

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office
1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600
Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Lyon County Soil and Water Conservation District

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson
Staff: Blake Giles, Courtney Williams, Anita Cauwels, John Biren, Brock Boerboom County:
Gary Crowley Other: Scott Williams, Megan Williams

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *All*

recited Pledge of Allegiance

2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST *No conflict of Interest.*

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

Approve March 12, 2025 Agenda

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Johnson to approved March 12, 2025 Agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

Mover: Allen Deutz

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

3.1 March 12, 2025 SWCD Agenda

[March 2025 Agenda.pdf](#)

4. APPROVE MINUTES *Approve*

February 12, 2025 Minutes

4.1 February 12, 2025 SWCD Minutes

[February SWCD Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Deutz to approved February 12, 2025 Minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Allen Deutz

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.1 2025 SWCD Budget

Cauwels presented 2025 SWCD

Budget [2025 Budget.pdf](#)

5.2 Account Activity Report

Cauwels presented Account Activity Report
[Account Activity Report.pdf](#)

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

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

6. BUSINESS

6.1 RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement

[RCRCA Amended Joint Powers Agreement for One Watershed One Plan Implementation.pdf](#)

Motion by Lanoue, 2nd by Johnson to approve Chairman Laleman to sign the RCRCA Joint Powers Agreement. All in favor, motion carried.

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.2 #08/25 - Megan Williams - Grassed Waterway & Water & Sediment Control Basin - Cost Share Contract

Plan is to reshape a Grassed Waterway and to construct 6 - Water & Sediment Control Basins. Total project amount is \$60,107.70. 75% Cost Share is \$45,080.77. Non-farmable practice. Total Landowner cost is \$15,0265.93. Funds will be from SWCD Aid.

[Megan Williams Cost Share.pdf](#)

Motion by Detuz, 2nd by Lanoue to approve Grassed Waterway & WASCOB Cost Share Contract. All in favor, motion carried

Mover: Allen Deutz

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.3 #07/25 - Joseph Haney - Soil Health Cost Share

Total amount of contract is \$2,185.20.

[Joseph Haney - Soil Health.pdf](#)

Motion by Lanoue, 2nd by Hively to approve No Till contract for Soil Health Cost Share. All in favor, motion carried.

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconder: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.4 #06/25 - Nathan Leach - Soil Health Cost Share

Total contract amount is \$19,198.31. Multi -Species Cover Crop, No-till & Conservation Crop Rotation. Practice max of \$7,500 met for Cover Crops.
[Nathan Leach - Soil Health.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Hively to approved Soil Health Cost Share for Cover Crops, No Till/Strip Till/ Conservation Crop Rotation.

Mover: Mason Johnson

Seconder: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

For: 5 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

Giles discussed DNR Well Project. DNR will pay us \$720.00 for us to test 3 wells. Will need to sign a Joint Powers Agreement. June Time Frame. Williams attended meetings for Employee Meeting, TSA Meeting - possible starting to charge for engineering. Working on Soil Health Contracts. HWY. 14 Tour, 60 attended. Cattleman's Association Meeting went well. Working with TSA on designs for projects. Boerboom - elected new board, TSA meeting. Working on Easement stuff. Re-sending out Bids. Meeting with CD12 for projects. WIA, sending out postcards. 1 re-enrollment. 1st week of May deadline. Environmental Fair sponsorship ramping up.

8. DISTRICT ADMIN

9. DISTRICT MANAGER

Meetings with Comprehensive Plan, Clean Energy Resources Teams. Had a document that counties and potentially state that energy provider can use for information. Can be used for information for Housing Development Green Space. Can try and offset revenue use. Only applies up to 5mW. Custer Township - Xcel Energy proposal for large substation and natural gas peaking plants. Wind and Solar will feed these plants.

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

Handout for Targeted Conservation Solutions. Data-driven approach to increase profitability and conservation value on your farm. Can earn a one-time precision conservation incentive payment on the acres that remain in production when you make a management change following your PACS Consultation.

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST -

NRCS No report

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1RCRCA

- **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Update** The Steering Team Policy Committee met on February 19 and again on March 7 for a full day session to revise various documents needed for the \$1.9M WBIF grant application and implementation (scoring and ranking worksheet, cost-share policy, cost-share procedures, etc.). A virtual meeting is being scheduled for March 18 to review the revised documents and see demonstrations of the Des Moines' Scoring and Ranking worksheet and the Benefits Estimator and Summary Tool (BEAST). The grant application is due April 30.

- **Redwood CWMP Update** The Advisory Committee/Steering Team met on Monday, March 10 to discuss/review the Priority Issues and Measurable Goals sections and see the draft Implementation Tables for the first time. Houston Engineering is estimating 10-year reductions of 11% sediment, 5% total phosphorus and 5% total nitrogen. These reductions are very similar to neighboring watersheds. The Policy Committee met at 1:00 PM following the Advisory Committee/Steering Team. It was decided that Plan Administration will follow the Cottonwood-Middle MN Plan utilizing RCRCAs joint powers agreement. The next Policy Committee meeting will be Monday, May 12 at 1:00 PM at the Lyon County Government Center.

[Area II - RCRCAs Report.pdf](#)

12.2Area II River Basins

- **Senator Tina Smith** Jeanne Poppe, Outreach Specialist was in Marshall on 2/26/25 and listened to the concerns of Commissioner Crowley, John Biren (SCWD and P&Z), Aurora Heard (county auditor) and myself. I used the time to voice my frustrations with the Stream Assessment program implemented by US Army Corps of Engineers (lack of field visits, need for professionals to do the assessments, extra costs, etc.)
- **Legislative Requests** Bill introductions.

Administrative Funds

House File 939/Senate File 946(Both bills referred to Natural Resources Finance)

“\$190,000 in fiscal year 2026 and \$190,000 in fiscal year 2027 are appropriated from the general fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for grants to Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects for floodplain management.”

Capital Investment:**House File 1455/Senate File 904** (Both bills referred to Capital Investment)

“\$1,500,000 is appropriated from the bond proceeds fund to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a grant to Minnesota River Basin Projects for the state’s share of a flood hazard mitigation grant for capital improvements to prevent or alleviate flood damage in Area II of the Minnesota River Basin. This appropriation is not available until the board determines that \$1 has been committed from nonstate sources for every \$3 of state grant.”

If appropriated, this funding would replace the General Fund appropriation received in 2023.

- **BWSR Water Quality & Storage Grants** Netzke intends to submit this application before the April 10 due date for the Lynd 31 Road Retention (Lyon County). We are updating the cost estimate, including a stream mitigation estimate, and resubmitting this application which just missed the funding cutoff in 2024.

12.3 Area V

Meeting was held on February 20, 2025, Virtually. SMSU Research Farm - 55 acres, demonstrations on different plantings. Next meeting will be held on June 26, 2025 in Windom (Cottonwood County)

12.4 SWPTSA

12.5 Parks

No meeting

12.6 One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

No report.

12.7 One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

No report

12.8 One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood - Middle MN

February meeting - maps, etc. will hopefully start implementing projects soon.

12.9 One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

Going over action tables in order to decipher targeted issues in the watershed. Measurable goals are in approved draft state.

12.10 County Board

Levy discussions. Fairground repair buildings.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 6:00 p.m.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date