



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

August 15, 2024

9:00 A.M.

Supervisors Present:

Linda Hanson, Chair
Kevin Wilde, Secretary
Ricky Peterson, PR

Staff Present:

Peter Nelson, District Manager
Donna Christianson, District Coordinator
Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist
Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician
Erika Olson, Resource Technician
Marisa Newton, Outreach Coordinator
Matt Sorvig, Conservation Technician
Logan Handyside, Engineer
Justin Muller, Engineering Technician

Absent:

ADawn Nelson, Vice Chair
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer
Kyle Dahlquist, Conservation Corps Apprentice
Thane Espe, NRCS
Taylor Lebeck, Pheasants Forever

Guests:

Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator
Matt Fischer, BWSR
Gabe Okins, Soil Health Coordinator
Travis Nelson, Red Lake County SWCD
Bradley Molskness, Long Lake Conservation Camper

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room. Linda Hanson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Linda completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff.

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

Bradley Molskness spoke on his experience at Long Lake Conservation Camp in Palisade, MN.

The second Long Lake Conservation Camp scholarship winner, Fia Olson, was unable to attend but submitted a video for the Board to view.

Kevin made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to approve the July 18, 2024, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Donna presented the April, May, June & July financial reports. Kevin made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to accept all Financial Reports. All in favor, motion carried.

Kevin made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to roll over CD (30006184) that matures 08/22/2024 to a new 12-month CD with Border Bank at 4.65%. All in favor, motion carried.

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

Wade Joppru	\$ 950.00
Sjoberg's	\$ 216.95
School Specialty	\$ 360.50
The Shop – Auto Repair	\$ 2,855.02
Chase Card Service	\$ 2,522.58
Lakes Country Service Co-op	\$ 646.48
Lakes Country Service Co-op	\$ 155.44
Office of MNIT Services	\$ 59.51
Marco	\$ 50.38
Verizon	\$ 142.13
RMB Labs	\$ 1,442.10
Pheasants Forever	\$ 6,500.00
Long Lake Conservation Camp	\$ 999.90
April Ballard	\$ 300.00
Northern Motors	\$ 90.88
The Piggy BBQ	\$ 240.47
School Specialty	\$ 192.88

All in favor, motion carried.

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The 2025 proposed budget was reviewed & discussed. Kevin made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the 2025 proposed budget. All in favor, motion carried.

Matt Fischer gave an overview of the 2024 Legislative Session.

- The Request for Proposal is open for Clean Water Fund (CWF) grants and includes categories for projects and practices, accelerated implementation, drinking water, and multipurpose drainage management. There were legislative changes to WCA that apply NRCS Wetland Determinations for agricultural exemptions (drainage) on prior converted land.

Soil Health staff, Gabe Okins (Shared Soil Health for the North Pod) and Travis Nelson (Red Lake County SWCD Conservation Technician), introduced the new Soil Health partnership.

The 2024 SWCD Aid Resolution was presented and discussed. Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the 2024 SWCD Aid Resolution. All in favor, motion carried.

Kevin made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve District staff to attend BWSR Academy October 29-31. All in favor, motion carried.

Kevin & Beth Ballard were selected as the 2024 Rural Beautification winners.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin to authorize the District Manager to enter into the Soil Health Delivery Grant in the amount of \$80,000. All in favor, motion carried.

Employee reports were reviewed.

Ag Services Report was reviewed.

“Northern Lights” was voted as the August photo contest winner. The photo was taken by Katherine Dietsch.

A supervisor will assist with vehicle shopping for a North Pod pickup for the Engineer. The maximum approved amount is \$45,000.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

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The next board meeting will be held at the SWCD/USDA conference room on September 19, 2024, at 9:00 am.

Kevin Wilde, Secretary