

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office
1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600
Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Soil and Water Conservation District

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Absent: John Lanoue

Staff: Courtney Williams, Brock Boerboom, John Biren, Blake Giles, Anita Cauwels

County: Tom Andries

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

All recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - 4:02 p.m.

2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mark Meulebroeck to abstain from Agenda Item 6.3

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

3.1 Amend/Approve Agenda

Motion to approve agenda.

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Approve July 10, 2024 Minutes

4.1 July 10, 2024 Minutes

Motion to approve July 10, 2024 Minutes

[2024 July SWCD Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial Reports

5.1 Account Activity Report

Cauwels presented Account Activity Report

[Account Activity Report - 1-2024 - 8-2024.pdf](#)

5.2 Budget Report

Cauwels presented Budget Report
[Budget Report - 1-2024 - 8-2024.pdf](#)

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

Cauwels presented Grant Breakdown Sheet
[Grant Breakdown Sheet.pdf](#)

6. BUSINESS

Business

6.1 GBERBA Update

GBERBA Update from Danielle Evers going over MAWQCP for Area 5.
[July 2024 Program Update - GBERBA.docx](#)

6.2 #03/23 - Dan Kruger - Soil Health Cost Share Voucher - Approval

Motion to pay Cost Share Voucher #03/23 - Dan Krueger- for Conservation Crop Rotation - Cover Crops - 2023 Soil Health Cost Share. Payment from 2023 Soil Health Cost Share.

[Dan Kruger](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Secunder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.3 #20/24 - Lynda Meulebroeck Trust - Grassed Waterway-Subsurface Drain - Contract Approval

Motion to approve Cost Share Contract #20/24 - Lynda Meulebroeck Trust for Grassed Waterway and Subsurface Drain. Cost Share contract amount is for \$10,306.50 which is 75% of the total cost of \$ 13,742.00. Landowner amount is \$3,435.50. Payment encumbered from 2023 - WCA \$596.79 2023 State Cost Share - \$87.51 and 2025 Conservation Contracts \$9,622.20. [Lynda Meulebroeck](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Steve Prairie

Secunder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 1 - Allen Deutz

Abstain: 1 - Mark Meulebroeck

Motion Result: Passed

6.4 #21/24 - Lilianna St. Aubin Trust - Grassed Waterway - Subsurface - Contract Approval

Motion to approve Cost Share Contract #20/24 - Lilianna St. Aubin Trust for Grassed Waterway and Subsurface Drain. Cost Share contract amount is for \$17,137.50 which is 75% of the total cost of \$22,850.00 with landowner cost of \$5,712.50. Encumbered funds are 2023 WCA - 6,688.71 2023 Local Capacity - \$7,445.14

2023 SWCD Aid \$3,003.65.

[Lilliana St. Aubin](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Gary Laleman

Second: Allen Deutz

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.5 2024 Guidelines on use of SWCD Aid Payments Resolution Approval *Motion to have Chairman Deutz sign Resolution for SWCD Aid Payments.* [2024 Guidelines on use of SWCD Aid Payments Resolution Approval](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.6 Amiret Township - Streambank Protection

Biren attended August 6, 2024 County Board Meeting and a Motion to approve up to 90% of the estimated engineer's cost of \$32,550 for the amount of \$29,295 from the Riparian Fund was granted.

[Amiret Township - Streambank Protection](#)

- 6.7 #22/24 - Brett & Evan Petersen Farms - Well Sealing - Cost Share Approval *Motion to approve Cost Share approval for Well Sealing for \$22/24 - Brett & Evan Peterson Farms. Total amount was \$1,480.00. Approve 50% up to \$500.00. \$500.00 payment out of 2024 Local Water Management.*

[#22/24 - Brett & Evan Petersen Farms -Well Sealing - Cost Share Approval](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Gary Laleman

Second: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To:

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve

Prairie Motion Result:

- 6.8 County Ditch 14 Contract

Gary Crowley has permission from County Board to sign Cost Share Contract for County Ditch 14.

[CD 14 - Order for Repair.pdf](#)

[County Ditch 14 - Contract.docx](#)

Motion to approve to enter into Contract

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Second: Steve Prairie

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.9 City of Marshall - Pollinator HELP Grant

Motion to reimburse the City of Marshall for Pollinator Project for HELP Grant. [City of Marshall - Pollinator Invoices.pdf](#)

Motion to Approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.10#26/24 -Gary Johns - Well Sealing Contract - Approval

Motion to approve #26/24 Gary Johns well sealing in the amount of \$440.00. Total amount was \$880.00. This is 50% up to \$500.00 well sealing policy. Payment will be from 2024 Local Water Management.

[Gary Johns - Well Sealing.pdf](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.11Judicial Ditch 15 - Conservation Practice Assistance Contract

Motion to have John Biren sign contract as Ditch Inspector for Lyon County for Judicial Ditch 15 Cost Share Contract.

[Judicial Ditch 15.pdf](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.12#23/24 - Joyce Greeley - Water & Sediment Control Basin - Underground Outlet - Cost Share Contract - Approval

Motion to approve Cost Share Contract for #23/24 for Joyce Greeley in the amount of \$ 13,225.50 which is 75% of \$17,634.00. Landowner amount is \$4,408.50. Funds will be from 2024 WCA - \$11,984.00 and 2025 WCA \$1,241.50.

