



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

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Minutes November 9, 2023

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, November 9, 2023, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present in person: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Amy Bacigalupo, and Daryl Schutte. Absent: Danny Larson. SWCD Staff present: Maria Croatt, and Quintin Peterson. Absent: Rhyan Schicker, and Jake Monnens. NRCS Staff present: Kara Fairchild. Pheasants Forever Staff Present: Kayla Chau. Chairman Weber welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Croatt made motion to approve the Minutes from the September 14, 2023 board meeting. Bacigalupo 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 September & October checks #8014 through #8028 from the United Prairie account and checks #13341 through #13364 from the Old National account. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Schutte made a motion to approve the October Treasurer's Report as presented. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
 - Contracts #2023-02 & 2023-03: Croatt made a motion to approve State Cost Share Contracts 2023-0 & 2023-03. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Water Plan:
 - WS 2023-08, 2023-09, and 2023-10: Croatt made a motion to approve Well Sealing Contracts WS 2023-08, 2023-09, and 2023-10. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Pictures of 2023 Projects: Tabled to December
- Area 5 meeting 11-16-2023: Croatt will check and on availability, Schicker stated prior to meeting she will attend. RSVP for two.
- YM-1W1P: Croatt is unavailable for in Minneota 11-13-2023, someone from the office will attend.

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report
 - Peterson reported wrapping up projects.

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.

- Bacigalupo reported meeting held 10-11-23, approving funds, met new employee at Watershed office, new maps available for distribution, future funding discussed, planning money left over being used for maps and tracking software, additional funds from BWSR for 1W1P discussion on setting a cap on cover crop contracts, next meeting is January 10, 2023.
- Supervisor Report:
 - *None*
- Partner Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Fairchild reported CSP deadline is January 12, 2024, EQIP 75%, not 50% for 2024, 5 years instead of 3, no wetland person in Marshall yet, no new Farm Bill Yet, CSP payments are being paid, she will attend MASWCD Convention in December.
 - BWSR: *None*
 - Pheasants Forever: Chau reported working on Easement Enhancement with two applications being submitted, open November 1 through December 15.
- Technical Report
 - Peterson reported that they are working fall seeding, 230 acres to date on six plantings; attended BWSR academy-classes on Drone use, culvert issues, and 1W1P planning; Presented at the Environmental fair; Working on planning projects for 2024.
- Admin Report
 - MaCroatt reported attendance at BWSR academy, Schicker's report as attached, Peterson reported on tree planter, new fabric machine, cover crop seed sales, seeding planter.

Old Business:

- *None*

New Business:

- Logo creation value, donation to Alexandria Tech School: Discussion held, Croatt made a motion to approve sending a \$1,000 donation for the logo creation. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Outstanding Conservationist: Discussion was held, Nathan & Dana Buer selected.

Personnel:

- Sick & Safe Time requirement January 1, 2024: Discussion, revised Employee handbook to be approved at January 2024 meeting.

Calendar of Events:

Retreat: Discussion, Thursday February 8th, daylong retreat to be planned.

November 13	YM 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
November 23&24	Thanksgiving & Friday (Office Closed)
December 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
December 25	Christmas (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Weber declared the meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Michael Croatt

Approved

12-14-2023

Date

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