



# Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

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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 May 13, 2021

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, May 13, 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 present: Burt Hendrickson. Chairman Croatt welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

### **Agenda:**

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

### **Minutes:**

Larson made a motion to approve the Minutes from the April, 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. Bacigalupo made a motion to approve for payment April checks #7920 & #7921 from the United Prairie account. April checks, #12981 through #12996 from the Old National account. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

### **State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:**

- State Cost-Share Program: *None*
- Water Plan: *None*

### **Correspondence:**

- MASWCD Resolutions – Due at June meeting if anyone wants to submit something.

### **Reports:**

- Supervisor Report: Bacigalupo reported that she & Croatt attended the Yellowbank/LqP 1W1P Meeting via Zoom.
- Partner Agencies:
  - NRCS: Hendrickson presented his report. To view Hendrickson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes*
- Technical Report:
  - Peterson reported:
    - Several sites have been flagged, working on tree plantings-3 left.
    - Tractor is working well.

- Ready for seeding season, waiting for soil temps to improve or May 15
- Schicker reported:
  - Completed an 80 acre EQIP Honeybee planting and 2 alfalfa seedings so far.
  - Our seed order will be available for pick up today.
  - AIS – Met with 4-H’ers and used canoes and kayaks to do some dragging for curly pond weed on Big Stone Lake. Planning an event in June at Del Clark Lake to search for Big Mystery snails.
- Admin Report:
  - Attended the Yellowbank/LqP 1W1P meeting via Zoom.
  - Helped technicians with a large tree planting.
  - Worked on website updates & filing.
  - New computers were received and are working much better than the old.

**Old Business:** *None*

**New Business:**

- AIS Proposal: Bacigalupo made a motion to contribute \$5,000 towards the Wildlife Forever Cabin Cast TV promotion. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Tree Building Shingles: Peterson reported that the shingles on the tree building are in rough shape and some have blown off which he will replace. He will work on getting bids for replacement and report back.

**Personnel:** *None*

**Calendar of Events:**

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 8:45 a.m.

*Danny Larson*

*June 10, 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 –

CSP/EQIP – LQP has 7 EQIP pre-approved applications we are trying to get to be obligated contracts. I got one signed yesterday and have nearly all of them ready to sign. Will be trying to get in touch to move forward with signing. CSP for the open Classic signup involves 3 that were rated as high and should be assessed. One withdrew on Wednesday, one has to have the EQIP contract completed before I will be able to do computer work to assess, and the other has assessment started. Need to have these ready and assessed by May 28. I must admit that the withdrawal was actually a relief.

CRP/CCRP – Basically waiting for the new rules to come out so we know what to tell people. It looks like it will be to everyone's advantage once the new rules are out, but we have no details. FSA is on complete hold as far as even being able to approve a contract even if they wanted to. It also looks like a lot of their work on general will need to be redone. I am afraid it will be a big mess and hurry to get all done when rules come out. This has also stopped any CREP applications for now also.

1026/wetland stuff – The wetland team is now pretty current on responses to 1026's, but there are a lot of requests for review of existing certified determination that are in the hopper also.

Waterbank – There is actually a sign-up for Waterbank Program going through May 24. If a person has a pasture that is being flooded quite a bit and not really much good for pasture it might be a good option. If it is cropland they would be much better off going to CRP. 10 year contracts, \$35.00/ac for pasture.

Administrative Items –

Staffing – Well I am back to being the only NRCS employee in the Madison field office. John Harbinson came to the decision he couldn't be this far away from his girlfriend in Fargo, so gave his 2 week notice. Sara is now working for NRCS in Clarkfield, but may be able to help with some CRP when we can do something.