



## **Watonwan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors – Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, January 21, 2021**

**108 8<sup>th</sup> Street South, St. James, MN 56081**

The Watonwan Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their monthly meeting at the District Office in St. James, Minnesota on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Rich Enger at 8:30 am.

**SWCD Members Present:** Chairman, Rich Enger  
Vice Chairman, Noren Durheim  
Secretary, Steve Sodeman  
PR & I, Bret Braaten  
Treasurer, Jordan Bergeman

**Others Present:** Land Management Director, Dave Haler  
SWCD Assistant Manager & County Ditch Inspector, Chad Hildebrand  
Solid Waste Administrator / Assistant Zoning Administrator, Kyla Schломann  
District Technician, Laura Quiring  
County Commissioner, Dillion Melheim  
Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist, Carrie Schultz (via phone)  
Steve Sodeman (via phone)

### **AGENDA**

Motion by Braaten, second by Durheim to approve the January 21, 2021 amended agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Durheim, second by Braaten to approve the December 21, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

### **FINANCIAL & ACCOUNTING**

**Treasurer's Report:** Haler discussed the expense report.

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durheim to approve the treasurer's report.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None  
 Motion carried

**Bills to Pay:** Haler discussed the monthly bills to pay.

Motion by Braaten, Second by Bergeman to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$48,947.44.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Supervisor Per Diem:** None

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA):** meeting on 1/22/2021

**MASWCD:** No Report

**Watowan River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan:** Application process is moving along. Hoping to submit in early March for Late March approval and April fund disbursement.

**South Central TSA:** No Report

**Liaison Committee:** No Report

**Commissioner Report:** No Report

**SWCD ACTION ITEMS / BUSINESS ITEMS**

2021

2020 Board Seats	New 2021 Board Seats
<b>Chairman</b> - Rich Enger	<b>Chairman</b> - Rich Enger
<b>Vice Chairman</b> - Noren Durheim	<b>Vice Chairman</b> - Noren Durheim
<b>Secretary</b> - Steve Sodeman	<b>Secretary</b> - Steve Sodeman
<b>Treasurer</b> - Jordan Bergeman	<b>Treasurer</b> - Jordan Bergeman
<b>PR &amp; I</b> - Bret Braaten	<b>PR &amp; I</b> - Bret Braaten

**SWCD Board:**

2020 Committees	New 2021 Committee Elections
<b>County Liaison Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>	<b>County Liaison Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>
<b>Personnel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bret Braaten</li> <li>Jordan Bergeman</li> </ul>	<b>Personnel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bret Braaten</li> <li>Jordan Bergeman</li> </ul>
<b>Watowan River Comprehensive Management Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Noren Durheim (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate)</li> <li>Steve Sodeman (2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate)</li> </ul>	<b>Watowan River Comprehensive Management Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Noren Durheim (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate)</li> <li>Steve Sodeman (2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate)</li> </ul>
<b>Annual Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>	<b>Annual Planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rich Enger</li> <li>Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>
<b>GBERBA Representative</b>	<b>GBERBA Representative</b>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich Enger</li> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rich Enger</li> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>
<b>South Central TSA Representative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noren Durheim</li> <li>• Bret Braaten (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate)</li> </ul>	<b>South Central TSA Representative</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noren Durheim</li> <li>• Bret Braaten (1<sup>st</sup> Alternate)</li> </ul>
<b>Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>	<b>Reinvest In Minnesota (RIM)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>
<b>Cost-Share</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>	<b>Cost-Share</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>
<b>EQIP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Bergeman</li> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>	<b>EQIP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Bergeman</li> <li>• Steve Sodeman</li> </ul>
<b>Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>	<b>Grants</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>
<b>PR &amp; I and Legislation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Bergeman</li> <li>• Bret Braaten</li> </ul>	<b>PR &amp; I and Legislation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jordan Bergeman</li> <li>• Bret Braaten</li> </ul>
<b>Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>	<b>Wetlands Conservation Act (WCA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Board</li> </ul>

Motion by Braaten, Second by Durheim to approve board seats remain the same is 2021 as they were in 2020 as listed above.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Braaten, Second by Durheim to approve 2021 committees remain the same as they were in 2020 as listed above.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Mileage Reimbursement Rate = \$0.56 per mile for 2021:**

Motion by Bergeman, second by Braaten to approve the mileage reimbursement rate of \$0.56/mile for 2021.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Enger, Durheim, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Official Authorization of 2021:**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve the County being the financial authorization and the Scoop being the official newspaper for the Watonwan SWCD in 2021.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Enger, and Durheim

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Approval for Staff Signatory:**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve Dave Haler and Chad Hildebrand as the staff signatories for the BWSR financial reports, Well Sealing cost-share, WIA, and RIM.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**State Cost-Share rates in 2021:**

Motion by Bergeman, second by Braaten to approve well sealing cost share at the rate of 50% up to \$400 per well.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to approve tile intake cost share at a rate of \$500 per rock intake and \$200 per Hickenbottom.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Well Sealing Cost-Share Payment Reimbursements:**

**A. Marlo Mashoff: 18-LCG-AW-06**

- Total Project Cost = \$885.00
- 50% Cost-Share Amount = **\$400.00**

**B. Trent Hagen: 18-LCG-AW-09**

- Total Project Cost = \$775.00
- 50% Cost-Share Amount = **\$387.50**

Motion by Durham, second by Bergeman to approve payments for Marlo Mashoff and Trent Hagen for a combined total of \$787.50.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**2021 Seasonal Intern Position:**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to approve the hire of a seasonal intern for 2021 to be split between SWCD, AIS, & SW.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Program Advertisement:** Discussion was had about doing radio ads to advertise things such as CREP/RIM, WIA, etc. It was mentioned to have a meeting with the CO-Ops, seed producers, and agronomists and give them the information as they feel that would be more effective. SWCD staff will look into hosting a meeting for those people to get that information out there.

**SWCD PROGRAM UPDATES & REPORTS**

**Watowan River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan:** Hildebrand previously stated that it has been approved by the BWSR board and the funding application is being worked on.

**Fiscal year 2020 SWCD Audit:**

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to using Peterson Company to do the audit for the 2020 Fiscal Year at a cost of \$2,775.00 but look into another company for next year.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion carried

**Staff Agency Reports:**

WCA LGU: No Report from Bucklin. Hildebrand gave a brief update.

Farm Bill Biologist: Verbal Report via phone

NRCS District Conservationist: No Report

SWCD Assistant Manager: Verbal Report

District Technician: Verbal Report

BWSR: No Report

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

1/22/2021	GBERBA Policy Meeting	Rich, Chad, Dave
2/12/2021	GBERBA Executive Meeting	Staff & Supervisors
3/23-24/2021	Shade tree Short Course	Laura (zoom)

Motion by Bergeman, second by Braaten to approve upcoming meetings.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Braaten, second by Durham to adjourn at 10:10 am

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, and Enger

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**Next Regular SWCD Board Meeting will be on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 8:30 am at the District Office.**

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**District Supervisor**

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**District Administrator**