



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
June 12th, 2025

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, June 12th, 2025, at The Multi Media Room/Annex. Board Supervisors present in person: Rosemary Weber, Danny Larson, Mike Croatt, Amy Bacigalupo and Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Maria Croatt, Noah Swart, Rhyan Schicker and Quintin Peterson. NRCS Staff present: Kara Ransom. Pheasants Forever Staff Absent. BWSR staff Luke Olson was present.

Chairman Weber welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:01 am.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Croatt made a motion to approve the Minutes from the May 8th, 2025, 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 May checks #8123-8132, from the United Prairie account and checks #13576-13589, from the Old National account. Larson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program: *none*
- Water Plan: *none*

Correspondence: *None*

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report:
 - Schicker reported no new updates, all non-contract acres are being entered in as match which will contribute to a good amount of the match needed. Large structural project is completed and as builds are complete, payment to be made to land owner next meeting.
- Supervisor Report: *None*
- Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Ransom reported CRP has open and closed, 2nd batch expected soon, rates are lower than expected. CSP is working on funds, Wetland department is in talks of

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.

splitting the state in half for staffing coverage, Local work group meeting to follow this meeting.

- Pheasants Forever: *none*
- BWSR: Luke Olson reported bills need to be signed and work through legislative process, Budget is quite a bit less, local SWCD funds down but not substantially, Clean Water Fund approved earlier and that should be the same, good outlook on funds. BWSR is reformatting the Grants Administration Manual (“GAM”), with policy changes to program specifics in attachments to GAM, instead of throughout.
- Technical Report
 - Peterson reported approximately 8 tree plantings and 400 acres seeded to date, on tract, helped put on and attend Field Day at Buers with a good turnout of 40 attendees, put on Day 2 of training CRP management with 28 staff attended at The Sticks.
 - Swart reported on tree plantings, meeting with Landowners, AIS program has handouts at Arties, Hardware Hank and Mitlings, Drone flying as requested including PBS special on the Pollinator Pathway program, and looking into flying at the Environmental Fair this fall. Repaired fabric machine.
- Admin Report
 - Schicker reported Dawson Pollinator Pathways progress with Grace Church, installment of garden at Rock Rapids park, Main street center Boulevards, interview and involvement in PBS special on project, and 20 residents signed up and will work with putting in natives as well as Dawson Chamber putting together native containers for businesses; plan to attend Riverfest, working on trees as needed, Local Work Group meeting, County Government building is waiting on dirt work to be completed.
 - MaCroatt reported on lease agreement with Paul E. Moriarty Living Trust was agreed to be a calendar year lease, so current least will go through December 31, 2025; assisting Yellow Medicine SWCD as needed, continuing to manage tree organization and inventory, helped with bringing Bio Dome to MMN and Stevens Elementary the last week of school, updated phone numbers on business signs.
 - MaCroatt brought discussion in on John Deere tractor lease for 2026, Midwest Machinery needs to have order in early with inventory lower than in prior years. Schutte made a motion to lease main tractor at same rate and hours requirement as this year from Midwest Machinery. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- a. Network Update: Morris Electronic staff was in on May 9th and finished install, laptop updates and phones. All is working well. Added an option to forward office phone to field phone when we are all out of the office.

New Business: *none*

Personnel:

- Advertised Conservation Technician position was open, received more than 20 applicants, top five were presented to Personnel Committee, they choose top three, two accepted interviews, offered to one, who accepted and starts on the June 23rd; comes with good experience.

Calendar of Events:

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June 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
June 12	Local Work Group Meeting (following Board Meeting)
June 13	Watershed Canoe Trip
June 19	Juneteenth (Office Closed)
July 4	Independence Day (Office Closed)



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July 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
July 18	Field day 3 of 3 with Russell Hedrick at Millers (Dawson)
August 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
September 2	Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 11	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 13	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)
November 13	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
November 27 & 28	Thanksgiving & Friday (Office Closed)
December 11	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 9:29am.

Amy Bacigalupo

July 10, 2025

Approved

Date

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