regular board meeting. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Buchholz asked the board to review March's 2023 Treasurer's Report. Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Wendel to accept March's 2023 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$368,134.84 and disbursements totaling \$11,813.79. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Buchholz called for conflict of interest. No conflict of interest reported.

A moment of silence was held in the remembrance of Kenny Pesta.

REPORTS:



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Clifton Larson Allen – 2022 Audit Review and Summary: Host from Clifton Larson joined the meeting to discuss the 2022 Audit for Soil and Water. Host noted that Audit went well and required information was submitted. BWSR requires a finance review on a rotating year. The Audit adjustments were provided to the District. Due to the current financial set up with the County, there is not a concern for segregation of duties. Host reminded the board to watch the operating fund balance. Anton questioned how the WBIF funds effect the numbers. Host reported it doesn't; those funds need to be accounted and coded appropriately.

Host left meeting after his presentation.

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Neumann reported he liked the feedlot meeting, attending solar meetings, ARPA funding meeting and discussed the liability of the rock wall. Commissioner Becker reported the Justice roof estimates are coming in high.

Director Report: Ossefoort reported his working on septic and solar ordinance reviews, reviewed the Dalquist feedlot request, attended Annual Township meeting and a meeting for Ward Township.

Manager Report: Anton reported she is working on a plaque for Kenny Pesta, Dalquist feedlot request, dealing with manure spills and overflows. Anton informed the board Waterguards was selected as the AIS contractor for 2023 inspection season. Anton provided staff updates. Anton provide project updates.

Staff Report: Votruba presented on EARTH program inspection form.

NRCS Report: Written reported was provided as Thoma was at a training.

1W1P SRWD Report: Planning for next round of grant funding.

1W1P Red Eye Report: No update. A policy meeting will be held in July or August.

1W1P Long Prairie Report: Fiscal agreements with partners are getting approved and can start spending money soon.

1W1P Crow Wing Report: No update.

1W1P Mississippi Brainerd Report: No update.

BWSR Report: No Report.

DECISIONS:

Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to approve 2022 Audit Report. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by James to approve signing NRCS Civil Rights. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.



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Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by James to accept 2023 Feedlot donations in the amount of \$2,575. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen, James. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering FY2023 SRWD WBIF cost share funds in the amount of \$22,125 for Chris Frericks pit closure project, C#2023.04.13-3.4 located in the Sauk River Watershed. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve agreement for services with EOT SWCD for Redeye River Watershed Based Implementation, Grant ID: C22-7830. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Wendel made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve the Irrigation Resources Conservation Partnership Pooling Agreement for flat-rate incentive payments to landowners installing irrigation technologies; in which specifies the amount of \$6,900 for Robb Oyster. This agreement is allowed through FY2023 BWSR grant (#23-1426 supporting the RCPP Irrigation Conservation Partnership (P23-1461).

Discussion: Katterhagen asked if moisture probes are installed and removed annually. Ebnet reported moisture probes must be installed in 2023 and provide data off an app for 3 years.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering cost share funds for Kevin Stocco and Logan Magnan, C#2023.04.13-3.7, in the amount of \$22,912.50 from FY22 RA (\$8,810.38) and FY23 RA (\$14,102.12) located in the Mississippi-Brainerd Watershed.

Discussion: There was \$5,000 budgeted in contingency.

Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Wendel made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve entering into incentive payment, C#2023-04-13-3.8, FY2023 BWSR pooling irrigation funds with Oyster for Irrigation Sensors in the amount of \$6,900 located in the Red Eye Watershed. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by James to approve entering into a fiscal agent agreement for the Long Prairie WBIF FY23. Affirmative: Buchholz, Wendel, Katterhagen and James. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION:

Summary of the 2023 Feedlot Meeting was provided.

Board's recommendation for Enviro Fest was to continue with farm tours, try to add station about green houses, and Anton will reach out to Ryan Perish.

Review of old and new resolutions for approval at May's meeting.

Discussed potential requirement for landowner's to be current on property taxes to qualify for cost share funds.

Board discussed policy regarding capping pit closures. No action was taken.



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Neumann and Ebnet left the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

INFORMATIONAL:

Anton provided update on Teacher's of the Year Award. Board would like to see four nominees at next month's meeting.

Waterguards was selected as the AIS Watercraft Inspector for 2023.

Walk In Access Agreement was signed in the amount of \$2,000.

Work Order #77-22W099 for Easement Delivery in the amount of \$700.

The board would like to bring an Ob Well resolution to AREA II Meeting.

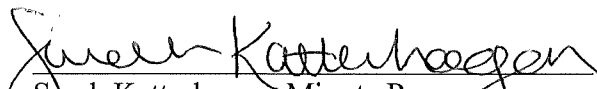
The regular meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

The board moved into a closed meeting to discuss performance reviews of Division Director and District Manager.


The next regular Todd Soil and Water board supervisor meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at the Historic Courthouse in the Commissioner's Board room. The meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. This will be a policy meeting.

Vice Chairperson Buchholz adjourned the closed meeting at 10:58 a.m.


Adam Ossefoort and Kasen Christiansen took the notes for this meeting in the absence of Program Coordinator and supplied the notes to the Coordinator to prepare following the meeting.


Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Preparer
(not present to take notes at meeting)

6-8-2023
Date


Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager

6-8-23
Date


Wayne Wendel, Secretary

6-8-23
Date