



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 April 8, 2021

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, April 8, 2021, via ZOOM video conference. Board Supervisors present: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Amy Bacigalupo, Daryl Schutte, and Danny Larson. SWCD Staff present: Chessa Frahm, Sheri Laechelt, Rhyan Schicker and Quintin Peterson.. NRCS Staff absent: Burt Hendrickson. Guest: Lorin Hatch, Widseth Engineering. Chairman Croatt welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Agenda:

Schutte made a motion to approve the Agenda as printed. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

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

Open Gallery: (2 minutes per person/10 minutes total) – Loren Hatch from Widseth Engineering introduced himself. He is interested in learning more about the SWCD and also plans to respond to the RFQ.

Conflict of Interest Declaration: *None*

Treasurer's Report:

The checks were reviewed and discussed. Weber made a motion to approve for payment March check #7919 from the United Prairie account. March checks, #12967 through #12979 from the Old National account. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the April Treasurer's Reports as presented. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program: *None*
- Water Plan:
 - Well Sealing Project Completion: Larson made a motion to approve the following payment. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>CS Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WS 2021-01	2021	Milbeck, Tim	\$500.00

Correspondence: *None*

Reports:

- Supervisor Report: Bacigalupo reported that she attended the LqP 1W1P Meeting, Legislative Day, and the Local Workgroup Training all via Zoom.
- Partner Agencies:
 - NRCS: Hendrickson's written report was reviewed. To view Hendrickson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes*
 - Pheasants Forever: *None*
 - BWSR: *None*

- Technical Report:
 - Peterson reported:
 - Planning for a busy tree & seeding season. Trees will be delivered mid-April.
 - Continuing work on the Florida Creek project.
 - Schicker reported:
 - Planning for a busy seeding season, still filling some seed orders put planting list is full for spring.
 - Received the Ecological JAA.
 - Will be taking over the CREP & WIA that Sara had been working on.
- Admin Report:
 - Attended Legislative Day via Zoom
 - The RFQ for the 1W1P was sent to consultants

Old Business: *None*

New Business:

- Tractor Lease: Schutte made a motion to approve the Tractor Lease agreement with Ziegler of Madison. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- PF Contract: Bacigalupo made a motion to terminate the PF contract as Sara Reagan has taken a new position with NRCS in Yellow Medicine County. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Insurance Renewal: Larson made a motion to approve the employee health insurance renewal with PEIP. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Topper Purchase: Weber made a motion to purchase a topper for the 2017 Chevrolet pickup from Cleveland Chevrolet in Canby. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel: *None*

Calendar of Events:

April 12	Yellow Medicine Policy Committee 1:00
April 28	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00
May 13	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
May 31	Memorial Day (Office Closed)
June 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
July 5	Independence Day Observed (Office Closed)
July 8	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
August 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 8 am
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
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)/ Regular Board meeting – Will Reschedule
November 25	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
December 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 10 am
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Croatt declared the meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Danny Larson

May 13, 2021

Approved

Date

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

DC Report
Burton Hendrickson

Farm Program Update –

EQIP – We have received our pre-approval list and LQP is actually getting 5 applications funded at this time. We have contacted the parties and they have a few days to let us know if they want to move forward, and we have started writing plans/contracts. If a little more money becomes available we might get one or more additional funded but that is unknown. If someone decides to cancel that money will be available for use on another application on the list.

CSP – Our application deadlines for both Classic and renewal have now passed for this year. The classic or main sign-up has a workload priority screening tool which we have completed for all our applications in this category. We ended up with 5 of these being called High so we will be working on evaluating those, but the rest will stay as pending. There are 26 applications in all. The State office anticipates us being able to fund approximately 5% of the overall applications we have which is why they have tried to narrow which ones we will work on with a screening tool. There will be a screening tool for the renewal applications also, but that will come later.

CRP – The hold that FSA put on the signups for general and grassland is still in place. No new word on any changes that may be implemented. Sara has gotten quite a few of the potential renewals worked on with planning, but the rest will now fall back to John and I working on as time permits.

1026's – The wetland team told us with a monthly update that they are getting very current with determinations, and thought that with current numbers they may be getting responses back in 2-3 weeks instead of months. We will see, and this time of year usually brings a lot of new tile requests or proposals.

Administrative Items – I just finished 2 weeks of quarantine with telework from home. Neither I nor Rosemary experienced any illness, but we had been exposed so stayed home as directed.

I believe John Harbinson introduced himself at your meeting last month. I have been gone quite a bit since he arrived, but we are now getting some time together to go over things and show him new things. I hope we won't overwhelm him too quickly.

I still am going to Ortonville, but there is talk that a Soil Conservationist will be getting hired for that location. When? The talk has been for quite a while, but at least it seems to be getting more persistent recently.