

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING AGENDA

Lyon County Soil & Water Office

1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Lyon County Soil and Water Conservation District

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie
Staff - Courtney Williams, John Biren, Blake Giles County - Gary Crowley Other -
Justin Hively, Mason Johnson Absent - Cauwels & Boerboom

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited Pledge of Allegiance (4:10 p.m.)

2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Meulebroeck abstained from agenda items 6.3 and 6.4

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

Motion to approve agenda with addition of 6.16 - Board Meeting Date Discussion

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve as Amended

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

3.1 December 11, 2024 SWCD Agenda

[2024 December Agenda.pdf](#)

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.1 Approve Minutes from November 13, 2024 Meeting

[2024 November SWCD Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion to approve minutes from November 13, 2024 Meeting

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.1 2024 SWCD Budget

Staff presented 2024 SWCD Budget

[2024 Budget.pdf](#)

5.2 Account Activity Report

Staff presented Account Activity Report

[Account Activity Report.pdf](#)

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

Staff presented Grant Breakdown Sheet
[Grant Breakdown.pdf](#)

6. BUSINESS

6.1 GBERBA November 2024 Update

Staff Presented GBERBA update; Two new applications completed – 19 certifications, 40 assessments done

[GBERBA.pdf](#)

6.2 #04/22 - Earl Skaar - Cost Share Voucher Approval

Motion to approve Final Payment for #04/22 - Earl Skaar in the amount of \$7,072.41. Total amount of project was \$43,402.00. Partial payment on project was \$24,723.53 approved on December 20, 2022. Total Landowner amount was \$10,598.64. Project came in under due to less dirt work \$1,007.41. Total amount of \$7,072.41 will be taken out of FY 2022 Local Capacity.

[Earl Skaar.pdf](#)

Motion to approve #04/22 - Earl Skaar in the amount of \$7,072.41

Mover: Gary Laleman

Second: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.3 Motion for amendment to extend FY 2023 State Cost Share Grant and Motion to extend Cost Share Contracts #06/24 Richard Coad-NW Farm Management and #20/24 Lynda Meulebroeck Trust to 12/31/2025

Grant and Contract extensions due to contractor availability and short construction season.

[Coad Extension.pdf](#)

[Meulebroeck Extension.pdf](#)

[2022-2023_SWCD_Programs_and_Operations_Grants.pdf](#)

Motion for amendment to extend FY 2023 State Cost Share Grant to 12/31/2025.

Mover: John Lanoue

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Steve Prairie

Abstain: 1 - Mark Meulebroeck

Motion Result: Passed

Motion to extend Cost Share Contracts #06/24 Richard Coad-NW Farm Management and #20/24 Lynda Meulebroeck Trust to 12/31/2025

Mover: John Lanoue

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Steve Prairie

Abstain: 1 - Mark Meulebroeck

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.4 Motion for amendment to extend FY 2023 Wetland Conservation Act - NRBG Grant and Motion to extend Cost Share Contracts #21/24 Lilianna St. Aubin and #20/24 Lynda Meulebroeck Trust to 12/31/2025

Grant and Contract extensions due to contractor availability and short construction season.

[Meulebroeck Extension.pdf](#)

[St. Aubin Extension.pdf](#)

[2022-2023_Natural_Resources_Block_Grant_-_Lyon - Grant Amendment - Extension.pdf](#)

Motion for amendment to extend FY 23 Wetland Conservation Act - NRBG Grant

Mover: John Lanoue

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Steve Prairie

Abstain: 1 - Mark Meulebroeck

Motion Result: Passed

Motion to extend Cost Share Contracts #21/24 Lilianna St. Aubin and #20/24 Lynda Meulebroeck Trust to 12/31/2025

Mover: John Lanoue

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Steve Prairie

Abstain: 1 - Mark Meulebroeck

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.5 Motion to extend contract #03/24 Virgil Johnson/Joyce Greeley to 12- 31-2025

Project was not completed in 2024 due to large precipitation events in the spring, early ground freeze in the fall and lack of contract availability.

[Greeley Extension.pdf](#)

Motion to extend contract #03/24 Virgil Johnson/Joyce Greeley to 12-31-2025

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.6 #02/24 - Francis Dehmer - NW Farm Management - Cost Share Amendment

Amendment due to additional dirt work costs.

