



# Waseca Soil and Water Conservation District

300 North State Street

Waseca, MN 56093

507-835-0603

[www.wasecaswcd.org](http://www.wasecaswcd.org)

Approved minutes of the Waseca SWCD Board of Supervisors Meeting February 9, 2023

The Meeting of the Waseca County Board of Supervisors that was held at the Waseca County SWCD Office Area, 300 North State Street, Waseca. The February 9, 2023 Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wayne Cords at 6:30 pm.

### Members Present

Wayne Cords, Chairman  
Larry Muff, Vice Chairman  
Keith Morgan, Treasurer  
Matt Sommers, Secretary  
Gregg Rosenthal, member

### Staff Present

Mark Schaetzke, District Manager  
Joe Edel, District Technician  
Cheri Brummund, Admin Asst

### Others Present

Mallory Malecek, NRCS District Conservationist - Waseca  
Michael Johnson, Waseca County Administrator  
De Malterer, Waseca County Commissioner  
Doug Christopherson, Waseca County Commissioner  
Haley Byron, Waseca County Water Resource Specialist  
Chris Howard, Waseca County Drainage Management Coordinator

### **Review of the January Agenda**

Larry Muff made a motion to approve agenda and Gregg Rosenthal seconded. All-Yes.

### **Consent Agenda**

1. January Minutes
2. Treasurers Report
3. Approval of Bills
4. Other

Larry Muff made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Gregg Rosenthal seconded. All-Yes.

### **Old Business:**

1. Le Sueur 1W1P 60 day comment-Noted
2. Other

### **New Business:**

1. Approval of Le Sueur 1W1P Grant Disbursement (November Bills):

Inv Date	Invoice #	Invoice Amount	10% Payment withheld	Disbursement Amount	Partner
<b>December 2022</b>					
11/30/2022	Inv#87981	\$ 17,450.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 15,705.00	ISG-Nov Bill
12/31/2022	Inv#88645	\$ 380.00	\$ 38.00	\$ 342.00	ISG-Dec Bill
1/9/2023	12-2022-WSWCD	\$ 162.30		\$ 162.30	Waseca SWCD
1/11/2023	12-2022-WC	\$ 309.01		\$ 309.01	Waseca County

Larry Muff made a motion to approve payments and Gregg Rosenthal seconded. All-Yes.

2. Le Sueur 1W1P
  - a. Review of the Joint Powers Agreement-Collaboration Agreement-Review and discussion of agreement was held.
  - b. Contract for the Pemberton Plaza for Public Hearing-Matt Sommers made a motion to approve payment of Pemberton Plaza for Public Hearing, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
3. Amendment to Buffer Memorandum of Understanding with Waseca County-Chris Howard explained some changes to the Memorandum. After clarifications of Keith Morgan made a motion to approve the memorandum and Matt Sommers seconded. All-Yes.
4. RIM Work Order 81-03-18-01 request for payment \$2,000. Matt Sommers made a motion to approve and Gregg Rosenthal seconded. All-Yes
5. RIM Work Order 81-03-20-01 request for payment \$2,000. Matt Sommers made a motion to approve and Larry Muff seconded. All-Yes
6. **WCA-moved to #6 due to time.** Commissioner Doug Christopherson explained that due to Haley Byron leaving the Waseca County Water Planner position, Waseca County would like to enter into an agreement with the SWCD to take over WCA responsibilities. Wayne Cords made a motion to approve for a limited time of a year and then relook at possibilities, Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
7. Bulldog Clay Target Club Sponsorship \$250-no motion, no action
8. Tree days-Hot Chocolate and cookies for Open House \$30-\$40 maybe add drawing for a tree?- Matt Sommers made a motion to approve expenses and tree drawing, Gregg Rosenthal seconded. All-Yes.
9. Fair Booth – with Planning & Zoning/Waseca County CERT/Waseca County Public Health-Michael Johnson indicated that Soil and Water could share booth with other county departments and would cover the cost for this year. Matt Sommers made a motion to have a fair booth this year with Waseca County and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes.
10. Pheasants Forever Banquet, Saturday March 4, at the Mill – Gold Sponsorship \$275. Larry Muff made a motion to approve sponsorship and Matt Sommers seconded. All-Yes
11. Promotion items for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – ideas – Frisbees, Keychains, and Flashlights. Wayne would also like to have some coffee mugs made with 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on.
12. FYI-CRP Contribution Agreement – MASWCD-noted
13. **Other-WCA-Added by Commissioner Doug Christopherson was moved to #6 due to time.**

