



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 February 26, 2024

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Monday, February 26, 2024, at the Annex, County Multi-Media Room. Board Supervisors present in person: Mike Croatt, Rosemary Weber, Daryl Schutte, and Danny Larson and Amy Bacigalupo. SWCD Staff present: Rhyan Schicker, Quintin Peterson, Maria Croatt, and Jake Monnens. NRCS Staff present: Kara Ransom. Pheasants Forever Staff: Kayla Chau. BWSR staff: Luke Olson, Board Conservationist. Chairman Weber welcomed everyone, and called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Following a correction made to remove “15. Presenters”, Croatt made motion to approve the Minutes from the January 11, 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. Croatt made a motion to approve for payment January checks (none) United Prairie account and checks #13399 through #13418 from the Old National account. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
 - Payments
 - Schutte made a motion to approve payments on State Cost Share Contracts as follows: 2022-01 \$7500.00, 2023-02 \$7494.36, 2023-03 \$5263.64, Croatt seconded. All in favor, motion carried.
- Water Plan:
 - Croatt made a motion to approve Well Sealing application WS 2024-02 in Mehurin Township. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: *None*

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report
 - Schicker reported on the Sub Committee meeting in January, ranking and scoring reviewed, farmer presented on project, discussion on funds going to structural and non-structural. Policy meeting in April, Subcommittee will meet before this Lincoln has one project to start in Spring 2024. Posture Cost-share opportunities discussed.
- Supervisor Report:
 - Croatt reported on YM 1W1P January 12, BWSR wants more documentation, need SWCD technicians to inform contractors, checklist developed, TSA will get bids instead of landowners, concerns on this out of area or non-compliant. Discussion on

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the next round of funds coming for structural and non-structural for both YMLqP and YBLqP 1W1P, cap per operator based on not to be used for equipment. Approved 3 non-structural contracts, one over cap to be reworked.

- Partner Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Ransom EQIP first round 4 applications funded, 2 beginning farmer, 1 grazing and 1 annual honey bee & not till cover crop. CSP had 75 applications in LqP County, prioritizing by application date, 16 too look at, 4 renewals, 1026 wetland questions still going through Marshall but behind 6-9 months.
 - Pheasants Forever: Chau reported CRP starting, concern about acre cap so there are batching periods. Planning to attend Wildlife Meeting in Bemidji.
 - BWSR: Luke Olson (in attendance, no presentation) reported money for soil health, staff, and cost-share Staff request was \$17 million which was greater than expected, state is determining what will be funded after reviewing applications. Discussion on multiple topics: CRP enhancement funds, CREP/RIM, Water Quality & Storage, Reporting, Caps on 1W1P, Soil Health and RCPP funds coming. Croatt inquired about trouble finding agronomists and Olson reported on possible options.
- Technical Report
 - Monnens reported there is 700 acres on schedule for Spring seeding, will not be taking any more, also do not plan to take anymore tree plantings for 2024.
 - Peterson reported on attending Area 5 meeting in MaCroatt. Discussed grant opportunities, flat rate contract training with area SWCDs, funding for JAA, options for reduction calculators, prep for upcoming 1W1P projects. Mentioned no Ice Fishing tournament this year due to weather (No AIS outreach).
- Admin Report
 - Schicker reported her continued attendance on Leadership Training, will meet with legislators to learn process of lobbying for grants – no specific lobbying. Attended Cattleman’s Banquet with office staff. BWSR Elink reporting completed.
 - MaCroatt reported on application for Private Well Grant. Samsung Tablets to be used for seeding and tree planting reports that will be submitted to the office immediately from the field for timely invoicing, among other uses. Planning to attend Shade Tree Course and Manager Meeting.

Old Business:

- Policy Adoption
 - Conservation Contracts (former Cost-Share) Policy- Discussion on including staff to approve internal approval with review at board meetings, Peterson/MaCroatt to review and add language. Table to next meeting.
 - Bacigalupo made motion to approve the 2023 Guideline on Use of SWCD Aid Payments. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Second Tractor Lease – Peterson presented Lease details from Midwest Machinery for second tractor lease under same rates (\$40/hour) as first, but with only 100 hours minimum. Tractor will be similar. Croatt made motion to lease second tractor from Midwest Machinery. Schutte seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

- Open Meeting Law: MaCroatt updated Open Meeting Law rules.

Personnel:

- *None*

Calendar of Events:

February 26	Regular SWCD Board Meeting & Board Retreat
February 19	Presidents Day (Office Closed)
March 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
March 18	Local Work Group Meeting



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April 10th	LqP-YB 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
April 11	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
May 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
May 27	Memorial Day (Office Closed)
June 13	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
June 19	Juneteenth (Office Closed)
July 4	Independence Day (Office Closed)
July 11	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
August	YM 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
August 8	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
September 2	Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 14	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
November	YM 1W1P Policy Committee Meeting
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
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 11:28 a.m. Board retreat to follow public meeting.

Dan Larson

4-11-2024

Approved

Date

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

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