



MINUTES FROM AUGUST 19, 2026, BOARD MEETING

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
Public Relations: Wayne Enger

Others Present: County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS Conservationist: Troy Baumgart
District Manager: Darren Newville
Ass't Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Administrative Secretary: Chantal Tougas
Wadena SWCD Liaison: Bruce Juntunen
Riparian Conservation Planning: Pete Guck

Members Absent: Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Agenda: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to adopt the agenda. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, subject to audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

COST SHARE

Policy - Staff proposed reducing the maximum allowable acres to 160 for non-structural practices (Cover Crops, No-till/Strip-Till) in the Otter Tail Watershed due to more limited funding for these practices in this watershed. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve this change in policy. Opposed: none, motion carried.

OTTERTAIL WBIF

6-C23-4546-43; Meyer Becker Farms; Pine Lake Township, Section 11; requests cancellation of his cost share application to install a Pumping Plant (VFD). Upon approval, \$8,775.50 will be returned to the grant. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



6-C23-4546-45; Gerald Wanderi; Corliss Township, Section 25; is requesting cost share assistance for an Ag Waste Pit Closure (75,600 CF). The estimated cost of the project is \$16,100.00, with cost share of \$12,075.00 or 75% whichever is less. Funding source is OT 1.0 & OT 2.0. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-20; Chris & Peggy Rutten; Dead Lake Township, Section 1; are requesting final payment for their Critical Area Planting. The total cost of the project is \$3,482.50, with cost share of \$2,611.88 which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-18; Elizabeth Langevin; Rush Lake Township, Section 26; is requesting final payment for her critical area planting. The total cost of the project is \$3,671.00, with cost share of \$2,753.25 which is 75%. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-26; Steve Breitenfeldt; Pine Lake Township, Sections 23, 25; is requesting cost share assistance for a Forest Stewardship plan on 246 acres. The estimated cost of the project is \$2,760.00, with cost share assistance of \$690.00 or 25%, whichever is less. This is a renewal and the plan is currently enrolled in SFIA. Plan will be written by Erik Eggen. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-27; Mike Finn; Corliss Township, Section 28; is cost share assistance for a Forest Stewardship Plan on 72 acres. The estimated cost is \$1,020.00, with cost share of \$765.00 or 75% whichever is less. Plan will be written by Anne Oldakowski. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0116-28; Ternus Trust; Armor Township, Sections 9, 10; is requesting cost share assistance for a Forest Stewardship Plan on 244 acres. The estimated cost is \$1,764.00, with cost share of \$441.00 or 25% whichever is less. This is a renewal and the plan is currently enrolled in SFIA. Plan will be written by Marty Wiley. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

REDEYE WBIF

6-C25-0118-09; CT Farms; Woodside Township, Section 31; is requesting a final cost share payment for their Variable Frequency Drive. The total cost of the project was \$28,400.00; with cost share of \$11,250.00 which is the allowable amount per our cost share policy. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0118-13; Fraki Dairy; Newton Township, Section 33; is requesting a final cost share payment for planting multi species cover crops on 43 acres. This is a flat rate contract for \$1,505.00 which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0118-16; Ryan Greenwaldt; Compton Township, Section 30; is requesting cost share assistance for planting multi species cover crops on 69.69 acres. This is a flat rate contract for \$2,439.15 which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C25-0118-17; Jared Huwe; Paddock Township, Section 30; is requesting cost share assistance for an Ag Waste Pit Closure. The estimated cost of the project is \$19,500.00, with cost share of \$14,625.00 or 75% whichever is less. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.



6-C25-0118-18; Kevin Kyar, Inman Township, Section 18; is requesting cost share assistance for planting multi species cover crops on 70 acres. This is a flat rate contract for \$2,450.00 which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

BLUFF & OAK CREEK P22-3257

P22-3257-07; Isaac Ray; Compton Township, section 35; is requesting a contract amendment due to an increase in costs and items missing on the original estimate. The original estimated cost was \$79,747.50; the amended estimated cost is \$84,537.58 (increase of \$4,790.08). The original authorized amount was \$59,810.63; with the new total authorized amount of \$63,403.18. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P22-3257-07; Isaac Ray; Compton Township, section 35; is requesting final payment for a prescribed grazing practice. The cost of the practice for the current voucher is \$31,223.55 with cost share of \$23,417.67 or 75%. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

IRRIGATION RCPP P23-1461

P23-1461-11; Ron Sakry; Woodside Township, Section 20; is requesting final payment for his Sprinkler System – VRI. The final cost of the project was \$66,600.00 with cost share of \$49,950.00, which is 75%. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P23-1461-12; Kenny Moenkedick; Perham Township, Section 24; is requesting cost share assistance for a Sprinkler System. The estimated cost of the project is \$6,599.00, with cost share of \$4,949.25 or 75%, whichever is less. Partial payment from Irrigation RCPP, the remainder from Red Eye WBIF 3.0. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

SOIL HEALTH PRACTICES P26-0039

56A-1-06; Huebsch Farms, Inc.; amendment to add Huebsch Family Farms LLLP to the existing contract to meet NRCS eligibility requirement for the Soil Health Practices grant. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

56A-1-35; Austin Baardsen; Edna & Corliss Township, Section 6, 18; is requesting cost share assistance for a multi-species cover crop practice on 27.71 acres. This is a Flat rate contract for \$969.85 which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

56A-1-36; James Minten; Butler Township, Section 29; is requesting cost share assistance for a multi-species cover crop practice on 55 acres. This is a Flat rate contract for \$1,925.00 which is \$35/acre. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

District Manager's Report: Read by Darren Newville.

NRCS Conservationist Report: Read by Troy Baumgart.



County Commissioner's Report:

- The State of MN is set to cut AIS (Aquatic Invasive Species) funding in half next year.
- At the COLA meeting tomorrow night, AIS will be discussed.
- County Board toured a Cannabis farm in Blowers Township.
- The topic of EMS is on the rise again.
- There is talk about a potential tube & kayak business on the Otter Tail River.

Other Agency Reports: Bruce Juntunen, liaison from the Wadena SWCD board attended. He noted that the hay crop is half of what it has been in the past years. Water is low in the rivers. Some of the newest tree plantings look poor. He is planning on attending the Area VIII tour on September 10 in Grand Rapids.

OLD BUSINESS

TSA Update: Met on July 29, 2026. Meeting lasted 1 hour and the budget was approved. There are quite a few projects to be completed soon.

Shared Extension Educator position: Wadena has concerns so the discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Meetings: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve those attending BWSR Academy for registration and hotel accommodations. Opposed: none, motion carried.

JAA Approval: Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve Level 2 Conservation Planner JAA for Alyson Levig. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Long Prairie Watershed: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve Darren to sign the collaborative fiscal agent agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Leaf Wing Red Eye WBIF Agreement: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve and sign the agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Otter Tail River WBIF Agreement: Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve and sign the agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: Approved for Darren to apply to be appointed to the MDA MAWQCP Advisory Committee. Wayne gave an update on the July water quality report for multiple monitoring locations of phosphorus and Ecoli numbers on Big Pine Lake.

Adjourn: Adjourned at 8:51 a.m.