

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office
1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600
Wednesday, October 9, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Lyon County Soil and Water Conservation District

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Absent - Blake Giles, John Biren
Staff - Courtney Williams, Brock Boerboom, Anita Cauwels
County - Gary Crowley

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recite the Pledge of Allegiance - 4:00 p.m.

2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

3.1 October 9, 2024 Agenda

[October 2024 Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion to Approve Agenda with addition of #27/24 - Joseph Haney - Cover Crops - Soil Health Cost Share Voucher Approval

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Steve Prairie

Moved To: Approve as Amended

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.1 Approve Minutes from September 11, 2024 SWCD Meeting

[September 11, 2024 Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion to approve September 11, 2024

Minutes Mover: Mark Meulebroeck Seconder:

Steve Prairie

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.1 Account Activity Report

Cauwels presented Account Activity Report
[Account Activity Report.pdf](#)

5.2 2024 SWCD Budget

Cauwels presented 2024 SWCD Budget
[2024 Budget.pdf](#)

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

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

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Resolution to Submit, Adopt and Implement the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

The final draft of the plan is finished and are looking for approval of the resolution. There was a public meeting and did not hear many public comments. This resolution is the first step to get it to BWSR for approval and it will go to final approval in January or February and we should get funding in March. The RCRCA Board will be the governing Board for the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota River Watershed.

[Resolution - Cottonwood-Middle MN.pdf](#)

Motion to approve the Resolution to Submit, Adopt and Implement the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.2 Management Representation Letter for Peterson Company LTD

The Management Representation Letter for Peterson Company LTD is for 2023 Lyon SWCD Audit. By approving and signing the letter, we are stating that we approve Peterson Company LTD to proceed with the Final Audit.

[Management Representation Letter.pdf](#)

Motion to approve the District Manager and Lyon SWCD Board Chairman to sign the Management Representation Letter for Peterson Company LTD for 2023 Lyon SWCD Audit.

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconder: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.3 Draft Audit for Peterson Company LTD

Motion was to approve the Draft Audit prepare by Peterson Company LTD and they will proceed to the Final Audit.

[Draft Audit.pdf](#)

Motion to approve the Draft Audit prepare by Peterson Company LTD

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Motion Result: Passed

- 6.4 Grant Proceed Disbursal Agreement between Southwest Prairie TSA & Lyon Soil & Water
Approval between Southwest Prairie TSA and Lyon SWCD for disbursal of grant funds.

[Disbursal Agreement - TSA-Lyon SWCD.pdf](#)

Motion to approve the Grant Proceed Disbursal Agreement between Southwest Prairie TSA and Lyon Soil and Water

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Motion Result: Passed

- 6.5 GBERBA September 2024 Update

September 2024 Greater Blue Earth River Basin Area 5 MAWQCP Updates. [September 2024 Program Update - GBERBA.docx](#)

- 6.6 2024 MASWCD Resolutions Packet

2024 Resolutions Packet. Have Lyon SWCD Supervisors and tally supervisor votes. Supervisors will submit their votes online.

[MASWCD Resolutions Packet.pdf](#)

- 6.7 #28/24 - Bakker Family Trust/Alex Bakker - Water & Sediment Control Basin-
Underground Outlet - Cost Share Approval

Approval in the amount of \$2,156.74, which is 8% of the Total Cost of \$38,366.00. EQIP Share is 67% at \$25,867.76 with Landowner Share of 25% - \$9,591.50. Funds will be from 2025 Wetland Conservation Act.

[#28-24 Bakker Family Trust Contract.pdf](#)

Motion to approve Cost Share for #28/24 - Bakker Family Trust/Alex Bakker - Water and Sediment Control Basin-Underground Outlet

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Motion Result: Passed

- 6.8 #27/24 - Joseph Haney - Cover Crop - Soil Health Cost Share Voucher Approval

Approval of Soil Health Cost Share Voucher Approval in the amount of \$3,126.00. Funds will be from 2023 Soil Health Cost Share Grant.

Motion to approve Soil Health Cost Share Voucher for Joseph Haney #27/24.