[Dehmer Amendment.pdf](#)

Motion to amend #02/24 - Francis Dehmer - NW Farm Management - Cost Share Contract

Mover: Steve Prairie

Seconded: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.7 #02/24 - Francis Dehmer - NW Farm Management - Cost Share Voucher Approval

Motion to approve Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$27,941.51 which is 75% of the project cost of \$37,255.35. Landowner cost is \$9,313.84. Funds will be taken out of FY 22 Local Capacity, FY 24 & FY 25 Conservation Delivery and FY 23 SWCD Aid.

[Dehmer Voucher.pdf](#)

Motion to approve #02/24 - Francis Dehmer - NW Farm Management - Cost Share Voucher

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconded: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.8 C22-7759 - Custer 7 & Sodus 32 Water Quality & Storage Grant - Cost Share Voucher Approval

County Ditch 14 repair, substantially completed by November 15th. Three Dams, DNR offered to pay \$65,000 for helping with stoplog structure and that was supposed to be our match to the grant. Bills to date, a little over \$ 200,000. Match now from landowners donated land with lesser payment per acre for easements, \$500/ac. All easements have not been paid out yet. Biren would like to continue this discussion after the Liaison meeting next week December 18th at 9:00AM. This grant needs to be paid out by December 31st, 2024.

6.9 Judicial Ditch 15 Multipurpose Drainage Management Cost Share Voucher Approval

Item not discussed as no action from the board was necessary.

6.10C23-3168 - City of Marshall - Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot - Cost Share Voucher Approval

Voucher in the amount of \$3,100.00.

[City of Marshall Voucher.pdf](#)

Motion to pay Cost Share Voucher as reimbursement to the City of Marshall for the Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot Grant for seed.

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconded: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.11C23-3168 - City of Marshall - Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot - Approval of Extra Seed Invoice
\$728 from SWCD to pay City of Marshall for half of seed to cover the remaining acres. Funds are out of Miscellaneous Funds.
[City of Marshall Extra Seed.pdf](#)

Motion to pay Extra Seed Invoice as reimbursement to the City of Marshall for the Habitat Enhancement Landscape Pilot Grant.

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.12#36/24 - Kristie Nuese - Well Sealing Cost Share Contract and Voucher Approval
Motion to approve Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$500.00 which is 50% up to \$500.00 per Cost Share Policy. Total cost of Well Sealing was \$1,260.00. Landowner share is \$760.00.
[Nuese Well Sealing.pdf](#)

Motion to approve Cost Share Contract and Voucher payment

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.13#05/24 - Anthony Lindsley - Cost Share Voucher Approval
Approve Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$17,265.76, which is 75% of the total cost of \$23,021.01. Landowner share is \$5,755.25.
[Anthony Lindsley.pdf](#)

Motion to approve Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$17,265.76.

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.14103C.315 Subd. 5 Supervisor Compensation - Discussion

Prairie wants to discuss per diem, Past raises: \$30 à \$60 à \$75, proposed raise: \$125 (State Statute Rate) to start in January 2025. Will cost an extra \$6,000 for a full year for all supervisors (Avg. 2 meetings a month) . Board wants to stay current with neighboring counties. Bring to Liaison meeting for discussion.

[103c.315 Subd. 4.pdf](#)

Motion to raise meeting rate to \$125 per meeting for SWCD supervisors.

Mover: Steve Prairie

Seconder: Mark Meulebroeck

Moved To: Approve
Motion Result: Passed

6.15#28/24 - Bakker Family Trust - Cost Share Voucher Approval

Approved Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$1,249.25. Total cost paid by EQIP through NRCS was \$20,754.00. Landowner amount of \$10,341.00. Project certified by NRCS State Engineer.

[Bakker Family Trust.pdf](#)

Motion to approve Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$1,249.25.

