



April 19, 2023

**East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Monthly Board Meeting to be held at 7:30 a.m.
801 Jenny Ave SW, Perham MN 56573**

Agenda

1. Call meeting to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Approve previous month Board Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Bills Paid and Payable
6. Cost-Share
 - ◆ Policy Discussion – Irrigation Practices
 - ◆ Policy Discussion – Rock Rip Rap Projects
 - ◆ Project Highlights – Little Pine Loop Shoreland, Little Pine Dam Modification
 - ◆ Review Cost-Share contracts and payments for approval
7. District Manager's Report
8. District Conservationist's Report
9. County Commissioner's Report
10. Other Agency Reports

Old Business

11. TSA Update

New Business

12. Meetings and Trainings
13. Minnesota SWCD Forestry Association Request/Invitation
14. Long Prairie 1W1P WBIF Contract
15. Public Comments
16. Adjourn



East Otter Tail

Soil & Water Conservation District

Date	Meeting	Time	Person
4/3/2023	CAI District Meeting	10:00 am	Liz
4/4/2023	Red Eye LCCMR	9:00 am	Darren
4/5/2023	Pomme de Terre	9:00 am	Don
4/5/2023	Engineering Training	9:30 am FF	
4/6/2023	Boise de Souix	9:00 am	Don
4/10/2023	Staff Meeting	8:00 am	All Staff
4/11/2023	Breakfast on the Farm	8:00 am	
4/12/2023	RCPD Partner Meeting		
4/14/2023	Long Prairie TAC	9:00 am	Don
4/17/2023	Wadena Board Meeting	7:30 am	
4/19/2023	EOT Board Meeting	7:30 am	
4/24/2023	Staff Meeting	8:00 am	All staff
4/26/2023	WCA TEP		
5/3/2023	Area I Envirothon	All Day	Chantal, Kristi
5/15/2023	Wadena Board Meeting	7:30 am	
5/15/2023	State Envirothon – Fergus Falls	All Day	Chantal, Kristi
5/29/2023	Memorial Day – Office Closed	All Day	All staff
6/19/2023	Wadena Board Meeting	7:30 am	
6/21/2023	EOT Board Meeting	7:30 am	
7/4/2023	4 th of July – Office Closed	All Day	All Staff
7/17/2023	Wadena Board Meeting	7:30 am	
7/19/2023	EOT Board Meeting	7:30 am	



MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 15, 2023, BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lyle Dittmann at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Chairperson: Lyle Dittmann
Vice Chairperson: Steve Inwards
Secretary: Terry Greenwaldt
Public Relations: Wayne Enger (via phone)*
Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Others Present: Wadena SWCD Liaison: Bruce Juntunen
County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS District Conservationist: Troy Baumgart
District Manager: Darren Newville
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas

**Wayne Enger abstained from voting at this meeting as he was not present in person.*

Agenda: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwood, to adopt the agenda. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the special meeting minutes from March 2, 2023. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Steve Inwards, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve to reinvest the maturing CD into another 12 month CD at 3.9% interest. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to take \$500,000 from savings and invest into a 6-month CD at 3.75%. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Bills Paid & Bills Payable: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards, to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

IRRIGATION TECH/NITRATE GRANT

C21-9235-01; Mike Dombeck; Perham Township, Section 8; is requesting a final cost share payment for his AgSense, LLC Invoice. The total cost of the invoice is \$ 175.00 with cost sharing of \$ 35.06 which is the remaining balance of his original contract. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



C21-9235-09; Olson & Sons; Parkers Prairie Township, Section 23; is requesting a final cost share payment for his Soil Moisture Probes & Installation. The total cost of the project was \$ 4,000.00 with cost sharing of \$ 2,500.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

C21-9235-11; Steve Inwards; Eastern Township, Section 18; is requesting a partial cost share payment for his Soil Moisture Probe. The total cost of the project was \$ 1,915.00 with cost sharing of \$ 1,436.25, which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Steve Inwards abstained from voting.*

PRIORITY LAKE GRANT

PL19/BP; Robert & Katie Vanguilder; Pine Lake Township, Section 22; is requesting approval of a cost share assistance contract for their shoreline restoration. The total estimated cost of the project is \$ 39,600.00 with cost sharing of \$ 24,000.00 (these are the available funds). Motion made by Bruce Albright second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

STATE COST SHARE

2023-01; City of Vergas; Hobart Township, Section 19, is requesting cost share assistance for a Conservation Cover. The cost of the project is \$ 1,010.13 with the cost share amount of \$ 757.60 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Bruce Albright abstained from voting.*

WBIF FUNDS

C21-3238-22; Justin Dittmann; Homestead Township, is requesting cost share assistance for Cover Crops. The cost of the project is \$ 12,800.00 with cost sharing of \$ 9,600.00. This is a 3-year contract with the cost share amount of \$ 3,200.00 per year. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: Lyle Dittmann abstained from voting.*

C21-3238-17; Keith Schwichtenberg, Paddock Township, Section 32 is requesting payment for his Forest Stewardship Plan. The total cost estimate is \$ 712.00, with the cost share amount of \$ 534.00 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: Presented by Darren Newville.

District Conservationist's Report: Written and read by Troy Baumgart

- CRP – General signup runs Feb 27 to April 7. As of March 13th close to 60 offers have been worked on.
- CSP – Classic signup deadline was March 1 for information/maps. 7 applications have been received. Assessment/Ranking deadline is May 12th.
- CSP – Renewal application deadline was March 10th and there were 3 applications received. Assessment/Ranking deadline is Oct 13, 2023.
- CSP – IRA (Inflation Reduction) deadline for applications is March 24. Specific practices/enhancements are available.
- EQIP – EOT had a total of 6 applications pre-approved for funding, 5 applicants wanted to move forward.



East Otter Tail

Soil & Water Conservation District

- RCPP – 9 applications pre-approved for funding. Approximately \$440,000 was used in EOT. The process of getting through QAR, getting producer signatures, and moving towards approval has begun.
- Local Work Group meeting set for March 23 in Detroit Lakes.

County Commissioner's Report: Presented by Dan Bucholz

- Red Eye & Ottertail Watershed agreements have been approved.
- Attended a public listening session in Henning on Monday night. Next meeting is scheduled June 19, 2023.
- Discussed feasibility of the Extension horticulture position.

Other Agency Report: Presented by Bruce Juntunen from the Wadena SWCD board

- Noted that he will try to fill in for Nancy as liaison and talked briefly about the carbon sequestration meeting he and Bruce Albright attended.

Old Business

Water Plan/Watershed Plan update:

- Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Bruce Albright, to approve for Darren to sign the MPCA Grant Agreement when it arrives. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve Darren's signature on the LGU pooling agreements for the Red Eye WBIF, Otter Tail WBIF & Irrigation RCPP CWF Grants. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8:47 a.m. Dan left the meeting.

TSA Update: There is a by-law vote coming up. One district wants the wording of "unanimous" voting (which is the way it is currently stated) or they will not sign. "Super majority" would be what the rest are suggesting.

New Business

Meetings/Trainings:

- Joint Board/Staff retreat is scheduled for March 28th from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve the fee for Nicole to attend the Women in Agriculture Leadership Conference. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve those wishing to attend the Area meeting next week. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Education: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Bruce Albright to approve a donation of \$500 for the Envirothon. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Lyle: Requests for Conservation Days donation should be made by March 23 to the Dark House.

Public Comments: none

Adjourn: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to adjourn. Opposed: none, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.