



# 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  
July 26, 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  
Other: Gerry Maciej (District Manager) and Renee Thell (Administrative Assistant).

In for part of the meeting: Scott Johnson (Benton County Commissioner), Michelle Meyer, (Benton County Attorney), Emily Forbord (Watershed and Outreach Specialist), Megan Tritz (District Technician), and Mike McMillin (District Technician).

- I. **Call meeting to order**– The meeting was called to order by Winkelman at 8:07 a.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**– recited.
- III. **Approve Agenda**- Motion by Bastian, second by Thole 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 Bastian, second by Jordan to approve June minutes. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- V. **Treasurers' Monthly Report**- Maciej presented June Program Summary Report. Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve reports. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.  
Michelle Meyers came into the meeting at this time and left after MRSC 1W1P discussion on legal arrangements.
- VI. **Payment of Bills**
  - A. Benton SWCD Bills - Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report. Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. Winkelman abstains from the voting. The motion passed.
  - B. WCTSA Bills - none
- VII. **One Watershed One Plan** – Maciej and Forbord presented to the board.
  - A. **Rum River Watershed Partnership**
    - 1) August 14 (upcoming), implementation planning committee meeting
  - B. **Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P**
    - 1) Discuss legal arrangement options for the Implementation Phase – Michelle Meyer, Senior Assistant County Attorney – invited guest
    - 2) July 5, steering committee meeting
    - 3) July 6, policy committee meeting
    - 4) July 18, technical advisory committee meeting
    - 5) August 2 (upcoming), steering committee meeting
    - 6) TBD, (upcoming), citizen advisory committee meeting
    - 7) August 15 (upcoming), technical advisory committee meeting
    - 8) September 7, (upcoming), policy committee meeting

### C. Mississippi River Sartell 1W1P

1) August 25 (proposed), planning format and timeline discussion with Morrison SWCD Johnson left the meeting at this time. Tritz and McMillin came into the meeting at this time and left after the Conservation Plans.

## VIII. Conservation Plans

### A. FY 2021 Mayhew Lake / Elk River grant

- 1) FY2021 CWF-ERM16, Jon Henry – Contract Amendment Request for erosion control amendment – Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve contract amendment FY2021 CWF-ERM16 for cost sharing amendment for extra \$2,018.83 for the cost share project for a grand total of \$10,670.91. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- 2) FY2021 CWF-ERM16, Jon Henry – Final Payment Request for erosion control - Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve final payment for contract FY2021 CWF-ERM16 for payment \$10,131.97. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

### B. FY 2023 Drinking Water Protection grant

- 1) FY2023 CWF-WS1, Tommy Udermann – New Contract for sealing two wells – Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve contract FY2023 CWF-WS1 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,552.50 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-WS2, John Rahm – New Contract for well sealing – Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to approve contract FY2023 CWF-WS2 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,473.75 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.
- 3) FY2023 CWF-WS3, Duane Didier – New Contract for well sealing – Motion by Thole, second by Bastian to approve contract FY2023 CWF-WS3 for cost sharing not to exceed \$1,530.00 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 2022 Mayhew Lake / Elk River grant

- 1) FY2022-CWF-ERM3, Richard Robak – New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve contract FY2022-CWF-ERM3 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,000.00 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.

### D. FY 2022 MPCA SSTS & BWSR SSTS grants

- 1) FY2022-SSTS-05, Rita Johnson – New Contract for septic – Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve contract FY2022-SSTS-05 for cost sharing not to exceed \$10,000.00 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.

## IX. Other Items

A. Education and outreach update – Forbord updated the board.

Forbord left the meeting at this time.

B. MDA Agricultural BMP low interest loan program allocation increase – Maciej updated the board.

C. Execute the Landscape Stewardship Planning Agreement with Sherburne SWCD and local partners – Motion by Jordan, second by Thole to sign the Landscape Stewardship Planning Agreement. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

D. Consider resolution 2023-01 Benton Soil and Water Conservation District 2023 Guidelines on the Use of SWCD Aid Payments – Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve the resolution 2023-01 Benton SWCD 2023 Guidelines on the Use of SWCD Aid Payment. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

X. **Progress Reports**

- A. Staff reports – Forbord came into the meeting to discuss use of drone. Forbord left right after report.
- B. District Manager report – Maciej updated the board.
- C. NRCS report - none
- D. BWSR report - none
- E. U of M Extension Service - none

XI. **Information Items**

A. **Supervisor / Manager Reports**

- 1) June 29, Benton SWCD 75-year anniversary open house
- 2) July 6, Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P policy committee meeting
- 3) July 13, We Are Water Agricultural Field Day – Glen and Brian Kaschmitter Farm

B. **Calendar of Future Events:**

- 1) To be determined, Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P Citizen Advisory Committee meeting
- 2) August 16, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting
- 3) August 22, Draft 2024 budget presentation to Benton County
- 4) August 30 (5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday), Benton SWCD board meeting
- 5) September 8, Annual Tour of Conservation Practices

XII. **Supervisor Open Forum**

XIII. **Adjourn**– Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to adjourn the board meeting at 10:54 am. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

Bonnie Thole  
Secretary, Board of Supervisors

8-30-23  
Date

