



*Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District*  
1424 E. College Drive, Suite 600  
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**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**  
**Lyon Soil & Water Conservation District**  
**Tuesday, March 13, 2024 – 4:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 4:05 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**Supervisors Present:** Deutz, Lanoue, Laleman

**Others Present:** Biren, Cauwels, Giles, Boerboom, Williams, Draper

**Absent:** Crowley, Meulebroeck, Prairie

**Identify Any Conflicts of Interest:** None

**Approve Agenda** – Motion by Lanoue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laleman to approve the agenda with addition of G. Motion to Support Lyon SWCD Chairman signing SWCD Aid Amendment Letter to Representatives – Approval. and H. #02/24 – Francis Dehmer – Water & Sediment Control Basin – Contract Approval – Discussion and Approval. and I #03/24 – Virgil Johnson – Grassed Waterway & Underground Outlet – Contract Approval – Discussion and Approval. All in favor, motion carried

**Approve February 14, 2024 Minutes**

Motion by Lanoue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laleman to approve February 14, 2024 Minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Reports**

Financial Reports presented.

**Business**

- A. GBERBA Update– Handout** – Handout from Danielle going over Area 5 MAWQCP applications and projects and assessments.
- B. Environmental Fair Donation –Discussion and Approval** – Motion by Lanoue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laleman to approve up to \$2,000.00 between Lyon SWCD and fundraising efforts. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. SWCD Clothing – Discussion and Approval** – Cauwels looked into quotes from different companies to approve SWCD apparel fees and new logo created by April DeSchepper. Tabled until next meeting.
- D. Water Quality and Storage Grants – Discussion** – Biren has asked County Board for approval for funding for 3 different Water Quality and Storage Grants. Grants are through BWSR. CD 14, CD 12 and JD 12 each have repairs that need to be fixed. Due April 11<sup>th</sup>. Will be looking at funding for 10% match. Priorities are given to areas in the MN River Basin.
- E. #01/24 – Waldon Schultz – Grassed Waterway – Contract Approval – Handout and Approval -** Contract #01/24 for a Grassed Waterway for Waldon Schultz. Motion by Laleman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by

Lanoue to approve the Contract in the amount of \$11,090.40, which is 75% of the total cost of \$8,317.80. Landowner Contribution is \$2,772.60. All in favor, motion carried.

- F. Area II – Nordland 18 Grade Stabilization – Discussion** – Area II has proposed to SWCD Staff to bring to the SWCD Board to install a dam. Funding would be projected for SWCD to pay 75% in the amount of \$46,371.18. Contacting DNR to see if they would be able to fund a portion of the project. SWCD Board would like to reassess the project and make sure that all the concerns of the landowner are being addressed. Future discussion to be held.
- G. Motion to Support Lyon SWCD Chairman signing SWCD Aid Amendment Letter to Representatives – Approval** – MASWCD has given a sample letter to send to local legislators to ask for more funds. Motion by Lanoue, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laleman to have Chairman Deutz sign letters to the local legislators to request for SWCD Aids from \$12 million to \$16 million to start in 2025. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. #02/24- Frances Dehmer – Water & Sediment Control Basin – Contract Approval** – Motion by Lanoue 2<sup>nd</sup> by Laleman to approve the Water & Sediment Control Basin Contract in the amount of \$26,826.55, which is 75% of the total cost of \$35,768.74. Landowner Contribution is \$8,942,19. All in favor, motion carried.
- I. #03/24 – Virgil Johnson - Grassed Waterway & Underground Outlet – Contract Approval – Discussion and Approval.** Motion by Laleman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lanoue to approve the Grassed Waterway & Underground Outlet Contract in the amount of \$6,550.00 which is 75% of the total cost of \$8,740.00. Landowner Contribution is \$2,185.00. All in favor, motion carried.

**District Technician – Courtney, Brock & Blake** – Williams talked about HWY 14 Tour were approximately 30 producers. Working on Cottonwood 1W1P, cover crop funding, and tree plans. Giles – working on some waterway designs, update on pollinator projects, need to do controlled burn. Drill rates based on Iowa custom seed rates, but we will keep charging the same amount. Boerboom – Applied for Cooperative Working Lands Grant and we were not funded. Walk-in-Access re-enroll has funded. CREP and Rim rates have increased.

**District Admin – Anita** – No report

**District Report – John** – Brock is going to work on private lands initiative until Pheasants Forever position filled. Hired new summer new intern.

