



Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

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(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 August 12, 2021

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, August 12, 2021, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Dan Larson, Daryl Schutte and Amy Bacigalupo. SWCD Staff present: Chessa Frahm and Sheri Laechelt. Absent: Rhyan Schicker and Quintin Peterson. NRCS Staff present: Burt Hendrickson. Chairman Croatt welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Agenda:

Weber made a motion to approve the Agenda. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the Minutes from the July, 2021 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. Bacigalupo made a motion to approve for payment July checks #7932 through #7937 from the United Prairie account. July checks, #13016 through #13023 from the Old National account. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program: *None*
- Water Plan:
 - Well Sealing Completion: Schutte made a motion to approve the following Well Sealing payment. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

<u>Contract #</u>	<u>CS Year</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WS 2021-03	2021	Karels, George	\$450.00

Correspondence:

- MASWCD Per Diem Rate Update

Reports:

- Supervisor Report: *None*
- Partner Agencies:
 - NRCS: To view Hendrickson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*
- Technical Report: To view Peterson's report, *see attachment at end of minutes.*

- Admin Report:
 - We will have a booth and will do live presentations on Thursday and Friday of the County Fair.
 - Coordinated the Local Workgroup Meeting with NRCS via Zoom.
 - Had our employee appreciation day at the County Park, picked up garbage and then lunch together and the rest of the afternoon off.
 - Will present the 2022 Budget to the commissioners next week.
 - Peterson and Frahm assisted at the Area 5 & 6 booth during Farmfest.
 - The YM 1W1P Biennial Summit was held with agency and public attendees.
 - Participated in the NACD meeting held in Chicago.
 - Laechelt reported that the 2020 Financial Audit has been completed with no significant findings, final approval will be made after it has been sent to the State Auditor for review.

Old Business: *None*

New Business:

- October Meeting Date: Weber made a motion to combine the October and November board meetings to be held on November 4 due to a MCIT meeting schedule for October 9 and a holiday on November 11. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- 2020 Audit: Schutte made a motion to approve sending the 2020 audit off to the State Auditor for review. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel: *None*

Calendar of Events:

August 25	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
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
October 27	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
November 11	Regular Board meeting – Will Reschedule
November 25	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
December 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting 10 am
December 22	Lac qui Parle Policy Committee 1:00 pm
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Croatt declared the meeting adjourned at 9:01 a.m.

Danny Larson

Approved

9/9/2021

Date

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

Technician Report
August 12, 2021
Quintin Peterson

Sorry I am unable to attend today. I have a field day with the Minnesota Soil Health Coalition out on A-Frame Farm this morning. I will be running the rainfall simulator with soil samples from five different fields to demonstrate water infiltration and runoff. I will also be conducting a slake test to demonstrate the stability of soil when exposed to rapid moisture and after that, we will be visiting a sunflower field with a soil pit to look at soil structure, soil horizons and cover crop plant roots.

This past month I have been working on easement site evaluations, soil health testing, Kernza field day, state cost share cover crop program, Florida Creek restoration project, attend a field day and a training on cover crops in Rock County as well as some planning with landowners on upcoming projects for this fall and next spring.

I hope all is well and hope to see you soon.

DC Report
August 12, 2021
Burton Hendrickson

Farm Program Update –

EQIP/CSP – We did get 4 CSP contracts all obligated in Lac qui Parle. It looks like we will have several potential renewals that we will be working on after doing the screening workload tool.

CRP – This has been a big rush the past couple weeks with trying to get a bunch of contracts/plan developed and signed by FSA deadline. The CRP1 and CRP 2 (FSA contracts) have to be signed by Friday the 13th for this year. Have a few last minute ones that still need signatures. We do have more time to get the plans signed if we need it and back to FSA. The drought has opened up CRP to options to hay or graze, but when Lac qui Parle was listed as reaching D3 drought status in at least part of the county just before the first of August the rules changed significantly. Suddenly not all practices were eligible for emergency hay/graze, and those that were now have 50% limit of acreage that can be done. We have so far processed 57 modification on CRP contracts to do some sort of either emergency or non-emergency haying. There is a reduction in payment on acres hayed under the non-emergency option.

1026s- We have some statewide training coming up on how we are to process 1026's and what the local field office roles are in the wetland process.

Administrative Items –

It has been so busy I can't even remember if you have been told, but we do have a new NRCS staff person working here in Madison now. Ryan Riebel has started work here as a Soil Conservationist. I have pretty much thrown him into the fire with some of the stuff I have been having him do.