



**PENNINGTON SWCD BOARD MEETING  
(USDA/SWCD Conference Room)**

**June 20, 2024**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Supervisors Present:**

ADawn Nelson, Vice Chair

Kevin Wilde, Secretary

Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer

Ricky Peterson, PR

**Staff Present:**

Donna Christianson, District Coordinator

Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist

Erika Olson, Resource Technician

Marisa Newton, Outreach Coordinator

Kyle Dahlquist, Conservation Corps Apprentice

Nico Bennett, NRCS

Taylor Leback, Farm Bill Biologist

**Absent:**

Linda Hanson, Chair

Peter Nelson, District Manager

Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician

Logan Handyside, Engineer

Justin Muller, Engineering Technician

**Guests:**

Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator arrived 10:26 am

Paige Burns, Pennington County Extension Intern arrived 10:26 am

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room. ADawn Nelson, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. ADawn completed roll call of supervisors and staff.

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin**, to approve the revised agenda. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Kevin** made a motion, seconded by **Ricky**, to approve the May 16, 2024, meeting minutes. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Donna presented the April financial report. **Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin**, to accept the April Financial Report. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Ricky**, to cash out the \$50,000.00 CD (30006076) with Border Bank that matures 07/07/2024 and open a new 12-month CD with Border Bank at an interest rate of 4.65%. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve payment of the following bills:

<b>Lake States Evergreen Co LLC</b>	<b>\$ 595.99</b>
<b>Detco Inc of Plainfield</b>	<b>\$ 319.00</b>
<b>School Specialty</b>	<b>\$ 314.90</b>
<b>Sjoberg’s Cable TV</b>	<b>\$ 66.95</b>
<b>Sorvig Family LLP</b>	<b>\$ 1,400.00</b>
<b>Area 1 MASWCD</b>	<b>\$ 150.00</b>
<b>Chase Card Service</b>	<b>\$ 1,624.20</b>
<b>Lakes Country Service Co-op</b>	<b>\$ 467.69</b>
<b>Marco</b>	<b>\$ 64.84</b>
<b>Minnesota IT Services</b>	<b>\$ 59.79</b>
<b>Verizon</b>	<b>\$ 102.68</b>
<b>AC Analytical &amp; Consulting</b>	<b>\$ 1,680.00</b>
<b>TRF Times</b>	<b>\$ 112.08</b>
<b>Frontier Precision</b>	<b>\$ 41,675.79</b>
<b>Roseau SWCD</b>	<b>\$ 1,128.00</b>
<b>Agassiz Seed</b>	<b>\$ 8,625.00</b>
<b>Pennington County Fair Assn</b>	<b>\$ 158.00</b>
<b>Donald Dornbusch Northern Lath</b>	<b>\$ 322.00</b>
<b>MACDE</b>	<b>\$ 105.00</b>

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the JAA submitted by Bryanna for fence (382), pasture, and hayland planting (512) and prescribed grazing (528). **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Kevin** made a motion, seconded by **Ricky**, to allow Peter to request the \$80,000 Soil Health Delivery Grant. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** authorizing the District Manager to sign the Professional and Technical Services Contract with the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Natural Resources, for the monitoring of seven wells for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, when rates become available. **All in favor, motion carried.**

June 20, 2024, Minutes

Discussion took place regarding the 2024-2025 service agreement with Lakes Country Service Co-op agreement. Current monthly payments are \$467.69/month. The agreement contains an increase of \$178.79 starting July 1<sup>st</sup> bringing the new monthly total to 646.48. **Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the Lakes Country Service Co-op Agreement now but requested to look at other providers by September 1, 2024. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Sportsmen’s Club and Pennington SWCD for buckthorn management and removal. **All in favor, motion carried.**

The contract between Pennington SWCD and Conservation Corps for the buckthorn removal at the Sportsmen’s Club was reviewed. All duties are described in the MOA and the crew’s work will be paid through a CWF grant through the Conservation Corps. **Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Ricky** to approve the Conservation Corps Contract for Project Number 220-10629. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the 2024 fall Well Clinic to take place August 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, as well as continue with the 50% (\$15) cost-share to be paid by the District and remaining cost covered by the landowners. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve a \$40 admission fee that will cover any necessary materials and free meal for the upcoming Rain Barrel Workshop. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the purchase of 100 pocket calendars for 2025 at \$450. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the FY25 Local Partners Agreement with Pheasants Forever to utilize the services of the Farm Bill Biologist to help with District needs. The local contribution is \$6,500. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin**, to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River WBIF Cost-Share Contract:

**PSWCD\_RLRWBIF\_6            \$65,130.54**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River WBIF Cost-Share Contract:

**PSWCD\_RLRWBIF\_7            \$92,001.84**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

June 20, 2024, Minutes

**Greg** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin** to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River WBIF Cost-Share Contract:

**PSWCD\_RLRWBIF\_8            \$51,936.89**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

A discussion on the Local Work Group updates was held. Conservation concerns remain similar to previous years. Any changes made or proposed were considered and noted during the meeting. **Ricky** made a motion seconded by **Kevin** to approve the LWG updates. **All in favor, motion carried.**

Employee reports were available for review.

The NRCS report was available for review.

Grant Nelson's report was available for review.

The Board chose the "Falling Barn" photo as the June photo contest winner. The picture was taken by Maren Molskness.

Correspondence/Other:

- Area 1 Meeting Highlights from June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Pennington County Fair Booth, July 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>
- Thank you note from Barb Molskness.

The next Board meeting will be held at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be subject to call.

**Ricky** made a motion, seconded by **Kevin**, to adjourn. **All in favor, motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

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Kevin Wilde, Secretary