



**PENNINGTON SWCD BOARD MEETING  
(Held at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room and  
Via Zoom Video Conferencing)**

**February 16, 2023**

**9:00 A.M.**

**Supervisors Present:**

ADawn Nelson, Vice-Chair

Kevin Wilde, Secretary

Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer

Ricky Peterson, PR

**Staff Present:**

Peter Nelson, District Manager

Barb Molskness, District Coordinator

Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician

Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist

Erika Olson, Resource Technician

Donna Christianson, Outreach Coordinator

Logan Handyside, Engineer

Justin Muller, Engineering Technician

Micah Ranum, Farm Bill Biologist (via Zoom)

Nico Bennett, NRCS

**Guest:**

Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator

Waylon Hirst, County Resident (via Zoom)

**Absent:**

Linda Hanson, Chair

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room and via Zoom Video Conferencing. ADawn Nelson, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. ADawn completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff and welcomed guests.

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

**Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the January 19, 2023, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.**

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Barb reviewed the 2022 Annual Financial Report. **Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the unaudited 2022 Annual Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

Barb reviewed the January 2023 Financial Report. **Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the January 2023 Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

|                                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Sjoberg's</b>                  | <b>\$ 66.95</b>    |
| <b>Marco Technologies</b>         | <b>\$ 81.71</b>    |
| <b>Pennington County</b>          | <b>\$ 15.00</b>    |
| <b>Big John's Muffler</b>         | <b>\$ 852.50</b>   |
| <b>The Times</b>                  | <b>\$ 46.00</b>    |
| <b>Postmaster</b>                 | <b>\$ 126.00</b>   |
| <b>Chase Card Services</b>        | <b>\$ 810.37</b>   |
| <b>Office of MN IT Services</b>   | <b>\$ 62.88</b>    |
| <b>Verizon</b>                    | <b>\$ 75.52</b>    |
| <b>Lakes Country Service Coop</b> | <b>\$ 445.46</b>   |
| <b>RRVCSA</b>                     | <b>\$ 2,313.00</b> |
| <b>Johnson Oil</b>                | <b>\$ 28.76</b>    |

**All in favor, motion carried.**

Barb reviewed 2023 billing rates. **Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the 2023 billing rates retroactive to January 1, 2023, contingent upon BWSR approval. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to trade in the Trimble and purchase a new unit with accessories from Frontier Precision for the quoted price of \$27,045.00. The purchase is to be made with equipment funds received from the RRVCSA and placed on the north pod equipment list. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Ricky made a motion, seconded by Greg to purchase a 2020 Chevy Silverado 1500 double cab truck with running boards, a tow package, and new tires in the amount of \$33,500.00 plus tax, fees, and tunnel cover. The purchase is to be made with equipment funds received from the RRVCSA and placed on the north pod equipment list. All in favor, motion carried.**

Peter presented a comparison of rental rates other SWCD's and agencies were paying for their office space. Pat Gerszewski's proposed new building rent for the district ranks highest on the list. After some discussion, the Board asked Peter to:

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1. Check if the county has space the district could rent or rent to own. Invite Commissioner Neil Peterson or Commissioner Seth Nelson to attend the March Board meeting to discuss our space needs.
2. Revise the district budget to see what rental rate is affordable.
3. Talk to Pat Gerszewski about lowering the price per square foot and/or talk with him about other available options.
4. Stay current on legislation to move capacity funding from Clean Water Funds to the State's General Fund.

**Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River Watershed Based Implementation Funding Cost-share contract for the installation of three SWI's:**

**FY22\_RLRWBIF\_01\_PSWCD           \$ 9,450.00**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

Donna and Bryanna are excited to present this year's poster contest theme, "One Water," to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Goodridge, St. Bernard's, and St. John Schools. **Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to present awards to four poster contest winners (three \$50.00 individual winners and either a \$100.00 mural or a fourth \$50.00 individual winner). All in favor, motion carried.**

Bryanna went over options for AIS promotions this year. **Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to purchase 750 mini towels with the clips in the amount of \$1,234.91 and 1000 koozies in the amount of \$616.74. All in favor, motion carried.**

Larissa shared information regarding different options for native seed packets to give away as part of our 75<sup>th</sup> celebration. **Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to purchase 1,000 seed packets from MNL at a cost of \$.75 per packet. All in favor, motion carried.**

Seven pictures were submitted for February's photo contest. The Board chose the photo of snow laden evergreens submitted by Shayla Langlie as the winner.

Employee reports were reviewed.

NRCS report was reviewed.

Farm Bill Biologist Report was reviewed.

Grant Nelson reported on his current activities.

Erika showed the Board an example of the project fact sheet she has put together to keep folks abreast of the different projects that have been completed. The sheet contains

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pictures, information about the project, a location map, highlights, and funding sources.

The next Board meeting will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Venue to be determined.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

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Kevin Wilde, Secretary