



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

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(320) 598-7321 Ext. 3

Our mission is to provide conservation opportunities for landowners of Lac qui Parle County through creative stewardship, protection programs and utilization of the resources to foster soil improvement and water quality in the community.

Minutes July 8, 2021

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, July 8, 2021, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, and Dan Larson. Absent: Daryl Schutte and Amy Bacigalupo. SWCD Staff present: Chessa Frahm and Sheri Laechelt. Absent: Rhyan Schicker and Quintin Peterson. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. Chairman Croatt welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Agenda:

Weber made a motion to approve the Agenda. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Larson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the June, 2021 board meeting. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Open Gallery: (2 minutes per person/10 minutes total) *None*

Conflict of Interest Declaration: *None*

Treasurer's Report:

The checks were reviewed and discussed. Weber made a motion to approve for payment June checks #7926 through #7931 from the United Prairie account. June checks, #13003 through #13015 from the Old National account. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Weber made a motion to approve the July Treasurer's Report as presented. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
 - Larson made a motion to approve the following State Cost Share contract. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>CS Year</u>	<u>Practice</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CS 2021-01	2021	340	Bjornson, Lucas	\$5,074.80

- Water Plan: *None*

Correspondence:

- State Agency letters pertaining to possible State shut down.

Reports:

- Supervisor Report: Croatt reported on the Area 5 meeting and the LqP 1W1P meeting.
- Partner Agencies:
 - NRCS: Hendrickson presented his report. To view Hendrickson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*
- Technical Report:

- Laechelt reported that Schicker and Peterson had completed spring seedings and tree plantings and were preparing for the Kernza Field Day to be held that afternoon.
- **Admin Report:**
 - Consultant interviews were held for the LqP 1W1P, Houston Engineering will be writing the plan.
 - YM 1W1P is at the half-way point and are doing a quality assurance check with BWSR.
 - Working with the committee on the Area 5 & 6 Farm Fest booth. We will have a manned booth with an interactive website so individual parcels can be discussed with participants.
 - Created a Google drive for automatic updates of Agendas & Minutes.
 - Attended the Area 5 meeting.
 - Attended the Managers meeting in Baxter.
 - Working on the 2022 Budget and will present to the Commissioners in August.
 - 2022 State Cost-Share will now include Soil Health concerns by adding Cover Crops.
 - Will be attending the NACD annual meeting in Chicago later in July, will be part of the workgroup covering JAA and Conservation Planning. NACD will cover all expenses.

Old Business:

- **Road Signs** – Highway permits have expired. Staff has decided to create signs that display a QR code that can be loaded on your phone and detailed information will be displayed about the present project. Cost estimates will be obtained and details brought back for approval.

New Business: *None*

Personnel: Employee Appreciation Day will be re-scheduled in August due to the new Juneteenth holiday being approved on the previous scheduled day.

Calendar of Events:

August 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
August 25	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
September 6	Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
October 11	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
October 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
October 27	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
November 11	Veteran’s Day (Office Closed)
November 11	Regular Board meeting – Will Reschedule
November 25	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
December 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 10 am
December 22	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Croatt declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Amy Bacialupo

Approved

8/12/21

Date

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

DC Report
July 8, 2021
Burton Hendrickson

Farm Program Update –

EQIP – We have gotten 10 EQIP applications obligated to funded contracts for Lac qui Parle County. There has been talk about a request for more funds to try and get a couple more funded, but I have not heard anything for sure on that.

CSP – We are developing 4 contracts for the CSP program that have been pre-approved for funding. Have 3 of them ready to get signed, and later funded one has some paperwork needing return before it is ready to sign. We are now hearing some information about potential renewals of contracts that are set to expire the end of December. The prioritization worksheet is out, and we can start doing some screening, with some more detailed training on what is up, for late in July.

CRP – Some planning work has been worked on, and Betty at FSA has several that are now ready to get signed, but a lot of further work to be done on these in next month or 2. Still getting some new applications in the past few days. New rental rates and additional incentive information has now been received which has sweetened the pot on some.

1026's and wetland stuff – The Marshall wetland team is actually very current on getting new certified wetland determinations completed and responded to when we send them in. Susan Hult has mentioned to me that there are a lot of requests for review or redeterminations of already certified determinations in LQP county. I indicated that the word must be out that some wetlands have been getting removed on review so a lot of requests will be coming in. These are not high priority items and do take some time to get a response on. Often times after they review the file they do not actually re-open the determination if there is no good or valid reason given to think an error had been made.

Administrative Items –

Staff – NRCS has hired a new person as a Soil Conservationist to be stationed here in Madison. He is Ryan Riebel, and he had his first day here Tuesday July 6. While there is a new computer on his desk, he does not have access yet which really hinders getting him acclimated and going on some things.

Upcoming Items - Local Work Group (LWG) for LQP Cty to be held July 12, 2021. Chessa has arranged for a Zoom meeting to start at 10:00 AM. Thanks Chessa.