



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

**August 18, 2022  
9:00 A.M.**

**Supervisors Present:**

Ricky Peterson, Chair  
Linda Hanson, Vice-Chair  
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer  
Kevin Wilde, PR

**Staff Present:**

Peter Nelson, District Manager  
Barb Molskness, District Coordinator  
Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician  
Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist  
Donna Christianson, Outreach Coordinator  
Jill Fejszes, Farm Bill Biologist  
Nico Bennett, NRCS

**Guest:**

Bennett and Maverick Iverson  
Pat Gerszewski, Western Professional Building  
Logan Handyside, TSA Engineer

**Absent:**

ADawn Nelson, Secretary

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room and via Zoom Video Conferencing. Ricky Peterson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Ricky completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff and welcomed guests.

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

Bennett and Maverick Iverson reported on the activities they took part in at Long Lake Conservation Camp. They thanked the Board for sponsoring them.

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Pat Gerszewski, owner of the Western Professional Building, presented revised building plans to the Board. Pat proposed a package deal of 2,900 square feet of office space and 2,400 square feet of garage space at a rental cost of \$22 - \$26 per square foot. Before the September Board Meeting, Pat will contact NRCS about the proposed remodel and addition. District staff was asked to review the plans and present their thoughts as to the preferred layout of the building. Peter will pencil out a closer estimate of garage space needed.

**Greg made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the July 21, 2022, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

Rates were reviewed for the CD that matured at Northern State Bank on 8/17/22. **Greg made a motion, seconded by Kevin to roll over the CD ending in #7952 at a 12-month rate of .9%. All in favor, motion carried.**

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

<b>Sjoberg's</b>	<b>\$ 66.95</b>
<b>RRVCSA</b>	<b>\$ 580.10</b>
<b>Baker Street</b>	<b>\$ 242.00</b>
<b>Chase Card Services</b>	<b>\$ 750.45</b>
<b>April Ballard</b>	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
<b>Verizon</b>	<b>\$ 75.52</b>
<b>Houston Engineering</b>	<b>\$ 877.50</b>
<b>Braun Intertec</b>	<b>\$ 6,665.75</b>
<b>Braun Intertec</b>	<b>\$ 4,733.75</b>
<b>Office of MN IT Services</b>	<b>\$ 61.04</b>
<b>Times</b>	<b>\$ 309.50</b>

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to update the Rates and Practices paragraphs on the Pennington SWCD Conservation Delivery (State Cost-Share Program) Policy to read:**

**Erosion Control Practice (Item A, Sentence 2)**

**Maximum of 50% cost-share on the replacement of a failing Surface Water Inlet (SWI).**

**Well Sealing (Item B, Sentence 2)**

**The District manager is authorized to enter into contracts of \$750 or less per well with one acceptable bid.**

**Other (Item D, Sentences 1 and 2)**

**Field windbreaks are a priority practice for Pennington SWCD. If approved, the maximum rate of 75% will be shared.**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Kevin made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the following percent-based SSTS Upgrade Grant contract for a mound system:**

**SSTS FY21-01    \$11,190.00**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Linda made a motion, seconded by Kevin to pay the following percent-based SSTS Upgrade Grant contract for a mound system:**

**SSTS FY20-03    \$11,340.00**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to pay the following percent-based State Cost-Share contract for a well sealing:**

**FY22-03    \$375.00**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg made motion, seconded by Kevin to approve the following percent-based Red Lake River Watershed Based Implementation Funding contract for a grade stabilization structure:**

**FY20\_RLRWBIF\_03\_PSWCD                    \$3,150.00**

**All in favor, motion carried.**

**Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda approving Larissa to attend Wetland Delineation Training in Bemidji with an overnight stay on October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Linda made a motion, seconded by Greg authorizing the staff to attend BWSR Academy at Cragun's Resort on October 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> with approval from the District Manager. All in favor, motion carried.**

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Peter reported the first applicant contacted for the Resource Technician position declined the offer. An offer was then made to the second applicant, and she accepted. **Linda made a motion, seconded by Kevin to hire Erika Olson as the new Resource Technician starting September 5, 2023, at a regular full-time status rate pay of \$20.00 per hour. All in favor, motion carried.**

Peter reviewed the proposed 2023 budget with the Board. **Motion by Greg, seconded by Linda to approve the proposed 2023 Budget with an additional \$10,000.00 revenue for hosting the RRVCSA. All in favor, motion carried.**

Two photos were submitted for the August photo contest. The first photo was submitted by Cheryl Scott of a duck family. The second photo was a detailed moon picture submitted by Tabitha Stasik. After some discussion, the Board voted for Tabitha Stasik's photo as the winner. Tabitha will receive a gift card and her photo will be entered in a grand prize drawing held in October.

Employee reports were reviewed.

NRCS report was reviewed.

Logan Handyside, TSA Engineer, reported on the projects he is currently working on.

#### Correspondence

- Activity report from Grant Nelson, Pennington County Ag Services/Solid Waste Coordinator
- Thank you notes from the Bennett and Maverick Iverson

The next Board meeting will be held on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Venue and time to be determined.

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

The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

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ADawn Nelson, Secretary