



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

July 16, 2026

9:00 A.M.

Supervisors Present:

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

Staff Present:

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

Guests:

Randy Knott, HDR Engineering
Amber Vareberg, Landowner

Absent:

Tom Wold, Secretary
Matt Sorvig, Conservation Technician
Logan Handyside, Engineer
Taylor Leback, PF Farm Bill Biologist

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Conference Room. Kevin Wilde, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. Kevin completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff.

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

Linda made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to approve the June 22, 2026, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the June 2026 financial report. All in favor, motion carried.

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

Sjobergs	\$66.95
Boots & Bubbles	\$180.00
Chase Card Services	\$3,670.21
Lakes Country Service Coop	\$270.00
Lakes Country Service Coop	\$804.58
Marco	\$75.72
Myron Promos	\$307.99
Office of MNIT Services	\$59.38
Tree World	\$539.49
USP	\$125.00
Verizon	\$109.72
Vonnie's Kitchen	\$420.00

All in favor, motion carried.

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

PSWCD_TRWBIF_03	\$28,454.00
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All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to approve the RCPP pasture and hay planting cost-share payment;

113-1-3	\$19,999.98
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All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky, to approve the RCPP pasture and hay planting cost-share payment;

113-1-6	\$19,999.98
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All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Linda, to approve the RCPP pasture and hay planting cost-share payment;

113-1-9	\$8,592.48
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All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the RCPP pasture and hay planting cost-share payment;

113-1-11 \$19,999.98

All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Linda to approve the RCPP pasture and hay planting cost-share payment;

113-1-12/2-1 \$11,068.20

All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the well sealing cost-share payment for two wells;

PSWCD_RLRWBIF_17 \$1,575.00

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Linda, to approve the septic upgrade cost-share contract;

SSTS_FY26_02 \$4,850.00

All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the Clearwater WBIF cover crop cost-share contract pending all signatures;

PSWCD_CRWBIF_1 \$20,000.00

All in favor, motion carried.

Amber Vareberg (landowner) presented ongoing septic issues on her property. The board discussed the matter and noted that additional information from the MPCA is needed before the matter can be considered further. The noncompliance issue lies between the landowner and the County, with the upgrade grant lying between the landowner and the SWCD.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the Data Practices Policy renewal, contingent on review by the County Attorney. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve one staff member to attend the Data Practices Seminar in St. Cloud on August 19, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Linda made a motion, seconded by Ricky to select Josh and Michelle Skalsky as the Pennington SWCD Outstanding Conservationist for 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky to approve the submittal of Red Lake River Watershed Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan resolution to BWSR. All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Linda to allow the District Manager to approve contracts for non-structural land management practices through October 15, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

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

The next board meeting will be held at the Pennington SWCD conference room on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 9:00 am.

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:14 pm.



Tom Wold, Secretary