



## MINUTES FROM JULY 16, 2025, BOARD MEETING

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

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

**Others Present:** County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz  
NRCS District Conservationist: Troy Baumgart  
District Manager: Darren Newville  
Ass't District Manager: Anne Oldakowski  
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas

**Agenda:** Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to adopt the agenda as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve the previous Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Bruce Albright, seconded by Terry Greenwaldt, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to renew the two CD's that mature on 7/21/2025 for 5 months at 4.05%. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to withdraw \$500,000 from Savings and invest in a CD for 5 months at 4.05%. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

### COST SHARE

#### RED EYE C22-7830 (2.0)

**6-C22-7830-07;** Dennis Brandt; Ottertail Twp, section 6 and Deer Creek Twp, section 8; is requesting final payment for his forest stewardship plan. The final cost was \$1,380.00 with cost share of \$1,035.00, which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**6-C22-7830-10;** Dave Thielen; Blowers Twp, section 19; is requesting cost share assistance for a forest management plan for 170 acres. The estimated cost is \$1,830.00 with cost share of \$457.50 or 25%, whichever is less. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



**6-C22-7830-11;** Rick Miller, et al; Girard Twp, section 1; is requesting cost share assistance for a forest management plan for 160 acres. The estimated cost is \$1,440.00 with cost share of \$360.00 or 25%, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**6-C22-7830-12;** Gourd Lake Miller Partners; Girard and Otter Tail Twp, sections 1, 2, 36; is requesting cost share assistance for a forest management plan for 522 acres. The estimated cost is \$4,998.00 with cost share of \$1,249.50 or 25%, whichever is less. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

### [OTTER TAIL C23-4546 \(1.0\)](#)

**6-C23-4546-30;** Dan Winkels, Hobart, Twp section 16; is requesting final payment for his shoreline critical area planting. The final cost was \$2,749.94 with cost share of \$2,062.46, which is 75%. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

### [OTTER TAIL C25-0116 \(2.0\)](#)

**6-C25-0116-13;** M. Duane Koehler, Pine Lake Twp, section 24; is requesting final payment for his forest stewardship plan. The final cost was \$1,000.00 with cost share of \$250.00, which is 25%. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

### [IRRIGATION P23-1461](#)

**P23-1461-09** Paul Seedorf; Perham Township, Section 8; is requesting an amendment to his cost share assistance for an irrigation sprinkler system. The original estimated cost of the project was \$ 7,878.64 and the updated estimated cost is \$13,118.38. The amended total amount of cost share would be \$9,838.78 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

### [CONSERVATION CONTRACTS P24-0274 / P25-0145](#)

**P24-0274-01;** Jeff Arndt; Henning Twp, section 9; is requesting final payment for his tree and shrub establishment practice. The final cost was \$942.84 with cost share of \$585.13, which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**P24-0274-02;** James Hanson; Rush Lake Twp, section 33; is requesting final payment for his tree and shrub establishment practice. The final cost was \$2,307.50 with cost share of \$1,730.63, which is 75%. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greendwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**P24-0274-04;** Marc Ree; Elmo Twp, section 9; is requesting final payment for his tree and shrub establishment practice. The final cost was \$471.75 with cost share of \$353.81, which is 75%. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



**P25-0145-01;** Marvin Suchy; Folden Twp, section 30; is requesting cost share assistance for an ag waste pit closure. The estimated cost is \$14,120.00 with cost share of \$10,590.00 or 75%, whichever is less. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**P25-0145-02;** Randy Thompson; Homestead Twp, section 29; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year cover crop practice on 19 acres. The flat-rate cost share would be \$665.00, which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**P25-0145-03;** Steve Steinbach; Homestead Twp, section 28; is requesting cost share assistance for a one-year cover crop practice on 105 acres. The flat-rate cost share would be \$3,675.00, which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***District Manager's Report:*** Presented by Darren Newville.

***District Conservationist's Report:*** Presented by Troy Baumgart.

***County Commissioner's Report:***

- Potential shoreline violations on Big Pine were discussed.
- AIS funding will be reduced by 50% in the next biennium (2028-29).
- The side street between the gas station and the City of Perham will be closed during construction.
- The WOT County Fair is this week and the EOT County Fair is next week.
- There has been talk that the DNR will be holding a public meeting regarding the Hwy 51 Culvert on Little Pine sometime in August. No date has been announced yet.

***Other Agency Reports:*** none present.

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***Old Business***

***TSA Update:*** nothing to report currently.

***Storage Building:*** The contract is in place. There are some trees that need to be removed. Staff will be working on that. Construction is set to start after the EOT County Fair.

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***New Business***

***Meetings and Trainings:*** The Joint OTC/SWCD's Conservation Tour is scheduled for September 5, 2025.

***Preliminary Budget:*** Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve the 2026 Preliminary Budget to be presented to the county. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***JAA:*** Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve JAA as recommended by NRCR for Pete Guck, Marcie Peeters, Mitchell Janson, and Alyson Levig. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***MASWCD Award Nominations:*** Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to nominate Alan Westad for EOT Conservationist this year, as recommended by the staff. Opposed: none, motion carried.



**Open Meeting Law:** Changes to the open meeting law in effect July 1, 2025, were discussed.

**Promotional Video Production:** Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Steve Inwards to move forward with video productions. Two videos will be produced: Advance to Climate Smart at the cost of \$5,500.00 and MDA NFMP/NMI at the cost of \$3,000.00. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.