



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

April 20, 2023

9:00 A.M.

Supervisors Present:

Linda Hanson, Chair

Kevin Wilde, Secretary

Greg Hilgeman, Treasurer

Ricky Peterson, PR

Staff Present:

Peter Nelson, District Manager

Barb Molskness, District Coordinator

Bryanna Grefthen, Water Resource Specialist

Larissa Fitzgerald, District Technician

Erika Olson, Resource Technician

Donna Christianson, Outreach Coordinator

Logan Handyside, Engineer

Justin Muller, Engineering Technician

Micah Ranum, Farm Bill Biologist

Nico Bennett, NRCS

Guest:

Grant Nelson, Ag Services Coordinator

Absent:

ADawn Nelson, Vice-Chair

The meeting was held at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room and via Zoom Video Conferencing. Kevin Wilde, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. Kevin completed a roll call of all supervisors and staff and welcomed guests.

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

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the March 16, 2023, meeting minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Linda Hanson, Chair, arrived and led the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

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Barb reviewed the March 2023 Financial Report. **Kevin made a motion, seconded by Greg to approve the March 2023 Financial Report. All in favor, motion carried.**

Barb reported the signature card and the wording on the CD ending in #0344 at Northern Bank have been changed so only two authorized signatures are needed. Greg needs to initial the change at the bank.

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

Sjoberg's	\$ 66.95
Marco Technologies	\$ 91.15
Minnesota Native Landscapes	\$ 615.00
Legacy Center	\$ 1,744.16
Printing Plus	\$ 2,189.00
Greenworld Project	\$ 508.66
Verizon	\$ 75.52
Universal Screenprint	\$ 742.50
Robin Hood Business Services	\$ 197.50
The Times	\$ 162.29
Chase Card Services	\$ 1,830.74
Red Canoe	\$ 500.00
Upland Advertising	\$ 250.00
Pennington County	\$ 463.62
NACD	\$ 775.00
Barb Molskness	\$ 10.73

All in favor, motion carried.

Peter reviewed changes to the Pennington SWCD Non-Structural Land Management Program Policy. Three of the higher priority changes include:

1. Switching contract length to a minimum of one year and maximum of three years with the maximum number of contracts not to exceed six years in length.
2. Increasing the cover crop species payment rates.
3. Removing the paragraph delegating the District Manger to sign contracts and supporting documentation. That will be the responsibility of the Board.

Greg made a motion, seconded by Ricky approving the requested changes in the Pennington SWCD Non-Structural Land Management Program Policy. All in favor, motion carried.

Larissa stated the city of Thief River Falls does not have staff trained to administer the Wetland Conservation Act and the SWCD staff has been administering WCA for the city. Currently, there is no formal resolution or agreement between the city and SWCD to administer WCA. The Board agreed a formal agreement, or resolution, needs to be

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established between the city of Thief River Falls and the SWCD for administration of WCA. **Ricky made a motion, seconded by Greg to pursue a resolution between the city of the Thief River Falls and Pennington SWCD to administer WCA within city limits and charge billable rates for the service. If the city does not agree, BWSR involvement may be required. All in favor, motion carried.**

Motion by Ricky, seconded by Kevin approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the Pennington SWCD and the Pennington County Sportsmen's Club for a Conservation Corps crew to remove buckthorn at the Pennington County Sportsmen's Club site. The project is funded by a Clean Water Fund Grant. All in favor, motion carried.

Two potential Long Lake campers' paragraphs were read to the Board. **Motion by Kevin, seconded by Greg to sponsor Owen Ranum and Jace Sands at Long Lake Conservation Camp on July 9-14. All in favor, motion carried.**

Ricky made a motion, seconded by Kevin approving the NRCS Agreement for four computer seats and the telephone systems. All in favor, motion carried.

Employee reports were available for review.

NRCS report was available for review.

Farm Bill Biologist report was available for review.

Grant Nelson's report was available for review.

Three pictures were submitted for April's photo contest. The Board chose the photo of the northern lights submitted by Miranda Carlson as the winner.

Correspondence – A letter from BWSR congratulating Pennington SWCD on their 75th Anniversary.

The next Board meeting will be held subject to call at the USDA/SWCD Meeting Room on May 18th at 9:00 a.m.

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Kevin Wilde, Secretary