

**Wabasha Soil and Water Conservation
District Regular Board Meeting
March 27, 2025
8:15 am
611 Broadway Ave. Suite 10B**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:15 am by Lynn Zabel, Chair

Supervisors Present: Lynn Zabel, Chair, Chet Ross, Co-Chair, Sharleen Klennert, Treasurer, Seth Tentis, Secretary

Staff Present: Terri Peters, District Manager

Others Present: Sheila Harmes, Winona County Water Planner and Whitewater Watershed Coordinator, Bob Walkers, County Commissioner, Christina Taylor, NRCS and Frank Klennert, citizen.

II. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE

III. AGENDA

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, 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

i. Contracts

A. Allelu Farms Inc. (Nancy Kohrs) Contract# 24-CC-16 in the amount of \$337.60 for Practice# 380 Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation.

(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts)

B. Reiter Living Trust (William Reiter) Contract# 24-CC-15 in the amount of \$198.54 for Practice# 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt and Renovation and Practice 490 Tree/Shrub Site Preparation.

(Approval contingent on verifying that William is the sole signer for the trust.)

(Funding source – FY24 Conservation Contracts)

ii. Contract Amendments

iii. Vouchers

A.

iv. Grants

v. AgBMB Loan Applications

- A. William Miller AgBMP Loan Application in the amount of \$34,000.00 for purchase of a skid loader to help with the precision of cleaning manure and loading the manure in a timely manner.

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

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT

- A. February 27, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Board Action

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Tentis to approve the Secretary's Report as written.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

VII. TREASURER'S REPORT – Board Action

- A. February District Financial Statements
Included for your review

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Klennert to approve February 27, 2025 Financial Statements to the best of our ability.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- B. February Program Record

Staff hours are not in yet. Billable rates against programs will increase fund balance. Terri went through the program record with the board.

VIII. PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

- A. Monthly Bills in the amount of \$52,321.91 - Board Action

Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Tentis to approve Payment of the Monthly Bills in the amount of \$52,321.91.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

IX. DISTRICT REPORTS

- A. Chair Report – Lynn Zabel

- B. County Commissioner – Bob Walkes

Federal COVID funding was cut off, small amounts that they were counting on.

Personnel Committee Meeting – Fully Staffed.

MCIT will be coming to update valuations of the County Buildings for Insurance purposes.

C. District Manager Report – Terri Peters

Day on the Hill with legislators. Met with Drazkowski, Altendorf by zoom and Jacobs. Bills supporting what we do. Bill being carried by legislators to keep general funds the same or increase. Drazkowski is introducing a bill for funding that should come from the Clean Water Fund. He believes that is meant for SWCD's, before anyone else.

Another legislator is taking bill for tax credit on buffer areas, including SWCD's, to do the certifying all of them.

Meeting with Consultant on wage study analysis. Discussed with Shawn, she will relay back to consultant.

AgBMP annual review meeting

BALMM meeting.

Managers Meeting - Olmsted, RCPP program with NRCS. Soil Health RCPP Policy.

Working with Ella on rain barrels. Troubleshooting on what is needed.

Partner NFWF awarded and executed. Part of the fund can be used to replace Jenna.

DNR Forestry – Federal Grant. Suppose to follow the bid process, but we could include a waiver stating why we didn't follow the bid process.

WIC Funds left. Matt Krueger is contracting with us to do outreach in April. Grant expires in August. Working through with partners.

D. NRCS Report – Christina Taylor – **Attended meeting, gave her report.**

Helping Goodhue with CSP contracts. Going out to check fields.

Area Regional Conservationist is the point of contact for NRCS and SWCDs.

E. District Technician Report- Matt Kempinger – in the packet

F. Natural Resources Technician Report– Katelyn Abts - in the packet

G. Soil Health/Nutrient Management Tech Report – Deanna Pomije –In the packet

H. Bookkeeper/Administrative Assistant Report -Sue Cerwinske -

I. BWSR Report –

J. Other agencies – **Sheila Harnes, Winona County Water Planner and Whitewater Watershed Coordinator.**

An assistant from Green Corps did a project report showcasing what is going on in WinLaC. Will be on the website and some printed. Another project she went through all the DWISMA's in the WinLaC area and found 13 that were moderate or higher, vulnerable. Wellhead plans, action items for all the plans. 5-page 11x17 for all the plans. With this information we can apply for potential funding from MDH for clean water funds for DWISMA areas.

Whitewater last meeting decided to have quarterly meetings. Next meeting 5/27/25.

Working on the reconciliation for the Whitewater Drinking Water grant.

Winona County executed a sub-agreement with Wabasha SWCD for Well Inventory for 2 townships in Winona County. Letters will go out 4/15. GIS parcel assessment.

X. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Conservation Project – Lynn (open to any Supervisor for ideas)
*Observed fields with wash outs and hills with gulleys.
What do we do for something like that?*

XI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Jerry Bright Amendment# 1 to Contract# 2025WAGZ-WC-01 to increase authorized amount to \$14,550.00. – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY24-FY25 Greater Zumbro Watershed Based Funding (WAGZ)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Jerry Bright Amendment #1 to increase the authorized amount to \$14,550.00.
Affirmative: Ross Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- B. Approve Reiter Living Trust (William Reiter) Contract# 2025WinLaC-WAB-008 in the amount of \$35,412.30 for Practices# 410 Grade Stabilization Structure and 412 Grassed Waterway. Install by date 11-30-2025 – **Board Action**
(Funding source – FY2023 – FY2024 WinLaC)
Approval contingent on verifying that William is the sole signer for the trust.)
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve Reiter Living Trust (William Reiter) Contract# 2025WinLaC-WAB-008 in the amount of \$35,412.30 for Practices# 410 Grade Stabilization Structure and 412 Grassed Waterway.
Contingent on verifying that William is the sole signer for the Reiter Living Trust.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried
- C. 2025 Soil Health RCPP Policy – **Discussion and Board Approval-Action**
Terri went over the policy. Work plan will be in ELink. Cost share rates. Data privacy. The Board will see the project#, description on what is being done. To be eligible needs to be an allowable NRCS resource concern. Review of forms, use NRCS forms. BWSR has created a share folder – one for each practice. Batching policy, a batch will be presented at monthly board meeting. The fund is \$180,000.00. Ranking -score funding gets lower.
Motioned by Klennert and seconded by Ross to approve the 2025 Soil Health RCPP Policy, after the policy practices and rates were discussed. Work to finalize practices and rates.
Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel
Opposed: None
Motion Carried

- D. Approve Warren Craig Beighley Contract# 25-CC-7 in the amount of \$215.14 for Practice# 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment. Install by date 8/30/2025 – **Board Action**

(Funding source – FY25 Conservation Contracts)

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Tentis to approve Warren Craig Beighley Contract# 25-CC-7 in the amount of \$215.14 for Practice# 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment.

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

- E. Upcoming Events

- i. Reminder -April 12th, Make Your Own Rain Barrel Day. 9-11 am at Coffee Mill's Ski Chalet.
- ii. April 24, 2025, Regular Board Meeting

XII. Board Reports

- A. Whitewater JPB – Lynn
- B. Zumbro 1W1P – Dag
- C. WinLaC 1W1P – Lynn

Policy Committee Meeting 5/12 and Technical Advisory Board Committee 4/29

- D. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB - Dag
- E. County Board Meeting – Sharleen

XIII. Adjourn

Motioned by Ross and seconded by Tentis to adjourn the meeting 9:30 am

Affirmative: Ross, Klennert, Tentis, Zabel

Opposed: None

Motion Carried

Respectively Submitted By:



Seth Tentis, Secretary