



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Ave South, Suite 1, Madison, MN 56256
(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 December 9, 2021

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, December 9, 2021, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Amy Bacigalupo, Dan Larson. Absent: Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Chessa Frahm, and Sheri Laechelt. Absent: Quintin Peterson and Rhyan Schicker. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. Chairman Croatt welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Hendrickson was recognized with rolls and coffee/juice for his 34 years of service with NRCS.

Agenda:

Weber 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 November, 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. Larson made a motion to approve for payment November checks #7943 through #7947 from the United Prairie account. November checks, #13060 through #13072 from the Old National account. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Weber made a motion to approve the November 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:
 - Well Sealing Completion: Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the following Well Sealing payments. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>CS Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WS 2021-06	2021	Holen, Terry	\$500.00
WS 2021-07	2021	Holen, Terry	\$500.00

Correspondence:

- Area 5 Meeting: Minutes and Treasurer Report from the Area 5 Meeting.
- NCPP: Local Work Group Update

Reports:

- Supervisor Report: Croatt reported on the 1W1P meeting held on November 8.

- Partner Agencies:
 - NRCS: To view Hendrickson’s report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*
- Technical Report:
 - Technicians are attending the Conservation Champions grant training.
- Admin Report:
 - Attended the Career Fair at Ridgewater College in hopes of recruiting an intern.
 - Completed staff performance reviews.
 - YM 1W1P meeting was held, Croatt covered in his report.
 - LqP 1W1P meeting will be held in Dawson on December 22.
 - Working on Job Description updates.
 - Attended the Area 5 meeting.
 - Worked on the NCPP newsletter.
 - Would like to provide staff with a supplemental payment from the profits of the tree and drill program, will discuss additionally in the Personnel category.
 - Attended the LqP Watershed Board Meeting and Advisory Meeting.

Old Business: *None*

- Cost-Share Policy Update – Control of Land: After discussion, it was decided not to include the Control of Land portion in our policy at this time.

New Business:

- Approval of usual and ordinary bills: Larson made a motion to approve payment of usual and ordinary bills that may come due prior to the end of December. This will eliminate the need to call a special meeting for the sole purpose of authorizing payments. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel

- 2022 COLA and Step Increases: Larson made a motion to approve the 2022 COLA and Step Increases along with a supplemental payment of 25% from the tree and drill program profits for years 2020 and 2021. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Calendar of Events:

December 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 10 am
December 12	MASWCD Convention, Bloomington
December 22	Lac qui Parle 1W1P Policy Committee 1:00 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)
December 31	New Years Day Observed (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Croatt declared the meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Daryl Schutte

Approved

12/13/2022

Date

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

DC Report
December 9, 2021
Burton Hendrickson

Farm Program Update –

CSP – We got through the renewal applications assessment process, which is a lengthy and time consuming process, but we ended up with none getting funded for renewals. Our Team had none funded. It appears that only 9 or 10 total were funded in SW area. We are working hard trying to get the 2021 payment information reviewed and payments made if at all possible. Lots of scrambling going on as some need modification prior to payment etc. 2022 application period is still open for Classic CSP (That would be a new contract all together). We had been telling everyone that when a contract expires and is not refunded, they will have to wait 2 years to apply again with that land. This week the Chief waived that entire requirement for past and future signups.

EQIP – We have had some practices applied and are trying to get that reviewed and payments made. We have some 2022 applications to work on also. That cutoff for applications has passed, but people can still apply. Never know about second signups or even other types of possibilities coming up.

CCRP – We have had a few continuous CRP applications started over at FSA. At this time we have had little time to actually work on them, or look at what might be possible. It also sounds like FSA has been going through a review of CRP rental rates, and they may change a little in near future.

Administrative Items – Shantel Lozinski will be coming to Madison on occasion to help out after my planned retirement at the end of December. We will be getting her here at least a couple times before I leave to get her somewhat acclimated. Hopefully will not be too much of a mess for her to step into.

There is a job opening advertisement currently for the Madison and Ortonville locations, but there are a total of 18 positions involved in the one announcement. Looks to be open till December 20.

Upcoming Items – When my paperwork comes through December 31 will be my last day with NRCS, and since that will be the New Year's Holiday my last work day should be December 30. My goal when I came to Madison was to get things caught up, but after nearly 32 years I can't actually say that ever happened. Always something new or some new deadlines to meet. Guess I will be able to relax on some of that and someone else will have to pick up the pieces.