Minutes from September 21, 2026, 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 Tom Schulz at 7:30 a.m.

Members Present:	Chair: Tom Schulz Vice Chair: Ken Berg Treasurer: Jerry Kern Public Relations: Bruce Juntunen Secretary: Brett Dailey
Others Present:	NRCS District Conservationist: Ivan Reinke District Manager: Darren Newville Assistant District Manager: Anne Oldakowski District Technician: Savanna Anderson Education & Outreach Admin Assistant: Kristi Rorah Extension Program Leader: Abby Schuft (joined via Teams) Extension Regional Director: Cecilia Amadou (joined via Teams)

***Adopt Agenda*:** Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey, to adopt the agenda. Opposed: none, motion carried.

***Approved Board Meeting Minutes*:** Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen, to approve last month's Board Meeting Minutes. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey, to approve the Treasurer's Report. Opposed: none, motion carried.

- Darren presented the draft audit. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Brett Dailey to approve the draft audit. Opposed: none, motion carried.
- One CD is due for renewal, Darren recommended renewing the CD for 11 months. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to reinvest CD 5511 for 11 months at the new rate. Opposed: none, motion carried.

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

*Extension staff joined meeting at 7:40 am.

Cost Share

Redeye WBIF

There was one late addition to cost share: voucher for Joe Van Dam, contract 8-C25-0118-17.

8-C25-0118-17; Joe Van Dam; Aldrich township, section 29; is requesting final payment for a multi-species cover crop practice. The flat rate payment is $1085.00, which is $35.00/acre. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0118-19; Fisher Farms; Aldrich, Wing River townships, sections multiple; is requesting cost share assistance for a single-species cover crop on 320 acres. The flat rate payment for the project is $8,000.00, which is $25/acre. Pre-approved by Anne. Motion made by Ken Berg, second by Brett Dailey to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

8-C25-0118-20; Daryll Huwe; Rockwood township, section 30; is requesting cost share assistance for a multi-species cover crop on 6.5 acres. The flat rate payment for the project is $227.50, which is $35/acre. Pre-approved by Anne. Motion made by Tom Schulz, second by Jerry Kern to approve. Opposed: none, motion carried.

County Commissioner's Report: Not present.

District Manager's Report: Read by Darren Newville.

NRCS District Conservationist's Report: Read by Ivan Reinke.

Other Agency Reports: None present

Forestry Update: presented by Tom; There was supposed to be a presentation by the MN Forestry Assoc. that didn't take place. Instead, presentations were given by Forest Resource Council members on recreational use, logging, forestry management, wood product processing, and legislative interest. Public support for forestry, challenges, and economic pressures, were also discussed at the meeting. Proposed forestry RCPP with Nature Conservancy will probably not happen. Forestry Assoc. is planning a survey on cost share.

TSA 8 Report: presented by Tom; nothing new, Fall meeting date has not been set yet.

Shared Extension Educator agreement: Extension program leader Abby Schuft and Extension regional director Cecilia Amadou attended the meeting to answer questions and help clarify the agreement. There was discussion of the position, percentage being paid by each party to the agreement, discussion of ideas for better utilization of the position for Wadena county, and discussion of whether to renew the agreement for the next two years. It was pointed out that there is a mechanism for terminating the agreement earlier than the two years if necessary. Motion was made by Ken Berg, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve the signing of the shared position agreement. In favor: Ken Berg, Bruce Juntunen, and Tom Schulz; Abstained from vote: Jerry Kern and Brett Daily, motion carried.

2009 Silverado: Received an offer from insurance to total out the vehicle for hail damage. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern to accept the insurance offer and begin the process of getting quotes for a replacement truck. Opposed: none, motion carried.

Tom Schulz left the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

Meetings: BWSR academy is October 20-22, 2026. Motion made by Jerry Kern, second by Bruce Juntunen to approve staff attending. Opposed: none, motion carried. Reminder regarding MASWCD annual convention, will need to know which supervisors plan on attending.

Crow Wing WBIF Amended Agreement: Amended agreement will shift funding for septic projects to be carried out in Otter Tail county. Motion made by Brett Dailey, second by Jerry Kern, to approve the amended agreement.

Public Comments: Darren noted that a policy and procedure for the use of AI by staff is in development.

Meeting Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.