



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
August 14th, 2025

The Lac qui Parle Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, August 14th, 2025, at The Multi Media Room/Annex. Board Supervisors present in person: Danny Larson, Mike Croatt, Amy Bacigalupo and Daryl Schutte. SWCD Staff present: Maria Croatt, Noah Swart, Rhyan Schicker, Quintin Peterson and Clayton Beck. NRCS Staff present: Kara Ransom. Pheasants Forever Staff Absent. BWSR staff absent.

Secretary Larson led the meeting and welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:02 am.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the Minutes from the July 10th, 2025, board meeting. Croatt 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 July checks #8146-8158, from the United Prairie account and checks #13611-13618 from the Old National 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.

State Cost Share Programs Contracts & Payments:

- State Cost-Share Program:
 - a) 2025-01, Conservation Contracts (2024)

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the contract, Croatt seconded.

- Water Plan:
 - Croatt made a motion to approve the Well Sealing contracts 2025-09 through 2025-14. Bacigalupo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: Schicker shared a flyer for a cover crop school for staff and supervisors in Windom August 19th. The state convention is Dec 1-3rd 2025, staff will attend, supervisors encouraged.

Reports:

- LqPYB 1W1P Report:
 - No meeting since last board meeting
- Supervisor Report: Croatt attended YM 1w1p meeting. As a pilot project the program is at the end of its 10 year cycle and is updating amending the plan for the next ten year cycle based on results.

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.

Bacigalupo made mention that the Chippewa watershed was having a dinner and report open to the public on Aug 19th in Starbuck.

- Agency Reports:
 - NRCS: Ransom reported getting CSP payments ready. EQIP program getting ready to start up. CRP is busy with contracts from the July sign up and inspections for expiring contracts. Wetland team is split into two areas for the state, east and west.
 - Pheasants Forever: Schicker reported that a Grazing Specialist is being hired for the Madison office. Farm bill biologist to be hired in the fall.
 - BWSR: Schicker reported that RCPP funds have been allocated to the SWCD and the need for reworking of cost share policy to fit federal grant standards. BWSR academy coming October 21-23rd.
- Technical Report
 - Peterson reported that we had cost share and drainage water management projects getting ready for construction pending weather. Gave a report on Russel Hedrick field day- very successful, 84 participants. Hosted last of a 3 part series of brome conversion/plant id trainings.
 - Swart reported on working with DNR to get AIS prevention signs and tools out at local landings. Geocaching project is making good headway. Working with the Local technical team in the region to host an event for the public. Starry Trek completed with no new infestations found in our county on Aug 9th.
 - Beck reported on doing RIM site inspections, taking CREP/RIM trainings, and working on Dawson pollinator projects.
- Admin Report
 - Schicker reported on hosting plant ID session, filming 2nd portion of Prairie Yard and Garden and meeting/interviewing 2025 outstanding conservationist.
 - MaCroatt reported everything was in for the audit. 75th anniversary party to be held on SWCD lawn 8/14/25 following board meeting. Busy helping plan environmental fair being held at end of August.

Old Business:

- Updates to cooler discussed- staff researching different cooling systems and getting bids.
- Didn't receive request for bids on new building, will retry in winter months when contractors are less busy.

New Business:

Schicker reported on changes needed to local cost share policy regarding 1 year vs 3 year contract lengths and the possibility of needing to combine funding sources as RCPP grant expires in 2028 and cant fund 3 year contracts that go beyond that date. Policy approved, will re-discuss in January 2026.

Bacigalupo made a motion to approve the changes, Croatt seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Personnel: none

Calendar of Events:

Calendar of Events

August 14	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
September 1	Labor Day (Office Closed)
September 11	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
September 30 th	LqP-YB 1W1P meeting
October 9	Regular SWCD Board Meeting
October 13	Columbus Day (Office Closed)
November 11	Veteran's Day (Office Closed)



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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, Larson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:34am.

Dan Larson

September 11, 2025

Approved

Date

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