



# Benton Soil & Water Conservation District

www.soilandwater.org

It is the mission of the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District to protect and enhance Benton County's soil, water, and other natural resources; to nurture a conservation ethic by educating county residents on conservation and environmental issues.

Benton SWCD  
Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday  
August 30, 2023  
8:00 A.M.

Chair, Chuck Rau  
Vice Chair, Mike Winkelman  
Secretary, Bernie Thole  
Treasurer, Wade Bastian  
Member, Joe Jordan

Attendance: Supervisors—Wade Bastian, Mike Winkelman, Bernie Thole, Joe Jordan, Chuck Rau  
Other: Gerry Maciej (District Manager), Josh Bork (NRCS District Conservationist),  
and Megan Tritz (District Technician).

In for part of the meeting: Scott Johnson (Benton County Commissioner), Emily Forbord (Watershed and Outreach Specialist), Nathan Sanoski (District/Farm Bill Technician) and  
Jessica Hoheisel (District Technician).

- I. **Call meeting to order**— The meeting was called to order by Rau at 7:58 a.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – recited.
- III. **Approve Agenda**- Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve agenda. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- IV. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**- Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve July minutes. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- V. **One Watershed One Plan** Maciej and Forbord updated the board.
  - A. **Rum River Watershed Partnership**
    - 1) September 11 (upcoming), implementation planning committee meeting
  - B. **Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P**
    - 1) August 2, steering committee meeting
    - 2) August 7, citizen advisory committee meeting
    - 3) August 14, attorney group meeting to discuss implementation arrangement.
    - 4) August 15, technical advisory committee meeting
    - 5) August 29, second attorney group meeting
    - 6) September 6, (upcoming), steering committee meeting
    - 7) September 7, (upcoming), policy committee meeting
    - 8) September 29, (upcoming) landscape stewardship plan meeting
  - C. **Mississippi River Sartell 1W1P**
    - 1) August 25, planning format and timeline discussion with Morrison SWCD

Hoheisel came into the meeting at this time.
- VI. **Other Items**
  - A. Employment status change from full time to part time – Maciej and Hoheisel updated the board on Hoheisel situation.  
Sanoski came into the meeting at this time.

## VII. Conservation Plans

### A. FY 2022 Mayhew Lake / Elk River grant

- 1) FY2022 CWF-ERM1 – Andrew Schefers – Contract Amendment for Feedlot & Manure Storage - Motion by Jordan, second by Winkelman to extend contract complete by date from 9/1/23 to 9/1/24. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) FY2022 CWF-ERM4 – David Emslander – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve contract FY2022-ERM4 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,000 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 3) FY2022 CWF-ERM5 – Matt Marx – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Jordan, second by Winkelman to approve contract FY2022-ERM5 for cost sharing not to exceed \$3,000 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 4) FY2022 CWF-ERM6 – Troy Barthelemy – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Jordan to approve contract FY2022-ERM6 for cost sharing not to exceed \$3,000 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 5) FY2022 CWF-ERM7 – Turnquist Dairy – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve contract FY2022-ERM7 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,000 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 6) FY2022 CWF-ERM8 – Jeff Zimmer – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve contract FY2022-ERM8 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,000 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

### B. FY 2022 BWSR SSTS and FY2022 MPCA SSTS grants

- 1) FY2022-SSTS-06, Mark O' Riley - New contract for septic – Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve contract FY2022-SSTS-06 for cost sharing not to exceed \$9,817.50 (\$5,236.00 from MPCA SSTS and \$4,581.50 from BWSR SSTS) or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

### C. FY 2023 Soil Health grant

- 1) FY23-BSH5 – Spencer Hackett – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve contract FY23-BSH5 for cost sharing not to exceed \$907.15 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) FY23-BSH3 – Brian Rahm – Amended Contract for cover crops - Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to extend contract complete by date from 9/15/23 to 10/15/23 and to amend the amount of cost share from \$1,542.75 to \$2,000.00. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

### D. FY 2023 Drinking Water Protection grant

- 1) FY2023 CWF – WS4, Tresa Neis – New Contract for well sealing – Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve contract FY2023 CWF-WS4 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,628.75 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

2) FY2023 CWF-WS5, Ralph Katka – New Contract for well sealing – Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve contract FY2023 CWF-WS5 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,646.25 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**E. FY 2023 Morrison / Benton Public Water Supply Protection grant**

- 1) CWF-FY23-CC2- Mark Skroch, New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Jordan, second by Winkelman to approve contract CWF-FY23-CC2 for cost sharing not to exceed \$3,728.00. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) CWF-FY23-CC3- Adam Bonovsky, New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve contract CWF-FY23-CC3 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,976.00. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 3) CWF-FY23-CC4- Adam Bonovsky, New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve contract CWF-FY23-CC4 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,490.00. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 4) CWF-FY23-CC5 – Spencer Hackett, New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve contract CWF-FY23-CC5 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,092.85. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**F. FY 2023 Rum River Watershed Based Implementation Funding Non-Structural Practices grant**

- 1) RWBIF-FY23-1, Fred Lentner, New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve contract RWBIF-FY23-1 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,040.00. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**G. MDA Low Interest Loan Program**

- 1) Ranking tiebreaker decision – Motion by Winkelman, second by Thole to approve Seppelts for ranking tiebreaker decision. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) Eagle View Commons update – Maciej informed the board.

Sanoski, Hoheisel, Forbord left the meeting at this time.

**VIII. Treasurers' Monthly Report** - Maciej presented July Program Summary Report. Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve reports. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**VIII. Payment of Bills**

**A.** Benton SWCD Bills - Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve the accounts payable report, pay bills and approved for Maciej to pay the bills that came in latter. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**A.** WCTSA Bills - Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve the WCTSA accounts payable report and pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**IX. MASWCD Area 2 Mural Contest Award Presentation and Recognize Jason and Michelle Petron as the 2023 Outstanding Conservation Cooperators**

**X. Other Items**

**A.** Education and outreach update

**B.** Soil Health Initiative Event

**C.** Set prices for products and services - Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve 2023 price list changes. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

**D.** Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity Statement – Maciej informed the board.

**E.** Consider changes to the personnel policies – Motion by Winkelman, second by Thole to approve personnel policies updates. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

XI. **Progress Reports**

- A. Staff reports
- B. District Manager report
- C. NRCS report
- D. BWSR report
- E. U of M Extension Service

XII. **Information Items**

A. **Supervisor / Manager Reports**

- 1) August 7, Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P Citizen Advisory Committee meeting
- 2) August 12, Little Rock Lake Association annual meeting
- 3) August 16, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting
- 4) August 22, Draft 2024 budget presentation to Benton County
- 5) August 25, Morrison SWCD board meeting – Sartell 1W1P and water quality discussion

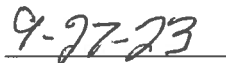
B. **Calendar of Future Events:**

- 1) September 8, Annual Tour of Conservation Practices
- 2) September 12, Soil Health Initiative Event
- 3) September 27, Benton SWCD board meeting

IX. **Supervisor Open Forum**

- X. **Adjourn**– Motion by Thole, second by Jordan to adjourn the board meeting at 11:13 am. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

  
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Secretary, Board of Supervisors

  
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Date