



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 July 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

The meeting was held in person at Todd County Historic Courthouse, Commissioner's Board Room, located at 215 1st Ave S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Chairperson Katterhagen called the Thursday, July 9, 2026 meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call for Introductions.

Board members present were: Dale Katterhagen, Barb James, Larry Bebus and Wayne Wendel.

Absent: Tom Williamson.

Others present were: Adam Ossefoort (Division Director), Deja Anton (District Manager), Sarah Katterhagen (Program Coordinator), Josh Votruba (Conservation Technician), Alyssa Scheve (Conservation Technician), Jessica Moore (Conservation Technician), Luke Thoma (NRCS), and Bob Byers (Todd County Commissioner).

Approval of Agenda: Katterhagen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. James made a motion, seconded by Bebus, to accept the revised agenda with the following changes:

- 3.2 Remove John Berscheit Request
- 3.3 Remove Wettstein request
- 3.5 Remove P26-0058 Soil Health practice payment requests

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Wendel made a motion, seconded by James, to approve the June 11, 2026 regular board meeting minutes as distributed. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Wendel made a motion, seconded by Bebus, to accept the June 2026 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$170,702.03 and disbursements totaling \$188,685.44.

Discussion: S. Katterhagen reviewed the revenues and disbursements.

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Call for Conflict of Interest: No conflict of interest was reported.

Celebrations: Darlene Drayna retired from NRCS on June 30, 2026. The Local Work Group tour was a success. Anton summarized comments from Brett Arne with BWSR and comments received from the attendees. A total of 45 people participated in the Local Work Group.



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Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Byers reported the County is holding department budget meetings and County will be reducing vehicles in the fleet. Board of Commissioners recently voted no on a solar panel request. Byers also noted that Kwik Trip will be doing a traffic study in Long Prairie.

Director Report: Ossefoort reported the Planning Commission has recommended creating an interim moratorium ordinance on data centers. There has been discussion around allowing cargo containers in shoreland and creating standards. Discussed the County septic loan program for replacing failed septic systems. Land use permits are down from 199 last year to 186 this year. Septic permits are down from 55 last year to 36 this year.

SWCD Manager Report: Anton provided the board with a copy of her staff report. Available upon request.

Staff Visual Report: Scheve reviewed her visual report for the board.

Report on Staff Accomplishments: Individual staff reports were pulled up on the screen for the board to review. No comments or questions were asked.

NRCS Report: Thoma reported their office will miss Drayna's knowledge and expertise. Brandon Defore, a Soil Scientist, will be housed in the local NRCS office. NRCS is working on wrapping up obligations and has received a request for irrigation upgrade.

FSA Report: No report.

1W1P Reports:

- **Sauk River Report:** No decisions were made at the previous meeting.
- **Red Eye Report:** No report.
- **Long Prairie Report:** Upcoming policy meeting on July 16, 2026 and pontoon tour on July 29, 2026.
- **Crow Wing Report:** No update.
- **Mississippi Brainerd Report:** No update.

BWSR Report: No report.

Decisions needed for encumbering cost share funds

Bebus made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering C24-0129 Mississippi Brainerd funds for Joan and Gary Roering, C#20260709-3.1 in the amount of \$23,728.31 for an erosion control project.

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

John Berscheit request for funding was removed.

James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering FY25 & FY26 Soil Health Delivery funds for JCP Farms, C#20260709-3.3 in the amount of \$24,029.53 for a cover crop project. Affirmative:

Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Wettstein request for funding was removed.



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Soil Health payment requests were removed.

Decisions needed for cost share contract amendments

Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to approve amendment request for additional cost share funds for Eliazar and Esmeralda, C#20260514-3.7 in the amount of \$1,738.50 for a new total of \$27,786.75 for a pit closure project.

Discussion: In reviewing the minutes and presentation from May's meeting the board did approve the amount of \$28,653.08, however the original contract was not modified to reflect that amount. The amendment is needed as the contract does not reflect the amount that was approved.

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Decision needed for payment of cost share funds

James made a motion, seconded by Wendel to approve payment of FY26/27 conservation contracts to Eliazar and Esmeralda Estrada, C#20260514-3.7 in the amount of \$27,786.75 for a pit closure project. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Wendel to approve payment of FY23 Long Prairie LCCMR funds to Renneberg Hardwoods, C#2026.03.12-3.10 in the amount of \$525 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Decisions needed for operations

Board consensus to submit landowner nominations for the Forest Stewardship and MN Community Conservationist Award.

Votruba, Scheve, Moore and Byers left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion items

Discussion on non-contiguous FSP parcels and current FSP Policy of max of \$1,200: Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to continue bringing unique FSP requests to a board meeting when they come up. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Bebus and Wendel. Motion carried.

Discussion on project amendments – such as increase in fuel price: Contractors and landowners need to continue to inform the SWCD immediately of any changes to the plan and estimates. Board consensus to continue bringing each increase request and modification request to the board meeting.

Discussion on rock size and type of rock for shoreline projects: Type of rock and size is determined by the engineering design.



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2026 Plan of Action accomplishments to date: Anton reviewed the handout that was provided to the board. Presentation is available upon request.

Contracts and documents approved by the Chair

None.

Informational

Radio Show: Broadcasts continue every second Friday of the month. Friday, July 10, 2026 show was cancelled due to scheduling conflict at the radio station.

DNR Ob Well Grant: DNR Ob well grant agreement was signed by Anton on June 16, 2026 in the amount of \$6,960. The grant agreement is in effect from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

MASWCD Annual Convention: MASWCD Annual Convention is December 1 & 2, 2026

August Meeting: Anton will be out of office.

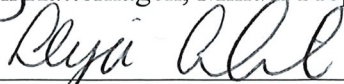
Project Status Update: The project report was provided to the board at the meeting.

SWCD Budget Meeting: Anton will contact Wendel and Bebus to schedule a 2027 budget meeting.

The next meeting scheduled for the Todd SWCD Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will take place at the Historic Courthouse in the Commissioner's Board Room located at 215 1st Avenue South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

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


Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Preparer


Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager


Tom Williamson, Secretary

8-13-26
Date

8-17-26
Date

8/18/26
Date