



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE

Todd County

• MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

215 1st Avenue South, Suite 104

Long Prairie, MN 56347

Phone: 320-732-2644 Fax: 320-732-4803

Minutes from the July 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Chairperson Wendel called the Thursday, July 10, 2025 meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was held in person at the Historic Courthouse in the Commissioner's Board room located at 215 1st Ave S, STE 104, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call for Introductions.

Board members present in person were: Wayne Wendel, Barb James, Tom Williamson and Larry Bebus.

Absent: Dale Katterhagen.

Others present in person were: Deja Anton, District Manager, Sarah Katterhagen, Program Coordinator, Dylan Pratt, Conservation Technician, Josh Votruba, Conservation Technician, Alyssa Scheve, Conservation Technician, Jessica Moore, Conservation Technician, Luke Thoma, NRCS, Alex Fellbaum, FSA, Bob Byers, County Commissioner, Tim Denny, County Commissioner and Darren Mayers, Board Conservationist.

Mayers joined the meeting at 8:36 a.m.

Wendel asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Williamson made a motion, seconded by Bebus to accept the revised agenda for the regular July 10, 2025 meeting.

2.2. Remove – Director's Report

2.12. Add – Attributes of Exceptional Boards

5.2. Add – or to be determined by the board

5.3. Add on – JV Feeder (Joe Varner) request for partial payment

6.2. Add on – Approval to continue contracting with West Central Technical Service Ara for Todd SWCD to Nutrient Management Planning services for Area 2

6.3. Add on – Approve Letter of Support as a partner in the Mississippi River Brainerd Watershed collaborative in partnering to host the We are Water MN traveling exhibit in Little Falls.

7.1. Remove – Update on the RCPP Soil Health Funding

Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve the minutes as distributed from the June 12, 2025 regular board meeting. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Wendel asked the board to review June 2025 Treasurer's Report. James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to accept June's 2025 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$8,048 and disbursements totaling \$65,580.34. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Wendel called for conflict of interest. None was reported.



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Mayers entered the meeting at 8:36 a.m.

Celebrations: The board celebrated a well attended 2025 Summer Conservation Tour and Welcomed Jessica Moore. Moore introduced herself.

Reports:

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Byers reported County Finance committee is reviewing budgets. Commissioner Denny reported he heard the Conservation Bus Tour was a success.

Director Report: No report.

SWCD Manager Report: See printed report that was provided at the meeting for more details. Anton reviewed the different projects that have complications, she has been attending various meetings and working on reporting.

Staff Updates: Anton reported Pratt has been busy reviewing a feedlot permit, attending trainings and worked the fair booth. Anton reported Scheve has been busy with meetings, trainings, planning outreach events and worked the fair booth. Anton reported Votruba had one non-compliant buffer; which now is in compliance with the buffer law, and worked one WCA notice. Anton reported Christiansen is attending trainings, worked the fair booth and reported there is one WCA violation. Anton reported Moore is attending trainings and site visits with the technicians.

Staff Visual Report: S. Katterhagen presented her visual report. S. Katterhagen highlighted on top of handling Todd SWCD financials and all the grant tracking she also coordinates and participates in a lot of outreach events.

NRCS Report: Thoma reported EQIP deadline is earlier for applicant ranking and the budget is tight for funding. NRCS is also is busy with conducting field visits.

FSA Report: Fellbaum informed the board he started in Todd County in January. He reported FSA is busy with administrating FSA programs. On Thursdays the loan program committee is in the Long Prairie office.

1W1P- Sauk River Report: No report. Williamson noted he did attend the JD2 planning meeting in Osakis.

1W1P Red Eye Report: No report.

1W1P Long Prairie Report: No report.

1W1P Crow Wing Report: No report.

1W1P Mississippi Brainerd Report: No report.

BWSR Report: Mayers gave a presentation on Attributes of Exceptional Boards.



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1. Work as Team
2. Roles and Responsibilities
3. Board and Staff Relationships
4. Effective Meetings
5. Accountability
6. Continue learning and development

Fellbaum left the meeting at 9:23 a.m.

Decisions needed for encumbering cost share funds:

Williamson made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C25-0310 Crow Wing WBIF cost share funds for Derek Wiese, C#20250710-3.1 in the amount of \$973.50 for a cover crop project. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C24-0198 Mississippi River Brainerd WBIF cost share funds for Jason Zander, C#20250710-3.2 in the amount of \$20,115 for a shoreline protection project. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Decisions needed for cost share contract amendments: No amendment request.

Decision needed for payment of cost share funds:

Bebus made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment of C24-0198 Mississippi River Brainerd WBIF cost share funds for David Sternitzke and Edna Pampy, C#20250508-3.4 in the amount of \$4,884 for a critical area planting project. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by James to approve partial payment of C22-7830 Red Eye WBIF 2.0 cost share funds for Jeremy Arvidson, C#20240314-3.9 in the amount of \$17,437.50 for a pit closure project.

Board discussion: The board discussed the partial payment. If the landowner doesn't complete the seeding he will need to pay back his partial payment as the seeding was part of the plan. Pratt informed the board the seed has been purchased, just waiting for the rain to stop.

Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve partial payment of FY2025 Riparian Aid cost share funds for JV Feeders (Joe Varner), C#20250313-3.3, in the amount of \$44,216.15 for an ag waste project. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Commissioner Denny left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Pratt, Votruba, Scheve and Moore left the meeting at 10:02 a.m.



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Decisions needed for operations:

The board reviewed the resolution accepting delegation of the Wetland Conservation Program from Todd County. The board tabled the resolution. Board requested to add a procedure on how to discontinue the resolution per the recommendation of Anton.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve agreement with West Central Technical Service Area for Todd SWCD to provide Nutrient Management Planning services for Area 2 in returned for reimbursement of services rendered from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by James to approve letter of support from Todd SWCD as partner in the Mississippi River Brainerd Watershed Collaborative in partnering with the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, Morrison SWCD, the Mississippi River Sartell Watershed Collaborative and Great River Arts to host the We are Water MN traveling exhibit. Affirmative: Wendel, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Discussion Items:

Update on RCPP Soil Health funding was removed from the agenda.

Update from the AREA II Meeting that was held on June 25, 2025: In the future there will be limited BWSR competitive grant funds to apply for, AIS funding will be cut in the future, soil health delivery funds will be coming soon and SWCD AID funding will be reduced.

Board discussed the MASWCD resolution process. Board consensus they would like Anton (manager) to summarize MASWCD resolutions for the board when it comes time for them to vote.

The board nominated Katterhagen to attend the Long Prairie Lions Club meeting on Monday, July 28, 2025 to request donation for Enviro Fest.

Informational:

The project status report was provided at the meeting.

Soil and Water participates in open-mic the 2nd Friday of each month.

The Future of Tillage a strip till event will be held on August 19, 2025.

SWCD Governance 101 training will be held September 10 & 11, 2025 at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud, MN. Bebus will be attending the event.

Enviro Fest will be held on Thursday, September 18, 2025.



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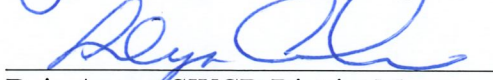
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The next scheduled meeting for the Todd SWCD Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, August 14, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. at Historic Courthouse at 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

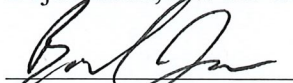
Chairperson Wendel adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.


Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Prepare

8-14-25
Date


Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager

8-14-25
Date


Barb James, Secretary

8-14-25
Date