Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District

122 8th Ave South, Madison, MN 56256
Phone: (320) 598-7321 Ext 3
Website: www.lacquiparleswcd.org

Minutes
November 14, 2024

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present in person: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Danny Larson, Amy Bacigalupo and Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Rhyan Schicker, Maria Croatt, Quintin Peterson and Jake Monnens. Absent: Noah Swart. NRCS Staff- Kara Ransom present. No Pheasants Forever Staff present. No BWSR staff present.

Chairman Weber welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Agenda:
Croatt made a motion to approve the Agenda as printed. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:
Croatt made motion to approve the Minutes from the October 10th, 2024, board meeting. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Open Gallery: (2 minutes per person/10 minutes total) - *None*
Conflict of Interest Declaration: - *None*

Treasurer's Report:
The checks were reviewed and discussed. Bacigalupo made a motion to approve for payment October checks #8086-8089 from the United Prairie account and checks #13499-13509 from the Old National account. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Larson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
  - SHD# 2024-06 & 2024-07 were presented for payment and discussed.
    - Croatt made a motion to approve payment for both contracts. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
  - CC# 2024-08 was presented and discussed.
    - Croatt made a motion to approve contract 2024-08. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried
- Water Plan:
  - WS #2024-11 was presented. Larson made motion to approve and pay out 2024-11. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence:

- Schicker reminded that the MASWCD State Annual Convention will be held December 2-4th, 2024.

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report

- Schicker reported that the new WBIFFY25 funding request had been approved with a starting balance of $1,228,526. We will now have two different grant cycles to work off of.
    - FY23 WBIF has completed 13 completed projects to date across 644 acres, reducing 7942 lbs Nitrogen/yr, 396 lbs Phosphorus/year and saving 1774 tons of sediment/year.
    - All projects have been uploaded into MS4Front- still a few kinks to work out with HEI from a software standpoint.

- Supervisor Report:
    - Croatt-Updated on YM 1w1p meeting: Area II working through new process of stream mitigation program, many unknowns with new program. Midpoint planning report presented- proposed outcomes have been met. Higher reductions seen from non-structural practices compared to structural. Very effective reductions seen on alternative tile intakes, very low reductions seen on buffer strips.
    - Bacigalupo reported on MPCA monitoring meeting and discussed process where supervisors, committee members can provide input on future monitoring locations. More info to be shared at future meetings.
- Agency Reports:
    - NRCS: Ransom- working on end of year payments. 4 CSP renewals funded with 75 applications in for next year. Wetland position in Marshall still waiting to be filled. No update on Farmbill.
    - Pheasants Forever:
        - MaCroatt reported that fire demonstration training Kayla hosted in October was well attended.
    - BWSR: Staff attended BWSR Academy and took a variety of training classes. Schicker reported that soil health implementation funding may arrive March 2025. BWSR has enhancement funding for eligible easements.
- Technical Report
    - Peterson gave recap of wetland restoration 2 part training attended at BWSR Academy. Updated that construction is almost done on Haas 1w1p WASCB project, likely to finish next week. Busy with seeding season and starting on tree plan designs for spring. Lots of cover crop certifications as multiple contracts installed covers this season, even with lack of rain most have begun germination.
- Admin Report
    - Schicker reported on continued work with committee at new county building-waiting on earth work to be finished to flag tree planting. Planted grass screen at GL Church with bee lawn to be broadcast by end of month. Presented at Kiwanis meeting on SWCD and Dawson pollinator pathways program. Met with Val on native planting at retention pond east of town in spring 2025 post dredging.
    - MaCroatt reported on classes taken at BWSR academy, end of season fall tree sale and trunk or treat in downtown Madison.

Old Business: *none*

New Business:

- Discussion held regarding refusal to pay from a SD resident who operates land in LqP county and has a two year old outstanding bill on tree purchase. Decision made to send another payment request, and keep outstanding balance on books. Individual will be required to pay prior to using SWCD services in the future.
- 2023 Audit approval- MaCroatt presented and discussed audit. Bacigalupo made motion to approve 2023 audit. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel: *None*

Calendar of Events:

Request made by Weber to send board packet out 1 week prior to meeting, Monday at the latest.

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November 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
November 28&29	Thanksgiving & Friday (Office Closed)
December 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed at Noon)
December 25	Christmas (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Weber declared the meeting adjourned at 11:27.

Daryl Schutte December 12, 2024

Approved Date

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

A conflict of interest, whether actual, potential or perceived, occurs when someone in a position of trust has competing professional or personal interests, and these competing interests make it difficult to fulfill professional duties impartially. Supervisors are asked to declare conflicts of interest they may have regarding today's business. Any member who declares a conflict of interest must not vote on that agenda item.