



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
January 24, 2024
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, Joe Jordan,

Other: Gerry Maciej (District Manager) Josh Bork (NRCS District Conservationist), Emily Forbord (Watershed & Outreach Specialist) Zach Guttormson (BWSR Board Conservationist) and Ed Popp (Benton County Commissioner)

In for part of the meeting: Renee Thell (Administrative Assistant)

- I. **Call meeting to order**– The meeting was called to order by Winkelman at 9:13 a.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**- recited.
- III. **Approve Agenda**- Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve January agenda with suggested changes. 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 December 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 December Program Summary Report. Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve reports. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- VI. **Payment of Bills**
 - A. Benton SWCD Bills - Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve the accounts payable report, pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
 - B. WCTSA Bills - Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve the WCTSA accounts payable report, pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
- VII. **One Watershed One Plan**- Forbord and Maciej updated the board on the process with the 1W1P meetings.
 - A. **Rum River Watershed Partnership**
 - 1) January 8, implementation planning committee meeting
 - 2) January 9, outreach office hour
 - 3) January 25 (upcoming), Rum River Watershed board meeting
 - 4) February 12 (upcoming), implementation planning committee meeting
 - 5) February 13 (upcoming), outreach office hour
 - B. **Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P**
 - 1) January 3, City of St. Cloud subcommittee meeting
 - 2) January 3, steering committee meeting
 - 3) January 4, policy committee meeting
 - 4) January 10, monitoring subcommittee meeting
 - 5) January 16, Benton County board meeting – jpa discussion
 - 6) January 16, technical advisory committee meeting
 - 7) January 17, governance (member attorneys) meeting
 - 8) January 23, education and outreach subcommittee meeting

- 9) January 29 (upcoming), citizen advisory committee meeting
- 10) February 5 (upcoming), landscape stewardship plan final meeting
- 11) February 7 (upcoming), steering committee meeting
- 12) February 20 (upcoming), technical advisory committee meeting

C. Mississippi River Sartell 1W1P

- 1) None

VIII. Other Items

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

Thell left the meeting at this time.

B. Set 2024 board meeting dates - Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve 2024 board meeting dates.

A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

C. Set committees for 2024 - Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve 2024 committee assignments.

A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

D. Purchase of water monitoring equipment - Motion by Bastian, second by Jordan to approve the purchase of new water monitoring equipment up to \$15,000 and 2022 work plan changes for staff time needs to be done. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

IX. Progress Reports

A. Staff reports – accomplishments were sent out in the board packets.

B. NRCS report – Bork updated the board.

C. BWSR report – Guttormson updated the board.

D. District Manager report – Maciej updated the board.

X. Information Items

A. Supervisor / Manager Reports

- 1) January 4, Mississippi River policy committee meeting

- 2) January 22, Soil Health Team meeting

B. Calendar of Future Events:

- 1) January 25, Rum River Watershed board meeting

- 2) February 28 Benton SWCD board meeting

- 3) March 6, MASWCD area 2 meeting

- 4) March 18, Soil Health Team meeting

XI. Supervisor Open Forum

VIII. Adjourn– Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to adjourn the board meeting at 11:29 am. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

Bernie Thole
Secretary, Board of Supervisors

2-28-24
Date