Mover: Mark Meulebroeck

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mark Meulebroeck, Steve Prairie

Motion Result: Passed

6.162025 SWCD Meeting Day and Time - Discussion

Day that work best for new and current board member: 2nd Wednesday of the month

Best time: No mornings, no noon hour;

Preferred: 4:00PM Nov- Apr; 7:00PM May - Oct

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

- *Giles: Went to MASWCD Annual Conference to sit on a panel for the Turn-Key Drainage Water Management projects happening in Lyon County. These projects consist of installing stoplog structures on tile lines to hold and release water as needed. He attended ArcPro training as the district will need to transition to this program at some point.*
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- *Williams: Busy construction month, she has been staking out projects, doing as-builts and meeting with contractors. WCA has been pretty quit, but a replacement plan is in the process and she's working with Blake to finish up feedlots for the year.*

8. DISTRICTADMIN

No report

9. DISTRICT MANAGER

Erosion issues on Redwood River – Netzke looking to get credits for streambank wetland restoration, addition riprap from a pilot program to combat Redwood River Erosion. No looking to “improve backyards” with our conservation funds.

MASWCD Convention – WCA statute changes got rid of extensions, categorizing wetlands and relying on NRCS Wetland Determination more than previously. Concerns of

getting determinations from absentee landowners, working with neighboring counties to interpret new rule and statute changes.

Honor Steve and Mark with plaques for 26 years of service and 20 years of services.

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL

BIOLOGIST *No report*

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST - NRCS

District Conservations in Lyon County – Hailey Bornitz; Parker will be in Lincoln County full-time, but will be part-time in Lyon County for the time being.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1 RCRCA

- **Xcel Energy Transmission Line** *An Open House and Public Hearing was held on November 7 concerning the modified blue line route that is preferred by Xcel Energy. Xcel did make several changes based on comments received. The number of times that the line crosses the Redwood River and Cottonwood River have been reduced and some conservation easement lands avoided. These were comments provided by RCRCA.*
- **Legislative Leadership Positions** *Senator Dahms has been elected Assistant Minority Leader for the Senate. Representative Torkelson has been elected Republican Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee (which creates the state budget).*
- **Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update** *The BWSR Southern Region Committee will meet virtually on December 9 to review and recommend Plan approval to the full BWSR Board in January 2025. Netzke will be doing the presenting with others online to help answer questions as they arise. Attorney Ann Goering is working on the revisions to RCRCA's joint powers for Plan implementation and draft Bylaws. These documents are expected by the end of December.*

The Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 19 at 1:00 PM. No meetings in December.

- **Redwood CWMP Update** *The Policy Committee will meet Monday, January 13, 2025 at 1:00 PM.
No meetings in December.*

12.2 Area II River Basins

- **Island Lake 27 Dam Restoration** *Ground Works (Bill Sterzinger) was not able to start the project as he was committed to projects with funding sources that expire 12/31/2024. Partial Payment No. 1 was processed to pay him for materials on hand. Spring 2025 construction is planned.*

- **Springdale 24 Dam (Redwood)** Bolton & Menk completed their assessment without using the Debit Calculator (USACE spreadsheet). A TEAMS meeting was held on November 21 with Bolton & Menk staff and USACE. The field data and impacts are good, but the mitigation (or 'functional feet') must be calculated with the Debit Calculator. Bolton & Menk recomputed the impacts using the spreadsheet and increased the impact from 89 functional feet to 150.5 functional feet. We now have to locate and design a stream restoration to offset the impacts as a "bank" is not yet available to purchase credits.

12.3 Area V

Last meeting in September, next in February 20th planning to do Zoom meeting, June will be a County to host

12.4 Parks

Legacy money will cover cost for some land hoping to be purchased by the park dept., camping rates up to \$25/night, Garvin Park Camper cabins 2026, and electric discussed for upper and lower campground

12.5 One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

No report

12.6 One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

Discuss: need to appoint someone for being on board for Des Moines

12.7 One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood - Middle MN

Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update The BWSR Southern Region Committee will meet virtually on December 9 to review and recommend Plan approval to the full BWSR Board in January 2025. Netzke will be doing the presenting with others online to help answer questions as they arise.

Attorney Ann Goering is working on the revisions to RCRCA's joint powers for Plan implementation and draft Bylaws. These documents are expected by the end of December.

The Policy Committee will meet on Wednesday, February 19 at 1:00 PM. No meetings in December.

12.8 County Board

No county update, next meeting on December 17th board will be setting levy (potentially increase to 4.2%) and setting the County budget.

12.9 One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

The Policy Committee will meet Monday, January 13, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

No meetings in December.

12.10 SWPTSA

No Update

13. ADJOURNMENT

Not adjourned due to Custer 7 & Sodus 32 grant discussion on December 18th, 2024.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date