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Motion Result: Passed

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

Williams - Getting a lot of calls for projects for this fall. Boerboom - Agronomy training and working on Rim Site Inspections.

8. DISTRICT ADMIN

Environmental Fair was a success! Approximately 1600 Children attended over two days in September.

9. DISTRICT MANAGER

No report

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

Update from Pheasants Forever

10.1 Update from Pheasants Forever

For CRP Sign-up 61

Re-enroll acres 24.26

Clear 30 61.65

New Continues 430.27

CREP 225.04

Total Acres 741.22

Total 37 conservation plans written

Majority of practices are CP38E-25 back forty and CP23A (Wetland Restoration)

Food Plot seed ordering through PF is due Oct 16th.

[Pheasants Forever Update.pdf](#)

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST - NRCS

No report.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 RCRCA

- *RCRCA spent September 24th & 25th at the Lyon County Fairgrounds presenting to*

about 260 5th & 6th graders from the area. The hands-on Stream Table is used to have the children identify sources of pollution on the landscape and the ways the environment is naturally protected. After this discussion, the water is turned on to simulate flooding and the resulting erosion. The kids are informed that the damage caused in 3 minutes will take about 30 years in real life. If the kids are well-behaved, their reward is setting up the landscape for the next class. Discussion on DNR Public Waters.

12.2 Area II River Basins

- **Construction Progress** Three projects have been completed with the new project funding: Fortier 8 and Florida 15 Dam Restorations in Yellow Medicine County, Johnsonville 29 Dam Restoration in Redwood County, and soon, the Island Lake 27 Dam Restoration in Lyon County for the Schenk Family. Ground Works (Bill Sterzinger) was the low bidder and will start as soon as he is notified.
- **Springdale 24/Stream Mitigation** Bolton & Menk staff were onsite September 18-19 assessing the impacted site and the proposed mitigation site. The report is to be available early October.

Another project may be taking place, but need to confirm cost and project ideas with Buffer Enforcement Funds.

12.3 Area V

- **Area V MASWCD Meeting** – At the September meeting, the findings of Houston Engineering's study of the Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area's (SWPTSA) workload and utilization were reviewed. The findings reveal that most of the SWCDs are very low on staff with Job Approval Authority (JAA) for designing structural practices and the SWCDs rely heavily on SWPTSA for their services. The study looked forward 4 to 5 years with the increased workloads when more 1W1Ps are approved, including Cottonwood-Middle MN and Redwood. Both the SWPTSA and member SWCDs need to add more staff, and train existing staff to have JAA to meet the upcoming needs. Additionally, the Cottonwood-Middle MN and Redwood Plans should have discussions if an in-house engineer or experienced engineering technician should be employed to help cover the technical needs of the 1W1Ps.

12.4 SW Prairie TSA

No update

12.5 Parks

No meeting until November.

12.6 One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

No update.

12.7 One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

No update

12.8 One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood-Middle MN

Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update The public hearing was held on September 18 in Springfield. No members of the public were present, nor additional comments were received. Houston Engineering has made the edits to the Plan which has been posted to RCRCA's website. According to the MOA, each partner must pass a resolution to submit the final Plan to BWSR for approval – the county and SWCD resolutions will include 'adopting and implementing' the Plan to avoid enacting on a second resolution to do this. These resolutions for RCRCA, Area II and the City of Springfield will only submit the Plan as these partners will not be joining the joint powers for implementation. Ann Goering has been contacted to review/amend the RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement and draft Bylaws.

12.9 One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

- **Redwood CWMP Update** The Steering Team and Policy Committee met on September 9 to approve the Land and Water Resources Narrative plan section, approve the Priority Resources and Issues, and select the Planning Regions. Prioritizing subwatersheds is in the preliminary stages with heat maps being developed. The Advisory Committee will hold its first meeting on October 14 to provide comments on those approved sections. Materials were provided October 2nd for those unable to attend due to harvest to review and provide comments.

12.10 County Board

Cannabis Updates and planning committees.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date