



### Minutes from the May 15, 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 7:31 a.m.*

**Members Present:**

Chair: Bruce Juntunen  
Vice Chair: Tom Schulz  
Treasurer: Brett Dailey

**Others Present:**

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

**Members Absent:**

Secretary: Ken Berg  
Public Relations: Jerry Kern

**Adopt Agenda:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to adopt the agenda with no additions. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to renew the current CD that matures on 5/18/2023 for 12 months at 4.15% interest or current interest rate. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Bills Paid and Bills Payable:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the Bills Paid and Bills Payable as presented. Opposed: none, motion carried. *Note: add Area VIII dues for \$275.00.*

**Cost Share:** Rock Rip Rap Projects, and No till/Strip till policy changes as recommended by the staff cost-share work group were discussed. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the Rip Rap policy as presented. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve the No till/Strip till policy as presented. Opposed: none, both motions carried.

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### **LCCMR Cost Share:**

01-2023; Cottrell, Clesson; Authorization to encumber funds for a forest stewardship plan, with a total cost of \$1,020.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$765.00 or 75%, whichever is less in Bullard Township, section 9. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

02-2023; Dailey, Brett; Authorization to encumber funds for a forest stewardship plan, with a total cost of \$1,362.00, cost share payment not to exceed \$1,021.50 or 75%, whichever is less in Leaf River Township, section 13. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

### **RE WBIF Cost Share:**

2022-RE08; Ament, Jason & Nikki; authorization to approve payment for a forest stewardship plan, with a total cost of \$1,051.50, cost share payment not to exceed \$788.63 or 75%, whichever is less in Rockwood Township, section 15. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**County Commissioner's Report:** Quite a few issues being discussed in the county with long agendas, specifically property valuations, tax abatements, and encouraging growth economically.

**District Manager's Report:** Presented by Anne Oldakowski.

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

- EQIP – 3 more applications were pre-approved so working on their contracts.
- CSP – Interviews have been completed and application ranking is in the process.
- IRA – Climate Smart Ag Practices are eligible for this sign up. Still waiting for pre-approvals.

\*Merlyn Kreklau left the meeting at 8:24 a.m.

**Other Agency Reports:** none.

**Forestry Update:** Tom and Anne will be attending the meeting this week.

**TSA 8 Report:** Most of their equipment has been sold via bids.

**Meetings/Trainings:** See list. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve those wanting to attend the Area VIII meeting on June 23, 2023. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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**Shared Extension Educator Position:** Darren updated the board on the shared Agriculture/Horticulture Extension Educator Position that has been proposed and previously discussed. This position would be shared by Otter Tail County (50%), EOT SWCD (25%) and Wadena SWCD (25%). Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to approve moving forward with this shared position. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Job Approval Authority:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to concur with NRCS recommendation for Job Approval Authority for Mitchell Janson. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**DNR MN Forest Resource Council:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the grant agreement. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**LCCMR Forestry Pilot:** Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to approve the pooling agreements with the EOT SWCD and Todd SWCD. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Long Prairie Watershed:** Nothing to discuss. This was approved last month.

**MASWCD Resolutions:** Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Brett Dailey to submit a forestry resolution at the Area VIII meeting. Resolution: advocating federal funding for forest land protection. Opposed: none, motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Nancy Benson called and asked for updated minutes on the website. Kristi was asked to complete this.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Motion made at 8:50 a.m. by Brett Dailey, second by Tom Schulz to adjourn. Opposed: none, motion carried.