



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 September 8, 2022

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, September 8, 2022, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present: Danny Larson, Mike Croatt, and Daryl Schutte, Amy Bacigalupo and Rosemary Weber. SWCD Staff present: Maria Croatt (MaCroatt), Quintin Peterson and Rhyan Schicker. Chairman Weber welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

Agenda:

Bacigalupo added reviewing the Lqp-YB River Watershed Joint Powers Collaboration to New Business, letter D, and then made a motion to approve the Agenda. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the Minutes from the August 11, 2022 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 August checks #7968 through #7969 from the United Prairie account and August checks #13171 through #13177 from the Old National account. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

MaCroatt presented the opportunity to join the chamber to be involved in the community with upcoming park projects. Larson made a motion to approve the joining of the Madison Chamber of Commerce. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share:
 - Bjornson cost share not available
- Well Sealing:
 - Well Sealing Payments: *None*

Correspondence: *none*

Reports:

- Reports:

- Supervisor Reports: *None*
- Partner Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Kara Fairchild not present, Staff noted they are looking at adding a Soil Conservation Technician to the office.
 - BWSR: *None*
- Technical Reports:
 - Area Technical Training was held at Carmen Fernholz' on Organic Farms, 20 area technicians were in attendance
 - Tree planting is in high demand following the May storms, already have a list of customers to plant trees for, prior years at this time there was few to none
 - Would like to explore the addition of a Technician, especially in regards to the 1W1P project in the near future
- Admin Report:
 - LqP County Fair starts today, booth is setup, giving away pollinator seed packets, coupons for free trees with playing Plinko habitat game, and advertising for Tree Day
 - Tree Day September 15th at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room for those interested in 2023 spring planting
 - Contest on Facebook to win a Engel Cooler-Like, Share, Post
 - Verizon charges to be looked into to see if we can lessen that monthly cost

Old Business:

- LqP-YB Governance: Bacigalupo stated there was a Policy meeting held on August 21st, they didn't have quorum so they did not approve governance. Next meeting September 21st. She would like input from the board to take back to this meeting. Special Meeting September 16 to discuss additional input.

New Business:

- CD renewal – Two CD's renewing this month at .60% and .25% at Bellingham State Bank, higher interest at other area banks, review and discussed going to where a better interest rate can be obtained while staying at banks we already have accounts at.
- October meeting date – Re-instated holding October 13th Board Meeting at Annex, County Multi-Media Room
- Updated bank accounts – Added Peterson, Removed Frahm, documents ready to sign
- LqP-YB Joint Collaboration – Discussion on members of committees from staff of SWCD and where replacements were needed in Frahm's absence. Bacigalupo made motion to approve appointing Peterson to the Policy Committee and Schicker to the Steering Committee, Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Further discussion on agreement to continue at Special Board meeting September 16. (Correction as of 9/12/22 email from Tyler Knutson: "...to clarify on the phone that the policy committee is made up of elected and appointed officials (one SWCD Supervisor from each, one county commissioner from each, one area 2 rep, and one watershed district manager). Currently, you are the LQP SWCD rep and Chairperson of the Policy Committee. Many of the staff (steering committee) sit in on the policy meetings for support. As we discussed, I'll keep both Quintin and Rhyan on all steering committee communications. All steering committee members are included on both advisory and policy communications as well. This way, the staff of each partner is in the loop with everything going on.")
- Insurance – Discussed the status of the insurance claim on the Tree Building, MaCroatt stated that she understood Frahm indicated the building was insured incorrectly and we would only be receiving approximately \$300. MaCroatt would check on and discuss and adjust with the renewal in October.

Personnel:

- Hiring update No additional applications received to date. Meeting with Personnel committee to distribute duties amongst remaining staff. Update to board at Special meeting September 16.

Calendar of Events

September 16 Special Board Meeting to discuss 1W1P Joint Collaboration & Personnel Hiring update

September 21	LqP-YB Policy Committee Meeting
October 10	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
October 13	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 26	LqP-YB Policy Committee Meeting
November 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting and retreat (1/2 day session) 10:00
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
November 17	MASWCD Southwest Area 5 Meeting
November 24	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
December 8	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
December 12-14	MASWCD Annual Convention & Trade Show
December 23	Christmas Eve Observed (Office Closed at Noon)
December 26	Christmas Observed (Office Closed)
December 28	LqP-YB Policy Committee Meeting

The SWCD Board of Supervisors meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month beginning at 10:00 (Nov - April) and 8:00 (May - October). All Regular SWCD board meetings will be held at the Annex through January 2023.

Adjourn: With no further business, Weber declared the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Amy Bacigalupo

10/13/2022

Approved

Date

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