



# 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  
February 22, 2023  
8:00 A.M.

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

## Agenda (All times are estimates)

- I. Call meeting to order ..... 8:00
- II. Pledge of Allegiance ..... 8:01
- III. Approve Agenda ..... 8:02
- IV. Minutes of the Previous Meeting ..... 8:03
- V. Treasurers' Monthly Report ..... 8:04
- VI. Payment of Bills ..... 8:07
  - A. Benton SWCD Bills – action item
  - B. WCTSA Bills – action item
- VII. One Watershed One Plan ..... 8:15
  - A. Rum River
    - 1) January 26 board meeting summary
    - 2) Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) proposal
  - B. Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P
    - 1) Priority concerns letter
    - 2) Land and water resources narrative review
    - 3) January 7 technical advisory committee meeting
    - 4) January 30 open house
    - 5) February 1 steering committee meeting
    - 6) February 22 technical advisory committee meeting (scheduled)
    - 7) To be determined, policy committee meeting
- VIII. Conservation Plans ..... 8:45
  - A. MDA Ag. BMP Low Interest Loan Program
    - 1) Shawn Pollard – Low interest loan application - action item (Tabled in January)
- IX. Other Items ..... 8:50
  - A. Education and outreach update – information item
  - B. Update authorized representatives on the bank accounts – action item
  - C. Consider investing in certificate of deposits – action item
  - D. Technician vacancy update – information item
  - E. Little Rock Creek update – information item
  - F. Consider purchasing a drone – action item
  - G. Programs update

- 1) FY 2023 Drinking Water Protection Grant, approve scoring sheet and cost sharing rates – action item
- 2) BWSR statewide RIM – information item
- 3) FY23 Soil health cost share program, approve program docket – action item
- 4) BWSR cover crop grant (partnership grant with Morrison SWCD) – information item
- 5) MDA Soil health equipment grants – information item
- 6) Benton County farming sustainability initiative presentation – information item
- 7) FY23 MPCA SSTS grant - Amend agreement with Benton County to administer the SSTS low-income upgrade programs – action item
- 8) BWSR LCCMR Forest restoration (Rum River watershed) – information item

**H. Legislative update – information item**

**X. Progress Reports.....11:00**

- A.** Staff reports
- B.** District Manager report
- C.** NRCS report
- D.** BWSR report

**XI. Information Items.....11:30**

**A. Supervisor / Manager Reports**

- 1) January 24, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting
- 2) January 25, SWCD Legislative Advocacy Webinar
- 3) January 26, Rum River Watershed JPB meeting
- 4) January 31, Mississippi River St. Cloud One Watershed One Plan Kickoff Event
- 5) February 7, MASWCD Area 2 and West Central Technical Service Area meetings

**B. Calendar of Future Events:**

- 1) February 22, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting
- 2) March 2, We Are Water exhibit opening ceremony
- 3) March 7 & 8, MASWCD legislative briefing and Day at the Capitol
- 4) March 15, BWSR treasurer training, Sauk Centre
- 5) March 16 (tentative), DNR groundwater management area public meeting
- 6) March 22, Benton SWCD board meeting
- 7) March 23, Rum River Watershed board meeting
- 8) To be determined (March), Mississippi River St. Cloud One Watershed One Plan policy committee meeting
- 9) April 27 – 28, Benton SWCD tree pickup dates scheduled

**XII. Supervisor Open Forum .....11:45**

**XIII. Adjourn.....12:00**