



East Otter Tail

Soil & Water Conservation District

September 20, 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
 - ◆ CD Renewal
5. Bills Paid and Payable
6. Cost-Share
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. Carpet Cleaning
14. Public Comments
15. Adjourn



East Otter Tail

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Date	Meeting
9/11/2023	Otter Tail County/SWCD Boards/Legislative Tour
9/18/2023	Wadena Board Meeting
9/20/2023	EOT Board Meeting
10/9/2023	Columbus Day – Office Closed
10/16/2023	Wadena Board Meeting
10/18/2023	EOT Board Meeting
10/24-26/2023	BWSR Academy
11/15/2023	EOT Board Meeting
11/20/2023	Wadena Board Meeting
11/23-24/2023	Thanksgiving – Office Closed
12/11-13/2023	MASWCD Annual Convention
12/18/2023	Wadena Board Meeting – Time Change to 10:00 a.m.
12/20/2023	EOT Board Meeting
12/25/2023	Christmas – Office Closed
1/1/2024	New Year's Day – Office Closed



MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 16, 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
Treasurer: Bruce Albright

Others Present: MN Representative: Tom Murphy
County Commissioner: Dan Bucholz
NRCS District Conservationist: Troy Baumgart
District Manager: Darren Newville
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski
Education, Outreach & Admin Asst: Kristi Rorah

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

Approve Board Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes as presented. 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.

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.

REDEYE 1W1P

C21-3238-20; Stephen Lutes; Leaf Lake township, Section 27; is requesting a final cost share payment for his tree planting/critical area planting. The total cost of the practice was \$3,497.22 with a cost share amount of \$2,622.92. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

C21-3238-21; Randy Curtis; Newton township, Section 1; is requesting a final cost share payment for his cover crop practice. The total cost of the practice was \$906.66 with a cost share amount of \$680.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

C21-3238-26; Keith Eckhoff; Henning township, Section 3; is requesting cost share assistance for an ag waste pit closure. The total estimated project cost is \$14,500.00, with cost sharing of \$10,875.00. This was approved at the July board meeting, needed final signature.



OTTER TAIL 1W1P

6-C23-4546-01; Joseph Franklin; Candor township, Section 11; is requesting a final cost share payment for his forest stewardship plan. The total cost of the plan was \$1,157.00 with a cost share amount of \$867.44. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-04; Karl and Karen Brandstaetter; Ottertail township, Section 3; is requesting cost share assistance for a well sealing. The total estimated project cost is \$525.00, with cost sharing of \$262.50. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

6-C23-4546-05; Craig Gode; Gorman township, Section 25; is requesting cost share assistance for an ag waste pit closure. The total estimated project cost is \$26,000.00, with cost sharing of \$15,000.00. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Steve Inwards to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

COVER CROP

C20-8413-20; Ronald Sakry; Deer Creek township, section 15; is requesting a final flat rate cost share payment for his cover crop demonstration plot. Total cost share amount is \$3,500.00. Motion made by Terry Greenwaldt, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

PRIORITY LAKES

PL12/LP; Dan Knight; Gorman township, section 25; is requesting a final cost share payment for his conservation cover practice. The total cost of the project was \$7,679.70 with a cost share amount of \$5,759.78. Motion made by Wayne Enger, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

PL19/BP; Robert and Katie Vanguilder; Pine Lake township, section 22; are requesting a final cost share payment for their shoreline protection practice. The total cost of the practice was \$39,600.00 with a cost share amount of \$24,000.00. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

COST SHARE

P23-5804-01; Jason Haman; Pine Lake township, section 4; is requesting a final cost share payment for his well sealing. The total cost of the practice was \$1,065.00 with a cost share amount of \$500.00. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

P21-2734-01; William McKinney; Dead Lake township, section 12; is requesting a final cost share payment for his shoreline protection practice. The total cost of the practice was \$21,511.08 with a cost share amount of \$16,133.31. Motion made by Bruce Albright, second by Wayne Enger to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Hough - Big Pine Dam billing: Discussion of progress of Big Pine dam project.



District Manager's Report: Presented by Darren Newville.

- There was a short additional discussion of staffing and pay scale.

District Conservationist's Report: Presented by Troy Baumgart

- CSP – Letters sent out requesting documentation, due September 30.
- EQIP – Continuing to certify prior year projects. Application deadline for 2024-1 is October 6, 2023.
- EQIP-CIC potentially for 2024: open to applicants in the Otter Tail Watershed, 5 yr. contracts, practices 329, 340, 449, 528
- CRP – SU60 – General: All plans were written and turned in by the August 9 deadline. Continuing to complete prior year practice certifications and beginning status reviews.
- RCPP – Producers are completing projects. We are in the process of certifying variable rate, soil moisture sensors, and low-pressure conversions. Some issues with soil moisture sensors not being installed, push off to 2024.
- Mitch Neitge's last day is today.

County Commissioner's Report: Presented by Dan Bucholz

- Highway 60 & Highway 10 intersection is scheduled to be done next year.
- Ambulance services are facing financial issues, operating in the red.
- Marijuana ordinance issues faced by county and municipalities.

Other Agency Reports: update by MN Representative Tom Murphy

- Discussed over-reach of some large government agencies, importance of keeping decision making local.
- Discussed government mandates and business climate in Minnesota.

Old Business

TSA Update: Budget passed at last meeting and things continue to work well.

New Business

Meetings/Trainings: County bus tour will be September 11, 2023.

Esser Maintenance Plan: Cost of yearly maintenance plan increased for the next year. Provides twice/year maintenance for HVAC systems. Motion made by Steve Inwards, second by Terry Greenwaldt to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Public Comments: none

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 a.m.