



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 August 14, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

Chairperson Wendel called the Thursday, August 14, 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, Dale Katterhagen, Barb James, Tom Williamson and Larry Bebus.

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

Wendel asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to accept the revised agenda for the regular August 14, 2025 meeting.

3.11. Remove Mayer Request

7.3. Add on Supervisor Article about Enviro Fest.

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

Bebus made a motion, seconded by James to approve the minutes as distributed from the July 10, 2025 regular board meeting. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Wendel asked the board to review July 2025 Treasurer's Report. James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to accept July's 2025 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$239,751.35 and disbursements totaling \$104,090.81. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Wendel called for conflict of interest. None was reported.

Reports:

Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Denny reported the County finance team is reviewing budgets. Commissioner Byers reported the County hired an Attorney to help with Planning and Zoning violations.

Director Report: Ossefoort reported he is looking forward to working with the Commissioners and new Attorney on the Planning and Zoning violations. The Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment have been



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busy. Lake Osakis area is looking at a centralized septic system. The comprehensive plan meeting was rescheduled.

Staff Visual Report: Pratt presented his visual report. See his visual report for photos. He has been busy with attending Cover Crop workshops, helping with tree planter logistics and attended the SWCD Conservation tour.

Manager Report Staff Accomplishments: Anton reported S. Katterhagen attended BWSR's Grants Administration Manuel (GAM) training, prepared the advertisements for the Nitrate Clinic open house, worked with MIS on creating a Tree Planter calendar for scheduling, and is sending out second notices for feedlot registrations.

Anton reported Christiansen is busy working on Easements, Julig's exclusion fencing project, spot checks, tree planter logistics, observation well monitoring program, and attended a field windbreak training.

Anton reported Votruba attended the Lake Beauty Association meeting, attended a cover crop workshop and working on easement spot checks.

Anton reported Moore has been shadowing staff and attending trainings.

Anton reported Pratt has been busy reviewing a feedlot permit, attending trainings and workshops.

Anton reported Scheve has been working with MAWQCP (Ag Water program) producers, assisted with the Villard Soil Health event with MN Soil Health Coalition, on the radio show, working on easements and attending trainings.

SWCD Manager Report: See printed report that was provided in the board packet. Anton also did a mid-year review of the 2025 Plan of Action. See PowerPoint for more details.

NRCS Report: Thoma reported NRCS is working on CSP and EQIP requests and 1026 requests (Wetland). Anton shared an article about NRCS just funding alfalfa. Thoma reported it would have to be new to the crop rotation and would have to showing water quality improvement.

FSA Report: No report.

1W1P- Sauk River Report: No report. An upcoming policy meeting on August 21, 2025.

1W1P Red Eye Report: Anton informed board there will be a Fall policy meeting.

1W1P Long Prairie Report: The policy meeting was moved to November and all the CRRP incentive funds have been encumbered.

1W1P Crow Wing Report: No report.

1W1P Mississippi Brainerd Report: No report.



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BWSR Report: Mayers reported RCPP funding will be released soon. Mayers gave a presentation on board vacancies.

Decisions needed for encumbering cost share funds:

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C22-7830 Red Eye WBIF cost share funds for Alexis Hughes, C#20250814-3.1 in the amount of \$468.75 for a well sealing project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering FY23 Long Prairie LCCMR cost share funds for Batts, C#20250814-3.2 in the amount of \$1,200 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering FY23 Long Prairie LCCMR cost share funds for Fritz, C#20250814-3.3 in the amount of \$592.50 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering FY24 Conservation Contracts cost share funds for Ron Pallow, C#20250814-3.4 in the amount of \$1,125 for a well sealing project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve encumbering C24-0088 Sauk River WBIF cost share funds in the amount of \$5,625, FY24 Conservation Contracts cost share funds in the amount of \$1,653.38 and Feedlot Performance funds in the amount of \$6,025.82 for a total of \$13,304.20 cost share fund for James Julig, C#20250814-3.5 for a fencing project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Byers left the meeting 9:34 a.m.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering C24-0088 Sauk River WBIF cost share funds for Brunn, C#20250814-3.6 in the amount of \$16,275 for a shoreline stabilization project.

Discussion: Board would like to staff to remind the landowners that the original plan was for a rock channel.

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

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C24-0088 Sauk River WBIF cost share funds for Kyle and Joelle Anderson, C#20250814-3.7 in the amount of \$18,633.15 for a shoreline stabilization project pending Sauk River 1W1P steering committee determination. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C25-0169 Swan Phosphorus cost share funds for Big Swan Lake Association, C#20250814-3.8 in the amount of \$463,608 for two phase Alum Treatment project.



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Discussion: The cost share rate is at 90% per a board policy resolution specifically for the C25-0169 Swan Phosphorus grant.

