

Please call office at 651-560-2053 or email susan.cerwinske.wabashaswcd@gmail.com if you have any questions on attending physically or by phone.

We have call-in capabilities for up to 10 people. Phone# 651-560-1088 Access code # 0147478#.

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
August 22, 2024
8:15 am
County Conference Room
625 Jefferson Ave.**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Lynn Zabel, Chair called the meeting to order at 8:15 am

Supervisors Present: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer.

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others Present: Bob Walkes, County Commissioner, Frank Klennert, citizen, Christina Taylor, NRCS

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Agenda as read.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments limited to 5 minutes per speaker

V. CONSENT AGENDA -Board Action

Items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Board and may be enacted through one motion. Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed by any of the Board members for separate consideration.

- A. Johannah Schmitz Contract# 24-SDWGPh2-1 in the amount of \$949.78 for a Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment System. Install by date 11/30/2024
(Funding source – FY24 Safe Drinking Water Grant)
- B. Mehrkens Family Farm Inc. Contract# 22-CS-8 in the amount of \$7,659.00 for Practice 410-Grade Stabilization Structure. Install by date 11/30/2024
(Funding sources – FY22 State Cost Share \$1,924.00, FY23 State Cost Share \$5,735.00)

- C. Don Kastella Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-09 in the amount of \$880.00 for Practice 351 Well Decommissioning. Install by date 12/31/2024.
(Funding source – FY24 WAGZ (Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
(Approved on 8-22 board meeting for \$880.00, the estimate amount. Should be \$660.00 the contracted cost share amount.)
- D. Cole Packer and David Packer Contract# 2024WAGZ-WC-10 in the amount of \$9,000.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops for two years. Install by dates 11/01/2024 and 11/01/2025.
(Funding source – FY24 WAGZ (Watershed Alliance for the Greater Zumbro)
- E. BWSR Grant P25-0560 - 2025 Soil Health Delivery (Wabasha SWCD) in the amount of \$60,000.00.

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the Consent Agenda.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. July 25, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the Secretary's Report as presented.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. July District Financial Statements
Included for your review
- B. Program Record - July

The full spreadsheet was sent to the board in advance.

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve the Treasurer's Report to the best of our ability.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$ 38,314.94- Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$38,314.94.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel
- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes
County discussions trying to get ordinance and regulations for Cannabis in place. January 1, 2025 legal to sell the high potency Cannabis approved by legislation. Limit the number of retail locations to two within the county. Follow the rules as to growing and distribution of Cannabis with restrictions. OCM picks the retail outlets, they do the licensing. Budget being worked on.
- C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters
*Office Move
Submitted grant application for NWTF for staff time on Conservation planning, Climate Change. Partnership with NRCS.
Greg Wyatt, Agroforestry Training 9-17 -9-19-2024. SWCD & NRCS staff training and afternoon field visits.
Soil Health Field Day was well attended. 100 or so.
AmeriCorps new person starts on Monday 8-26. Flexible, can work to address climate change. Help staff with things that they don't have time for. Help with water monitoring, water samples.*
- D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – in the packet
Christina went through the NRCS report at the meeting.
- E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – In the packet
- F. Conservation Planning and Outreach Technician Report– Jenna Rasmusson – (In the packet)
- G. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts – (In the packet)
- H. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant Report -Sue Cerwinske
Getting ready for the move. Moved to new location, Monday August 12th. Sent requested information to the Auditor-starting audit this week.
- I. BWSR Report - Dave Copeland Emailed Report – included in the packet.
- J. Other agencies –

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)
- B. Outstanding Conservationist -**Discussion**
Tom Hunter nominee for Outstanding Conservationist of the year, approved at last meeting. Jenna working on nomination letter and interview. Letter of recommendation by Dag?
- C. Woodland Manager – **Board Action on Nomination**
*Forestry meeting chose Ed Bauman, so we will nominate him for our Woodland Manager of the year. Jenna will be interviewing.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve nomination of Ed Bauman for Woodland Manager of the Year.
Affirmative:
Opposed:
Motion Carried*

XI. NEW BUSINES

- A. Approve Cancellation of Leisen Farms Inc. Contract# 2024WinLaC-Wab-001 in the amount of \$726.21. for 412 Grassed Waterway – **Board Action**
(Project came in below cost estimate and EQIP covered more than 90% of the total cost). (Funding source - FY24 WinLaC)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Approve Cancellation of Leisen Farms Inc. Contract# 2024WinLaC-Wab-001 in the amount of \$726.21 for 412 Grassed Waterway.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- B. Approve Allen John & Melody Revocable Living Trust (John Koepsell) Contract# 23-CS-1 in the amount of \$1,260.00 for Practice 314 Brush Management. – **Board Action. (Install by date 6/1/2025)**
(Funding Source – FY24 Conservation Contracts)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Approve Allen John & Melody Revocable Living Trust (John Koepsell) Contract# 23-CS-1 in the amount of \$1,260.00 for Practice 314 Brush Management.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. Approve Brian Heaser Contract# 20-WWDWP-9 in the amount of \$1,915.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops for 1 year. Install by date 11/01/2024.
(Funding source – FY24 Whitewater Drinking Water Protection)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to Approve Brian Heaser Contract# 20-WWDWP-9 in the amount of \$1,915.00 for Practice 340 Cover Crops for 1 year. Install by date 11/01/2024.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
Approved the audit. Sheila will find the bill.
Discussion on subsidies.
- B. Zumbro 1W1P (WAGZ) – Dag
Policy Meeting next Thursday, the 29th at Oxbow Park, Terri unable to attend, will need backup to go.
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn
Planning Work group meeting on the 27th. Oct. 9th next meeting.
- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB - Dag
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

XIII. Adjourn – Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 am.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted by:



Seth Pentis
Dag Knudsen, Secretary