



**PENNINGTON SWCD BOARD MEETING
(USDA/SWCD Conference Room)
JANUARY 16, 2025
9:00 A.M.**

Supervisors Present:

Linda Hanson, Chair
Tom Wold, Secretary
Kevin Wilde, Secretary
Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer
Ricky Peterson, PR

Staff Present:

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

Guests:

Grant Nelson, Ag. Services Coordinator

Absent:

Nico Bennett, NRCS District Conservationist
Taylor Leback, Pheasants Forever

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.

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

Tom Wold (District 1), Greg Hilgeman (District 5), and Linda Hanson (District 4), took the oath of office and were sworn in.

All in favor, motion carried.

Greg made a motion seconded by Kevin to pay;
2025 Area 1 MASWCD Dues \$300.00
All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion seconded by Kevin to pay;
2025 NACDE Membership Dues \$90.00
All in favor, motion carried.

Kevin made a motion seconded by Ricky to pay;
2025 MACDE Membership Dues \$225.00
All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion seconded by Kevin to pay;
2025 NACD Gold Membership Dues \$775.00
All in favor, motion carried.

Peter explained the FY22 State Cost Share has expired and the grant balance of \$414.50 must be returned to BWSR. Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky. All in favor, motion carried.

Peter presented the Houston Engineering Agreement for the engineering staff to receive CAD Training not to exceed \$6,240 or 30 hours of training in 2025. Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin. All in favor, motion carried.

Peter presented the RCPP soil health funding request will be available soon. Each eligible SWCD is able to request \$150,000 RCPP funds for soil health practices and an additional \$30,000 from BWSR. Peter recommended to request the full soil health funding amount. Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky. All in favor, motion carried.

Larissa has spoken with MNDNR to create an agreement for Walk In Access (WIA) within Pennington County. Greg made a motion, seconded by Kevin to approve Pennington SWCD to administer the WIA program. All in favor, motion carried.

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Greg to hold the spring well clinic March 31 – April 3. Bacteria and Nitrate kits will be \$30 per kit with \$15 paid by the landowner and \$15 paid by the district. Arsenic kits will also be available for \$30 total with the district covering \$5 of that cost and the landowner \$25. It was discussed to request funding from neighboring districts for out of county participants. It was agreed that Pennington SWCD would cover the cost-share expense for all participants if the neighboring SWCDs didn't agree to provide cost-share. All in favor, motion carried.

“Frosty Full Moon” was voted as the 2024 Annual photo contest winner. The photo was the March photo contest winner taken by Andrea Bak.

Employee reports were reviewed.

NRCS report was reviewed.

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

The Board received a thank you card from Tom and Barb Molskness for their rain monitor gift.

The meeting adjourned at 11:42 am.

The next board meeting will be held at the SWCD/USDA conference room on February 20, 2025, at 9:00 am.



Tom Wold, Secretary