#### **Supervisor Reports:**

1. None

#### **Agency Reports:**

1. Haley Byron, Waseca County Water Resource Specialist-Announced that she will be leaving Waseca County and beginning a new position with the DNR out of New Ulm. She stated that Rachel would be taking over the Day to Day until her replacement is hired. She also spoke briefly on the CRJP and WCA.
2. Chris Howard spoke of inspections and Determinations, Weed Harvesting on Clear Lake, Moonan Marsh interest.
3. Mallory Malecek, NRCS District Conservationist explained the EQIP Inflation Reduction Act, Flood Reduction Meeting and also looking to set up LWG Meeting for the area instead of one per County. She also stated that there are presently 13 Ranked EQIP Contracts, CSP 3 Applications (with a goal of 5) and CRP-36 contracts expiring this year and 32 contracts expiring in 2025.

#### **Staff Reports:**

1. Cheri Brummund reported she has been working on state reports, year-end reports, payroll reports and looking for promotional items for giveaways this year for 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
2. Joe Edel reported that he has been learning about various items of the position including working on BuffCat.
3. Mark Schaezke went over his Manager's Report-(attached to minutes)

**Adjourn** –Matt Sommers made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Keith Morgan seconded. All-Yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 by Chairman Wayne Cords.

**Next Board Meeting Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm.**

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- February 21 Soil Health Workshop-Owatonna-Tory's Restaurant 8:30 Registration**
- March 3 Le Sueur 1W1P Policy Meeting, Waseca East Annex 10:00**
- March 7 Legislative Briefing-Radisson St. Paul Downtown 4:30**
- March 8 SWCD Day at the Capitol-open to schedule in person meetings with legislators**
- March 21 SCTSA Board Meeting, Mankato USDA Svc Center Conference Room, 10:00am**
- March 24 Le Sueur 1W1P Public Hearing and Policy Meeting, Pemberton Plaza, 5:00 pm**

**February Bills:**

Keen Bank	Joe-Cheri-Mark H S A (\$300.00 ea)		\$ 900.00
Bock's	Truck Gas		\$ -
South Central TSA	FY23 NPEA & Enhanced Shared Services Grant Cash Match	Inv#354	\$ 3,550.00
			\$ 4,450.00

**Manager's Report – Feb 2023**

**1-25-2023 – MASWCD Legislative advocacy webinar**

Hosted by Sheila Vanney from MASWCD and Pierre Willette from Goff Public. Main effort will be to push for SWCD aid - \$22M/year from General fund which would replace the current capacity funds through the Clean Water Fund (CWF). We made progress on it last year, but bill never got passed. The governor's proposed budget has \$12M/year. With the large budget surplus now is a good time to get this passed. Next steps include MASWCD legislative day on March 7<sup>th</sup> and meeting with the two senators and three representatives that represent Waseca County.

**RIM 1W1P program announced.**

Brings flexibility of statewide RIM to 1W1P priorities and allows for greater prioritization of habitat benefits. Potential for non-cropland and priorities not focused on wetlands or buffers. If eligible for CREP they must apply for CREP.

**2-1-2023 Area VI Chair's meeting– virtual**

Discussed if we want 2 or 3 meetings a year. Tentative plan is to skip March meeting this year, June meeting hosted by Sibley, and November meeting. Brief discussion of 2024 budget and dues. Scholarship had three applicants. Discussed future of scholarship and how to get more interest. Discussed how to get more participation in area meetings and serve as area and state leaders.

**2-2-2023 – Young Farmer of the Year**

Participated in Waseca County Young farmer of the year committee. Reviewed eligible farmers under 40 years old. Would like some suggestions for Conservation minded farmers that I could recommend.

Criteria: Innovative methods used by farmer

Steps that show improvement in operation

Service to community, organizations, and conservation practices

Farm operator deriving at least 2/3 of their income from the farm

**Soil health workshop – Feb 21 – Torey's Owatonna**

Hope to see you all there.