



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Ave South, Madison, MN 56256

Phone: (320) 598-7321 Ext 3

Website: www.lacquiparleswcd.org

Minutes

October 10, 2024

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, October 10, 2024, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present in person: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Danny Larson, and Amy Bacigalupo (virtual). Absent: Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Rhyan Schicker, Maria Croatt and Jake Monnens. Absent: Quintin Peterson and Noah Swart. NRCS Staff- Kara Ransom present. No Pheasants Forever Staff present. No BWSR staff present. Chairman Weber welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

After correction of a typo (held not help) under 'old business' referring to insurance claims, Croatt made motion to approve the Minutes from the Sept. 12, 2024, board meeting. Larson 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. Croatt made a motion to approve for payment September checks #8079-8085 from the United Prairie account and checks #13485-13498 from the Old National account. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
 - SHD# 2024-04 was presented for payment and discussed.
 - Larson made a motion to approve payment for contract 2024-04. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
 - CC# 2024-05 was presented and discussed.
 - Larson made a motion to approve contract 2024-05. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried
- Water Plan:
 - WS #2024-10 was presented. Larson made motion to approve and pay out 2024-10. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Schicker reminded that the SWMACD State Annual Convention will be held December 2-4th, 2024.
- Photo contest in coordination with Big Stone NWR for Refuge Week was presented.
- BWSR map of Pollinator Pathways statewide grant recipients was shared.

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report

A conflict of interest, whether actual, potential or perceived, occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests, and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. Supervisors are asked to declare conflicts of interest they may have regarding today's business. Any member who declares a conflict of interest must not vote on that agenda item.

- Schicker reported that meeting was canceled for this month due to lack of agenda items/no contracts seeking approval. Reminder that all non-structural funds have been spent. Remaining funds (structural/educational/admin etc) run through December 2025. Update on FY25 WBIF funds being requested this month with associated reduction estimates calculated.
- Bacigalupo mentioned adjusting our plan reductions with HEI due to unrealistic reduction projections that are not attainable, which we are working on with BWSR. Nov 7th meeting with MPCA to go over past and future monitoring relating to plan.
- Supervisor Report:
 - MaCroatt-Updated that Area V meeting will be virtual in February.
- Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Ransom- With new Farm bill remaining in limbo CRP is on hold
 - Pheasants Forever:
 - MaCroatt reported Sams internship ended, she enjoyed it very much. Highlights included presenting 4H school tours at county fair with live native mussel specimens.
 - Kayla is hosting a prescribed fire training at Dennis Pedersons 10/11/24 for producers and agency professionals. Schicker reported that PF annual meeting is in January in conjunction with BWSR winter meeting. SWCD to attend.
 - BWSR: Schicker reported BC Olson would be visiting office today to go through cost share folders and meeting documents to provide feedback. Working with WD to develop workplan for CRP incentive funding. BWSR academy to take place Oct 29-31st.
- Technical Report
 - Monnens gave update on drainage water mgmt projects in the works with some large (180 & 200 acre treatment area) projects being noted . Fall seeding has about 450 acres signed up. Current JD tractor has been sold, but a replacement is in order. 3 RIM inspections remain. Monnens will work with Swart to complete AIS report and annual plan.
- Admin Report
 - Schicker reported on SWCD staff working with committee planning landscaping at new county building. Update on Pollinator Pathways grant- runs through Dec 2026, working with Grace Lutheran Church to install projects yet this fall, and plan through winter. 2025 Earth Day will host kick off event for resident participation.
 - MaCroatt reported on successes from Env Fair, with almost \$6,000 donations received locally. Thank you cards to go out. Audit is final stages, waiting to hear back from auditor before final submission.

Old Business: *none*

New Business:

- MASWCD Resolutions: discussion with staff and board on various resolutions, votes due online by Nov 1st.

Personnel: *None*

Calendar of Events:

Retreat discussed briefly- good timeline Jan/Feb. November meeting starts with 10 am meeting time.

October 14	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
November	YM 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
November 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
November 28&29	Thanksgiving & Friday (Office Closed)
December 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting



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December 24

Christmas Eve (Office Closed at Noon)

December 25

Christmas (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Weber declared the meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

Amy Bacigalupo

November 14, 2024

Approved

Date

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