**District Conservationist – Kelly Heather/Owen Colline** – 6 applications for EQIP, farmstead, cropland, wildlife. CSP – starting in March.

**Pheasants Forever – Vacant** – No report

### **Committee Reports**

- **RCRCA** –
  - Lake Redwood. The project attorney was asked to begin the transfer of ownership of the CDF property to the City of Redwood Falls. Some fine print was spotted where MMB must approve the transfer of property. Upon contacting MMB, a laundry list of questions resulted. We continue to work with MMB to resolve the issue.
  - The Pioneer Public TV “Prairie Sportsman’ program about the Lake Redwood Restoration has aired. The full video is on their website at the following link: [video.pioneer.org/video/hunting-trails-and-lake-tales-3ejk8/](https://video.pioneer.org/video/hunting-trails-and-lake-tales-3ejk8/)
  - Comment Letter to Proposed Xcel Energy Blue Line Route. Netzke was informed that the proposed Blue Line powerline route crosses the Redwood River twice, and the Cottonwood River 5 times. Upon closer review, the powerline also parallels the rivers at some locations and crosses over lands held in Conservation Easement along the mainstem corridors. On behalf of RCRCA, a comment letter was submitted pointing out these facts and asking to limit the crossing of each river to only one time, to utilize more existing ROW paths as Xcel intended, and to respect the Conservation Easement properties, especially within the floodplain areas, as they were intended to protect the natural and scenic areas that have diverse species of aquatics, wildlife, and vegetation.
- **Area II River Basins**
  - Yellow Medicine Watershed Pilot Water Storage Project. The 2nd meeting was held February 29. The modelers were surprised with the number of storage locations found, especially along the mainstem rivers and ditch systems. Their storage

areas include natural depression areas, restorable wetlands, and road retentions. With further guidance provided as to how to rank/score the potential storage sites, the model will be rerun to identify the top 50 sites that will meet the 48-hour retention time for a 10-year storm event. Netzke asked if the road retention areas could be refined to include the 3' freeboard required to prevent road overtopping; that answer was 'yes'. Netzke submitted a GIS layer of retention sites that Area II has installed within the watershed boundary to eliminate identifying projects in the model that are already completed. YMRWD will assist the project leaders in identifying existing drainage tiles from their permit files.

- Nordland 18 Grade Stabilization (Lyon County). A funding proposal was submitted to the Lyon SWCD for consideration as this project did not develop into a small dam, but rather a small grade stabilization that is not eligible for Area II's funding.

- Water Quality & Storage Grants. BWSR changed the policy to provide 90% cost-share, which is a game changer. Area II has had several projects in the files as the 25% local match was always the problem. Now those townships and landowners can afford the required match of 10%. Applications are due April 11. Currently, Area II may be submitting 4 applications for the \$3 million in funding:

Lynd 31 Road Retention (Lyon County)

Redwood Falls 9 WSCBs & Grade Stabilization (Redwood County)

North Hero 34 Road Retention (Redwood County)

Holly 22 Road Retention (Murray County)

- **Area V** – Next meeting in June.
- **SW Prairie TSA** – Approved spending on side by side, licensing for drone, RFP Grant meeting was on March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Park & Rec** – Next meeting on March 23, 2024.
- **Yellow Medicine Watershed** – No report
- **One Watershed One Plan (Yellow Medicine)** – Came up with ranking process.
- **One Watershed One Plan (Des Moines)** – Tech Meeting on 3-12-24 to go over funds, changing by-laws.
- **One Watershed One Plan (Cottonwood-Middle MN)** - The Steering Team met virtually on February 21 to review implementation tables and compare them with the Measurable Goals section. The Steering Team was not comfortable sending this to the Advisory Committee in March without further review of the edits and discussion. The Steering Team will meet in person on March 20; the Advisory Committee and Policy Committees will not meet until April 17 at the Springfield Area Community Center. It is hoped that we do not lose many attendees to Spring planting.
- **One Watershed One Plan (Redwood)** - The MOA was signed on 2/23/2024 and submitted to BWSR along with the Budget, Timeline and Work Plan. The grant agreement was executed on 3/8/2024 and expenses can now be incurred to the grant. The first Policy Committee will be scheduled for late March/early April by a Doodle Poll sent to the delegates.
- **County** – No report.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

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Attest by Board Member

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Date

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Date