



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

**Monday, August 17, 2020**

**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 Monday, August 17, 2020.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman Rich Enger at 8:32 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, David Haler  
SWCD Assistant Manager & County Ditch Inspector, Chad Hildebrand  
Solid Waste Administrator / Assistant Zoning Administrator, Kyla Schlomann  
BWSR Board Conservationist, Jill Sackett-Eberhart (via phone)

### AGENDA

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durheim to approve the August 17, 2020 amended agenda as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

### MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Durheim, second by Bergeman to approve the July 20, 2020 amended meeting minutes as presented.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman  
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, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

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

Motion by Bergeman, Second by Durham to approve payment of bills in the amount of \$50,702.41.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

**Supervisor Per Diem:** Supervisor Bergeman presented meetings attended and turned in per diem sheet.

Date	Meeting Attended	Rich Enger	Noren Durham	Bret Braaten	Steve Sodeman	Jordan Bergeman
5/18/2020	SWCD Monthly Meeting					X
7/20/2020	SWCD Monthly Meeting					X
8/17/2020	SWCD Monthly Meeting					X

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve supervisors per diems.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

**BOARD REPORTS**

**Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance (GBERBA):** No update.

**MASWCD:** No update.

**County Water Plan:** No update.

**South Central TSA:** No update.

**Liaison Committee:** District Technician interviews will be this week.

**Commissioner Report:** No update.

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve board reports.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman  
Opposed: None  
Motion Carried

**SWCD ACTION ITEMS / BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Well Sealing Contract Payment Approval:**

Contract: 18-LCG-AW-02 Luella Schofield

Funding: FY18 Local Capacity Grant, State Cost-Share

Cost Estimate: \$875.00

Actual Cost: \$800.00

Cost-Share Amount: \$400.00

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durham to approve payment of contract 18-LCG-AW-02 in the amount of \$400.00.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**BWSR Pheasants Forever CREP Outreach Implementation Grant Agreement:**

Motion by Durham, Second by Bergeman to approve the BWSR Pheasants Forever Grant Agreement.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**Watowan SWCD Living Snowfence Easement Policy:** Discussion was had to add an addendum to the Living Snowfence Policy for how the funds received due to termination will be used.

Motion by Sodeman, second by Bergeman to approve putting money received from removed living snowfences towards the establishment of new living snowfences or maintaining or improvement of existing ones.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**Host 1W1P Joint Public hearing with Watowan County Commissioners:**

Motion by Sodeman, Second by Bergeman to approve hosting a joint public hearing with the Watowan County Commissioners on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, on the draft Watowan River Watershed Comprehensive Management Plan, on the condition that the draft plan is approved and recommended for release for public comment by the Watowan 1W1P Policy Committee at their August meeting.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durham, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**SWCD PROGRAM UPDATES & REPORTS**

**1W1P Update:** No update.

**Annual Environmental Awareness Day:** postponed indefinitely due to COVID-19.

**Staff Agency Reports:**

WCA LGU: No report.

Farm Bill Biologist: No Report.

NRCS District Conservationist: No Report.

District Technician: Verbal report from Hildebrand.

Seasonal Intern: Verbal Report from Hildebrand & Schlomann.

BWSR: Verbal Report on items that BWSR has been working on updating. Their board meeting will be held on August 26, 2020.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

August 5, 2020	1W1P Steering Team Meeting	Dave & Chad
August 10, 2020	1W1P Steering Team Meeting	Dave & Chad
August 19, 2020	District Technician Interviews	Dave, Chad & Steve
August 26, 2020	GBERBA Technical Meeting @ 9:30am (Virtual Meeting)	Chad
August 26, 2020	1W1P Policy Meeting @ 2pm (Virtual Meeting)	Dave, Chad & Rich
September 11, 2020	GBERBA Policy Meeting (Virtual)	Staff, Supervisors
September 15, 2020	1W1P Joint Public Hearing (St. James, MN)	Staff, Supervisors
September 21, 2020	Monthly SWCD Board Meeting	Staff, Supervisors

Motion by Bergeman, second by Durheim to approve the meetings listed above.

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Equipment:** Bergeman mentioned to the board about the purchase of a brush hog that we could rent out for landowners/renters to use to help maintain their Conservation Easements. He also presented the board with a quote for a Drone. This will be looked into more to see specifically what we need and we will collaborate with the Sherriff's Department on what their needs are to potentially split the cost and share one.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Braaten, second by Bergeman to adjourn at 9:35 am

Affirmative: Bergeman, Braaten, Durheim, Enger, and Sodeman

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

**Next Regular SWCD Board Meeting will be on  
Monday, September 21, 2020 at 8:30 am at the District Office.**

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**District Supervisor**

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**District Administrator**