Mayers shared a 3 min YouTube video on Alum Treatment project by Isanti SWCD. The video was called "Blue Lake Alum Treatment".

Board asked if there are predetermined areas that get treated. Anton responded treatment happens in the deepest parts of the lake.

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

Thoma left the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering P25-0471 Long Prairie CRP Incentive in the amount of \$1,914.14 and C25-0196 Long Prairie WBIF cost share funds in the amount of \$5,505.86 for a total of \$7,420 for Mark Zastrow, C#20250814-3.9 for a CRP incentive project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering F23 Long Prairie LCCMR cost share for John Houle, C#20250814-3.10 in the amount of \$1,200 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Mayer project was removed from the agenda.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering FY25 Soil Health cost share funds for David Rach, C#20250814-3.12 in the amount of \$680.40 for a cover crop project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering C24-0198 Mississippi Brainerd WBIF cost share funds for Greg Hulinsky, C#20250814-3.13 in the amount of \$1,128.19 for a cover crop project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering C24-0198 Mississippi Brainerd WBIF cost share funds for Rick Baum, JR, C#20250814-3.14 in the amount of \$1,302.54 for a cover crop project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve encumbering C25-0118 Red Eye WBIF cost share funds for Jacob Colby, C#20250814-3.15 in the amount of \$870 for a cover crop project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Byers rejoined the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Paul Cebulla request for cost share funds for a cover crop project will be funded through the new RCPP Soil Health grant pending grant information.



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Decisions needed for cost share contract amendments:

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve amendment request for additional feedlot performance cost share funds from Mark and Lou Ann Thielen in the amount of \$391.48 for a pit closure project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Decision needed for payment of cost share funds:

James made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve payment request of C23-3483 Long Prairie WBIF cost share fund in the amount of \$13,837.31 and feedlot performance funds in the amount of \$391.48 for a total of \$14,228.79 for Mark and Lou Ann Thielen, C#05.08.2025-3.3 for a pit closure project. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Bebus made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve payment request of C24-0088 Sauk River WBIF cost share funds for Aaron and Amy Lindquist, C#2024.09.12-3.3 in the amount of \$23,120.21 for a shoreline restoration project.

Discussion: Parts of the work completed were outside of the scope of the plan, and were not eligible for cost share funds.

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

Katterhagen made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment request of C24 Crow Wing WBIF cost share funds for Anthony Murch in the amount of \$1,200 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded to Williamson to approve payment request of Feedlot Performance funds for Jeremy and Hope Middendorf, 2024.11.14 in the amount of \$1,125 for a pit investigation. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.

Byers, Denny, Pratt, Votruba, Christiansen, Scheve and Moore left the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Decisions needed for operations:

Bebus made a motion, seconded by James to approve A Resolution Regarding the Administration of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, R#20250814-6.1.

Discussion: This resolution was tabled in July to added termination verbiage.

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

Anton presented the Shoreline Landowner Checklist for board awareness purposes.

James made a motion, seconded by Katterhagen to approve the updated Tennessen Warning to include partnering entities. Affirmative: Wendel, Katterhagen, James, Williamson and Bebus. Motion Carried.



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Discussion Items:

Anton provided the board a draft copy of the 2026 Budget for Soil and Water. Anton will meet with the SWCD finance committee to review the budget, will bring back at the September board meeting and will look for final approval in October.

The board reviewed the tree rental agreement. Rental will begin September 1, 2025.

Anton would like a Supervisor to write an article about Enviro Fest. The article would be due September 24, 2025.

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.

The Soil Health and Grazing event on Lake Latimer will be on September 25, 2025.

The FY2026 Ob Well Grant agreement was signed and approved on July 7, 2025 in the amount of \$6,240.

The FY2026 Soil Health Grant was signed by the Manager on August 5, 2025 in the amount of \$180,000. The grant agreement is pending BWSR signature.

Manager had a phone discussion with the Chair on June 12, 2025 to encumber Crow Wing WBIF cost share funds for Anthony Murch's in the amount of \$1,200 for Forest Stewardship plan.

The Manager approved the use of Feedlot Performance funds for Jeremy and Hope Middendorf for a Pit Investigation project in October 2024.

The next scheduled meeting for the Todd SWCD Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. at Historic Courthouse at 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Chairperson Wendel adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.



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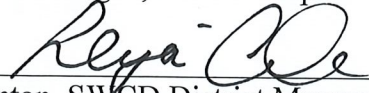
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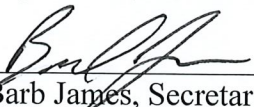
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Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Prepare



Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager



Barb James, Secretary

9/11/2025
Date

9/11/25
Date

9-11-25
Date