[Joyce Greeley WASCOB.pdf](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.13#27/24 - Joseph Haney - Cover Crops Cost Share Contract

Motion to approve # 27/24 Joseph Haney Soil Health Payment in the amount of \$3,126.00. Payment will be from 2023 Soil Health Cost Share Grant.

[Joseph Haney - Cover Crop Contract.pdf](#)

Motion to approve

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

Courtney Williams, Blake Giles, Brock Boerboom

Giles - Farmfest went well. Lots of Soil Health Discussion.

7.1 Nonstructural Conservation Practice Cost Share Policy

Discussion on Flat Rate Cost Share amount for Non -Structural Conservation Policy.

Recommendation by staff to change the maximum non-structural payment of \$7,500.00 per practice to \$20,000.00 per entity. Discussion by board that cover crops need to be planted correctly in order for them to be established. Discuss at future time if changes need to be made to policy.

[Nonstructural Policy.pdf](#)

7.2 Soil Health Delivery Grant Agreement

Soil Health Delivery Grant will be signed soon. Amount is \$100,000.00. Future discussion on way to spend funds.

[Soil Health Delivery Grant Agreement.pdf](#)

7.3 TSA Soil Health Staffing Work Plan

Work with existing consultants(any and all ag coops/crop consultants) to assist with mentoring producers with different areas of concern with soil health. This is through Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area Grant. Amount of funds for 250 hours per year for Lyon County is \$21,250.00 per year for a total of \$87,500.00 over four years.

8. DISTRICT

ADMIN Anita Cauwels

No report

9. DISTRICT

MANAGER John Biren

Public Waters Inventory Map - now includes anything large than 2 square miles. Anytime that you will need to do any updates, culverts, feedlot expansions, buffers etc. You will now have to have a permit from DNR. This will need to be completed by 2027. Wetland Conservation Act has had some changes as well. Used to not cover 8.2 feet or deeper that is wasn't regulated by WCA. It has also been changed now. The statue changed was under 103G.201 PUBLIC WATERS INVENTORY. Cannabis changes will be coming through after the first of the year with different permitting for manufacturing, etc. Applications would be made through the state.

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

Mark Peper

No new CRP until next year or until the next Farm Bill is signed. No applications are being accepted at this time.

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST -

NRCS Kelly Heather

No report

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Reports

12.1RCRCA

Meeting was held on August 1, 2024.

[RCRCA-Area II Meeting Minutes.docx](#)

12.2AREA II RIVER BASINS

General Fund Construction Grants Minnesota Management & Budget (MMB) refused the changes to the grant agreement proposed by the Redwood County Attorney. Their 30+ page agreement must be used. The commissioners did agree to sign the MMB agreement with the county attorney drafting a Use Agreement between Redwood County and Area II to define duties and expectations.

I will present a grant agreement to the Lyon County Commissioners in September for the Island Lake 27 Dam Repair. Currently, I am awaiting completion of the flowage easement as it required signatures from 4 parties, one of which works overseas. Ground Works has the bid and is ready to start construction as soon as the funding arrangements are secured.

Stream Mitigation - Army Corps of Engineers The new program at the Corps of Engineers is creating another hurdle for projects. Projects impacting 200 linear feet or more require mitigation. Just like low-quality wetlands, low-quality streams must also have impacts mitigated. There is not an existing bank for credits, hopefully in 2025 one may evolve as a third party is necessary for bank administration. Undertaking a stream restoration project is the only way to mitigate impacts at this time. Determination of the impacts, and the acceptable amount of mitigation (termed "functional feet of lift") is proving to be difficult and will likely require hired assistance to quantify.

12.3AREA V

September 19th at St. Stephens Church.

12.4SW PRAIRIE TSA

Early September Meeting.

[Soil Healthy Staffing Work Plan.pdf](#)

[TSA Soil Health Staffing Grant.pdf](#)

12.5PARKS

August 15 meeting.

12.6 ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN - YELLOW MEDICINE

Meeting was on August 5th. Policy meeting 8-5-2024. SAMS Meeting Presentation is coming up on August 28, 2024.

12.7 ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN - DES MOINES

No meeting.

12.8 ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN - COTTONWOOD - MIDDLE MN

Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P The Plan is out for Formal Review (July 1 – August 30). The Steering Team and Policy Committee will meet August 21, and the Public Hearing will be held on September 18, following by a Policy Committee meeting. The BWSR Southern Region Committee will meet this Fall to review the Plan, with BWSR Board review/approval scheduled for their December meeting.

12.9 ONE WATERSHED ONE PLAN - REDWOOD

Redwood 1W1P The Steering Team and Policy Committee met July 8 to review the comments received, and review/edit the draft Land and Water Resources Narrative for the Plan. A revised logo was presented and approved.

The Steering Team will meet virtually on August 12 with NO Policy Committee in August. Both committees will meet in person on September 9.

12.10 COUNTY BOARD

Working on 2025 Budget.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment - Meeting closed

Adjournment 5:50 p.m.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date