

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office

1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600

Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Present: Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Absent: Allen Deutz

Staff: John Biren, Brock Boerboom, Ben Skorczewski & Anita Cauwels

County: Paul Graupmann

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF

INTEREST *No conflict of interest.*

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

3.1 September 2025 Agenda

[September 2025 Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Lanoue to approve September 2025 Agenda

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Approve August 13, 2025 Minutes

4.1 August 13, 2025 Minutes

[August SWCD Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Johnson to approve August 13, 2025 Minutes

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.1 Account Activity Report

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

5.2 2025 SWCD Budget

Cauwels presented 2025 SWCD Bidget

[2025 Budget.pdf](#)

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

Cauwels presented Grant Breakdown Sheet

[SKM_C360i25090813460.pdf](#)

6. BUSINESS

6.1 2024 Draft Audit

[12 31 24 Lyon SWCD DRAFT FS.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Hively to approve Draft Audit

Mover: Mason Johnson

Second: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.2 2024 Peterson Company Audit - Management Representation Letter

[COR-901 Management Representation Letter - Published.docx](#)

Motion to approve signing Management Representation Letter by Johnson, 2nd by Lanoue.

Mover: Mason Johnson

Second: John Lanoue

Moved To:

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason

Johnson Motion Result:

6.3 #27/25 - Jon Brower - Well Sealing - Cost Share Approval

Total invoice for a 5" Well Sealing is \$1,961.50. Approve to pay \$500.00 per Well Sealing Policy.

[Jon Brower - Well Sealing.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Lanoue to approve Well Sealing

Mover: Mason Johnson

Second: John Lanoue

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.4 #24/25 - Eric Vandendriessche - Cover Crop - Conservation Crop Rotation - Soil Health Delivery Contract Approval

Total contract amount is \$9,094.80 for 56 acres of Cover Crops-Multi Species and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic.

[Eric Vandendriessche - Cover Crop.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Hively to approve Soil Health Delivery Contract

Mover: Mason Johnson

Second: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson
Motion Result: Passed

- 6.5 #25/25 - Bobbi Vandendriessche - Cover Crop - Conservation Crop Rotation - Soil Health Delivery Contract Approval
Total contract amount is \$8,965.27 for 55 acres of Cover Crops-Multi Species and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic.
[Bobbi Vandendriessche - Cover Crop.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Johnson to approve Soil Health Delivery Contract

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.6 #17/24 - Bill, Dan, & John Fischer - Cost Share Contract Amendment - Approval
Cost Share Amendment for #17/24. Amount was increased due to the size of the fully so extra dirt work was required. Also, site prep/tree removal was not indicated on the original cost estimate.
[Fischer Amendment.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Johnson to approve Cost Share Amendment

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.7 #17/24 - Bill, Dan & John Fischer - Grassed Waterway - Voucher Approval
Approval of Cost Share Voucher in the amount of \$ 40,334.18. Landowner share is \$20,601.53. EQIP funds were initially indicated on the contract, but project was not funded with EQIP. Landowner is paying the share that was originally going to be covered in the amount of \$7,156.80, plus the original landowner funds of \$13,340.00. SWCD is funding 66% of total amount.
[Fischer - Voucher.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Hively to approve Cost Share Voucher

Mover: Mason Johnson

Seconder: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

- 6.8 Cottonwood Lake/CD 69 - Water Quality Grant - Letter of Support -University of MN - SW Research & Outreach Center
Cottonwood Lake/CD 69 - Water Quality Grant - Letter of Support - University of MN -SW Research & Outreach Center for them to apply for the Improving Water Quality and Strengthening Local Economies Grant involving in-channel floodwater storage and pollutant removal through

plant species diversity and density.

[Letter of Support - Cottonwood Lake.pdf](#)

Motion by Lanoue, 2nd by Johnson to approve to have Letter of Support signed by Staff.

Mover: John Lanoue

Seconded: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6.9 #28/25 - Tom Staniszewski - Well Sealing - Contract Approval

Total invoice for a 5" Well Sealing is \$1,961.50. Approve to pay \$500.00 per Well Sealing Policy.

