



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

March 12th, 2026

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday March 13th, 2026, at the Madison Mercantile. Board Supervisors present in person: Rose Weber, Danny Larson, Mike Croatt, Amy Bacigalupo. Absent: Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Rhyan Schicker, Noah Swart, Maria Croatt, Clayton Beck, absent: Quintin Peterson. Partner agencies: NRCS: Kara Ransom, PF: absent

Chairman Larson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Agenda:

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the Agenda with the addition of Conservation contract 2026-01. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Minutes:

Weber made a motion to approve the Minutes from the February 13th, 2026, 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*

Partner & Staff Reports

NRCS: Ransom reported that staff had been learning more about the new EQIP, CSP and RPP programs and that the agency was going to potentially begin hiring soon.

Pheasants Forever: Ransom shared updates on behalf of Deboer stating that CRP sign was open with a short sign up and that Lewis was working on grazing plans.

BWSR: none

Technical Staff Report:

Peterson provided a written update regarding cost share programs and his plan for departure.

Beck gave an update on the tree program, insight in to the 2027 planting season, updates on trainings he has taken and the process of building the new cooler.

Swart reported 318 acres for spring seeding, progress made coordinating AIS efforts with Big Stone county and working on getting everything lined up to install highway signs at county entrances.

Admin Staff Report:

Schicker reported on hazard mitigation plan updates for the county, SWAG monitoring final locations (10), upcoming educational events for the summer and planning for Earth week events with a focus on Dawson.

M/Croatt gave an update on the housing project and listed out the repairs/renovations being sought after.

Treasurer's Report:

The checks were reviewed and discussed. Weber made a motion to approve for payment checks #13732-13741 from the Old National account and checks #8202-8207 from United Prairie account. Croatt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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

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.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

a. State Cost-Share Program: 2026/2027 Conservation Contracts

a. 2026-01 Grassed Waterway

Swart presented the project and led discussion. Croatt made a motion to approve funding for contract 2026-01, Bacigalupo seconded. All in favor, motion carried

b. Water Plan: 2026-01 & 02.

Croatt presented the two well sealings. Bacigalupo made a motion, Weber seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

c. RCPP: *none*

Correspondence: *none*

Board Reports:

a. LqP-YB 1W1P- next meeting April 8th, nothing to report.

b. Supervisors reports- Croatt gave an update on the virtual meeting he, Larson and Schicker attended in February. Next meeting is in June in Dawson.

Old Business: *none*

New Business:

a. Retroactive revision to financial assistance policies:

Schicker reported on the need for creation and approval of two policies that distinguish between the cost share rates utilized between different programs at different times; conservation contracts (local/state) and RCPP (federal). At the time of approval for various local cost share contracts, RCPP rates were listed in the policy, but were not the rates being used or programs being applied through. The contracts were approved through Conservation Contract program, which followed EQIP rates. The policies were retroactively adapted to list out which rates go with which program so that contract compliance was more easily understood and rates followed applicable program guidance. Discussion was had amongst the board and the changes were highlighted.

The two policies are as follows:

LqP SWCD Financial Assistance Handbook Adopted 4/11/24, Active 4/11/24-08/14/2025

LqP SWCD Financial Assistance handbook Adopted 08/14/2025, Active 08/14/2025-02/13/2026

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve both retroactive policies as presented. Weber seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel: Discussion was had regarding Petersons upcoming departure

Calendar of events: Aprils regularly scheduled meeting was pushed back a week to April 16th. The May meeting was canceled so members can farm and staff can plant trees.



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Calendar of Events

March 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
April 16	Rescheduled SWCD Board Meeting
May 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
May 27	Memorial Day (Office Closed)
June 11	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
June 18	Area V meeting- Dawson
June 19	Juneteenth (Office Closed)
July 3	Independence Day-Observed (Office Closed)
July 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
August 13	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
September 7	Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 8	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 12	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
November 11	Veteran’s Day (Office Closed)
November 12	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
November 26&27	Thanksgiving & Friday (Office Closed)
December 10	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
December 24	Christmas Eve (Office Closed at Noon)
December 25	Christmas (Office Closed)

Adjourn: With no further business, Larson declared the meeting adjourned at 12:19 pm.

Michael Croatt

April 16, 2026

Approved

Date

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

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