



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

December 23, 2025

9:00 A.M.

Supervisors Present:

Kevin Wilde, Chair
Ricky Peterson, Vice Chair
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer
Tom Wold, Secretary
Linda Hanson, Public Relations

Staff Present:

Peter Nelson, District Manager
Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician
Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist
Marisa Newton, Outreach Coordinator
Logan Handyside, Engineer
Justin Muller, Engineering Technician
Nico Bennett, NRCS District Conservationist

Absent:

Matt Sorvig, Conservation Technician
Taylor Leback, PF Farm Bill Biologist
Kari Moyer, District Coordinator

Guests:

Grant Nelson, Pennington County Ag Coordinator (via Teams)
Nate Dalager, HDR
Jeff Brouse, Pennington County Resident
Representative John Burkel
Senator Mark Johnson

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room. Kevin Wilde, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Kevin completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff.

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

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda, to approve the November 20, 2025, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the November 2025 financial report. All in favor, motion carried.

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

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Chase Card Service | \$3,692.09 |
| Hensch's Septic Service LLC | \$750.00 |
| Lakes Country Service Co | \$759.04 |
| Marco | \$45.15 |
| MASWCD | \$300.00 |
| Office of MNIT Services | \$59.38 |
| Sjobergs | \$66.95 |
| Times | \$771.00 |
| Verizon | \$136.96 |

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the side-water inlet cost-share payment;
FY24CC_06 \$6,219.90

All in favor, motion carried.

Tom made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve streambank stabilization cost-share payment;

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| PSWCD_RLRWBIF_14 | \$38,672.00 |
|------------------|-------------|

All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the weed management cost-share payment;

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| WMFY22_08 | \$500.00 |
|-----------|----------|

All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the weed management cost-share payment;

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| WMFY22_09 | \$487.50 |
|-----------|----------|

All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Tom to approve the following contract cancellations;

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| FY22_RLRWBIF_01_PSWCD | \$9,450.00 |
| WMFY22_07 | \$500.00 |
| WMFY22_10 | \$500.00 |
| PSWCD_TRWBIF_01 | \$13,125.00 |

All in favor, motion carried.

Nate Dalager reviewed the HDR Project Proposal and Jeff Brouse (landowner) expressed his concerns with the eroding bank. Tom made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the HDR streambank project proposal for engineering services. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the contract amendment extending the deadline to December 31, 2026, and increasing the cost-share amount from \$11,036.52 to the following;

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| PSWCD_RLRWBIF_15 | \$14,396.28 |
|------------------|-------------|

All in favor, motion carried.

North Pod staff gave an update to the legislators on completed and upcoming projects.

Senator Mark Johnson and Representative John Burkel gave an update on the current and upcoming legislative sessions.

The proposed wage increases were reviewed and discussed. Tom made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the proposed wage increases. All in favor, motion carried.

The MN Paid Leave contribution paid by the District will be 0.66% rather than the shown 0.88%.

The Assistant District Manager job description and posting was discussed. Ricky made a motion, seconded by Tom to approve the job description and posting for the Assistant District Manager. All in favor, motion carried.

Truck bids were reviewed for the 1996 Dodge Ram. Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to accept the highest bid of \$2,400. All in favor motion carried.

Bids were reviewed for the 2007 Ford F-150. Greg made a motion, seconded by Tom to accept the highest bid of \$555.55. All in favor motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the 2026 Tree and Shrub prices. All in favor motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Tom to approve the 2026 Native Plant sale prices. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Tom to approve the 2026 Franklin Middle School Science Fair award of \$50. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve a travel expense reimbursement of \$500 to our 2025 Outstanding Conservationist. All in favor, motion carried.

An overview of the 2025 MASWCD Annual Convention was given.

The 2026 annual planning meeting was set for Tuesday, February 3rd. All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Tom to set the 2026 monthly board meetings for every third Thursday at 9:00 am. All in favor, motion carried.

Beginning in 2026 staff will have the option to attend full or partial board meeting depending on workload and agenda items pertaining to their position.

Reports reviewed include those submitted by; District employees, NRCS District Conservationist, Pheasants Forever, and the Pennington County Ag Coordinator.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:19 pm.

The next board meeting will be held at the Pennington SWCD conference room on Thursday, January 15, 2025, at 9:00.



Tom Wold, Secretary