[Tom Staniszewski - Well Sealing.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Hively to approve Well Sealing

Mover: Mason Johnson

Seconded: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

Boerboom - Working on RCPP approvals, Soil Loss Training, E-Fair Schedules. Skorzewski - Finishing Feedlot Inspections, Rim Checks

8. DISTRICT ADMIN

9. DISTRICT MANAGER

Applied for MDA Grant. Waiting for J D 12 Grant Agreement. CD 17 Restoration, Septic Systems going in. CD 12 and JD 15 grants completed. Garvin Park project is close to being complete.

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

CRP is wrapping up will be some water Quality Easements to improve quality in wellhead areas.

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST -

NRCS *No report*

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1RCRCA

- **MCEA Petitions MPCA to permit Public Agricultural Drainage Systems** *A news article was received August 28th (attached) announcing that MCEA, on behalf of nine environmental organizations, has filed a petition with MPCA asking for regulation of certain agricultural drainage systems.*
- **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Update** *The final Policy Committee meeting was held on August 20 to approve the final expenditures and close out the planning grant.*

Netzke submitted the final report in eLINK and requested reimbursement of \$25,300 (10% grant). BWSR requested information to reconcile the grant expenditures, and upon completion of this, the reimbursement will be made to RCRCa.

- **Redwood CWMP Update** Formal Review (August 1 – September 30) is ongoing. The Steering Team and Policy Committee will meet on October 13 to address comments and to plan the public hearing on November 10. The WBIF grant amount will be \$1,121,292 for this watershed.
- **Cottonwood-Middle MN WBIF** The implementation process has been working smoothly. Courtney Williams has been a great addition to the RCRCa staff and has provided considerable organization to the grant process. A virtual Technical Committee meeting is scheduled for September 17 to go over the roles/responsibilities of the SWCD/County staff and Courtney with data entry into MS4Front and eLINK. The current list of approved and paid projects is attached to this report.

[2025_09 Area 2_RCRCa Report to Lyon SWCD.docx](#)

12.2 Area II River Basins

- **Fall 2025 Bonding Committee Tour** Netzke was contacted by Rita Weaver, BWSR Engineer to provide water retention sites that are accessible by motor coach or can be viewed from the roadway. With October being the timeframe for the tour, this makes site selection even more difficult. Several sites were suggested in the Tracy and Redwood Falls areas, plus one near Ivanhoe and one near Balaton. The tour route is selected after the project sites are chosen.
- **Island Lake 27 Dam Restoration** Ground Works (Bill Sterzinger) completed work on the grade stabilization on September 3. Payment will be requested from BWSR, made to Lyon County, and reissued to the landowner. Area II's General Fund Construction Grant provided funding for the project.
- **Amiret 20 Dam Restoration** The project was designed by Area II with funding provided by the Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed-Based Implementation Funds. Ryan West Excavating, Inc. began the project August 25 and was completed on August 29. Payment was approved at the September 4 RCRCa Board meeting – so congratulations on having the 1st approved WBIF application AND the 1st completed WBIF project!

12.3 Area V

Meeting in Marshall on September 18th at St. Stephen Lutheran Church.

12.4 SWPTSA

Notes from TSA meeting September 8, 2024

PFML (Paid Family Medical Leave) was added to agenda

Checking – \$223,843 Sweep Account \$824,807 total 1,048,651

Dawn Madison- Tours, would like local input on what to continue doing for 2026. Russell Hedricks events (three) over 215 participants. Majority producers. RCPP large workload. NRCS paperwork is more than we are accustomed too.

Purchased new desk, chairs, and file cabinets.

PFML, authorized Cottonwood SWCD to use the same provider for TSA as Cottonwood SWCD is using.

Doug Bos will be working for Cottonwood SWCD.

Received grant for Arc GIS Licenses.

Prevailing Wages ongoing discussion.

Next meeting 10:30 AM January 7th. Possibly virtual.

[*Notes from TSA meeting September 8.docx*](#)

12.5Parks

No meeting.

12.6

One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

Landowner was getting paid for cover crops from two openings.

12.7One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

Next meeting in October.

12.8

One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood - Middle MN

- **Cottonwood-Middle MN 1W1P Update** *The final Policy Committee meeting was held on August 20 to approve the final expenditures and close out the planning grant. Netzke submitted the final report in eLINK and requested reimbursement of \$25,300 (10% grant). BWSR requested information to reconcile the grant expenditures, and upon completion of this, the reimbursement will be made to RCRC.*

12.9

One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

12.10

County

Preliminary Budget end of September goal. Discussion on Deer Hunting Slug/Rifle

County Option.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Board Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.