



### **Minutes from the March 20, 2023, Board Meeting**

The regular monthly board meeting of the Wadena Soil and Water Conservation District was held at 7:30 a.m. in person at the Sheriff's Building at the fairgrounds.

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Bruce Juntunen at 7:27 a.m.*

#### **Members Present:**

Chair: Bruce Juntunen  
Vice Chair: Tom Schulz  
Treasurer: Brett Dailey  
Secretary: Ken Berg  
Public Relations: Jerry Kern

#### **Others Present:**

County Commissioner: Murlyn Kreklau  
NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke  
District Manager: Darren Newville  
Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski  
Administrative Assistant: Chantal Tougas

**Adopt Agenda:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Ken Berg to adopt the agenda with the addition of a Drone Controller request. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Approve Board Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to approve last month's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Ken Berg to take \$75,000 from savings and invest in a 6-month CD at the rate of 3.75% and \$75,000 from savings and invest in a 12-month CD at the rate of 3.9%. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Bills Paid and Bills Payable:** Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Jerry Kern to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried.

#### **BWSR State Cost Share:**

20-07; Morgan Czaia; Authorization to approve payment for a field windbreak, with a total cost of \$427.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$320.25 or 75%, whichever is less in Rockwood Township, section 31. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

#### **County Commissioner's Report:** Presented by Murlyn Kreklau

- A county committee has been meeting to look at approximately 3300 acres that were purchased by The Conservation Fund and if the county would be interested in purchasing lands from them. If Wadena County purchases land the DNR would like access written into any agreement for lands adjacent to DNR. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Ken Berg to write a letter of support. Opposed: none, motion carried. The Old Wadena shelter is being rebuilt.

*The Wadena Soil & Water Conservation District seeks to achieve and maintain the highest quality and quantity of natural resources possible through wise stewardship for now and the future of human and financial means available.*



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

**NRCS District Conservationist's Report:** Presented by Ivan Reinke

- EQIP – Gaining signatures of approved contracts, working on obligation.
- RCPP - Gaining signatures of approved contracts, working on obligation.
- EQIP – LWG planned for April 17, 2023 @ 9 a.m.
- CSP – Currently doing sign up interviews.
- IRA – There is a pot of money coming for 2023. Sign up ends March 24. Climate Smart Ag Practices are what are eligible for this sign up.
- CRP signup is Feb 27 to April 7.

\*Merlyn Kreklau left the meeting at 8:38 a.m.

**Other Agency Reports:** None present.

**Forestry Update:** Tom and Anne attended the SWCD Forestry Association meeting on March 16 remotely due to weather and bad road conditions. They did try to drive there! A presentation was given by DNR on insect and disease issues. They reviewed old resolutions that should be pushed to move forward. Still waiting for an MOU to be signed between DNR and BWSR. Tom and Bruce attended a carbon sequestration meeting.

**Water Plan Update:** Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey for Darren to sign the Red Eye Agreement for Services. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**TSA 8 Report:** Next meeting is March 29<sup>th</sup>. The manager's meeting is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Meetings/Trainings:** Meetings were discussed with our board retreat being held March 28 in New York Mills beginning at 8:30 am. The Crow Wing Watershed kickoff meeting is March 29 in Park Rapids.

**Drone Remote:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to purchase a remote for the drone (cost around \$310 + shipping) as staff has been using their personal cell phone. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to adjourn. Opposed: none, motion carried.

*The Wadena Soil & Water Conservation District seeks to achieve and maintain the highest quality and quantity of natural resources possible through wise stewardship for now and the future of human and financial means available.*

An Equal Opportunity Employer