

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office
1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600
Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively, Mason Johnson
Staff: John Biren, Brock Boerboom, Ben Skorczewski, Anita Cauwels County: Gary Crowley
NRCS: Kelly Heather Pheasants Forever: Mark Peper

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS/APPOINTED COMMITTEES

2.1 Election of Officers - Appointed Committees - 2025

2025 Information for reference.

[Election of Officers -Appointed Committee Template - 2025.docx](#)

2.2 Election of Officers - Appointed Committees - 2026

[Election of Officers -Appointed Committee Template - 2026.docx](#) [Committee Meeting Schedule - 2026.docx](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Johnson to approve the Election of Officers.

Chairman, John Lanoue

Vice Chairman, Allen Deutz

Secretary/Treasurer, Justin Hively

PR& I, Mason Johnson

Member, Gary Laleman

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Laleman to approve the Appointed Committees.

2026 Appointed Committees

Liaison Committee Gary Laleman Allen Deutz

SWPTSA Justin Hively Allen Deutz

RCRCA Allen Deutz John Lanoue

Yellow Med River Wtrshd Advisory Committee Gary Laleman Mason Johnson

Lyon County Park Board Gary Laleman

Yellow Med 1W1P Gary Laleman Mason Johnson

Des Moines 1W1P Mason Johnson

Cottonwood - Middle MN 1W1P John Lanoue Justin Hively

Redwood 1W1P Justin Hively Mason Johnson

Area 5 All Supervisors

Mover: Allen Deutz

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

3. SET 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

3.1 2026 Meeting Schedule

[2026 Meeting Schedule.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Hively to approve the 2026 Meeting Schedule

Mover: Allen Deutz

Second: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

4. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST *No conflicts of interest.*

5. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

5.1 January 2026 Agenda

[January SWCD Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Hively to approve the January 14, 2026 Agenda.

Mover: Allen Deutz

Second: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

6. APPROVE MINUTES

6.1 December 10, 2025 SWCD Minutes

[December SWCD Minutes.pdf](#)

Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Hively to approve the December 10, 2025 Minutes.

Mover: Gary Laleman

Second: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

7.1 Account Activity Report

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

7.2 2026 Budget

Cauwels presented 2026 Budget.
[2026 Budget.pdf](#)

7.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

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

8. BUSINESS

8.1 2026 MASWCD Dues

[MASWCD Dues - 2026.pdf](#)

Motion by Laleman 2nd by Johnsobn to approve to pay FY 2026 MASWCD Dues of \$7,654.59

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

8.2 2026 IRS Standard Mileage Rates

2026 IFS Standard Mileage Rates are \$.725 from \$.70 in 2025.

[IRS Rates 2026.pdf](#)

8.3 Know and Understand your Election Options

Handout from BWSR and MASWCD explaining the options by which SWCD supervisors can be elected. Any changes to the election process will need to adopt a local board resolution and forward to BWSR by March 1, 2026.

[Know & Understand your Election Options.pdf](#)

Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Johnson to approve Option 1 as the recommended Election Choice.

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

8.4 Peterson Company LTD - Audit Engagement Letter

[Peterson Company LTD.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Hively to approve to sign the Audit Engagement Letter for Peterson Company LTD. Letter is acknowledgement and agreement of the arrangements for the audit of the basic financial statements.

Mover: Allen Deutz

Seconder: Justin Hively

Moved To: Approve

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

Motion Result: Passed

8.5 Windbreak Cost Share

Discussion on Windbreak Cost Share. Staff presented to board and would like a discussion if this is something the SWCD would approve to fund. Peper discussed cost estimate for 3 rows with current NRCS rate. Estimate would be close to \$5,727.00. Discussion if SWCD would be able to assist with Cost Share for trees. Wildlife and Wind Erosion are priority. Board would like to discuss further when EQIP rates are available and possibly do a case -by-case basis on contracts for strictly shelterbelt, not groves.

[Mike Dale Tree Planting.pdf](#)

9. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

*Boerboom - Cover Crop discussions, NRCS - JAA Certifications - Private Lands Meeting
Skorczewski - Drainage DB - Feedlot - Annual Report for Feedlot*

10. DISTRICT ADMIN

10.1 Handouts and Information

Handout from GBERBA for December and recap of all of 2025. 2025 Annual Report recapping all that Lyon SWCD has completed.

[GBERBA - Year](#)

[End.pdf GBERBA.pdf](#)

11. DISTRICT MANAGER

Updated Comprehensive Plan. Will start working on Ordinances for 2025. Ditch work will continue.

12. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

Provided Windbreak/Shelterbelt information for Board.

13. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST - NRCS

EQIP/CSP will be limited again for this year. Ranking in February/March.

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

14.1 RCRCA

Pell and Plum Creek CWF Grant Expirations After the RCRCA Executive Board meeting on December 22nd, final project payments were issued and projects entered into eLINK.

One project was completed under the bid amount, leaving \$1,941.60 of the Pell grant to be unspent. The grant goal of 300 tons/year of sediment reduced was surpassed with 774.76 tons/year reduction.

Plum Creek has funds that will be returned due to the Redwood SWCD having federal 319 funds that paid 60%, requiring considerably less grant funds.

Returned funds will be \$137,317.83 that will stay at BWSR to be reallocated to other CWF grant recipients. The goal of 1,470 tons/year of sediment reduced was surpassed with 1,497.2 tons/year achieved with fewer funds.

[2026_01 Area 2_RCRCA Report to Lyon SWCD.pdf](#)

14.2 Area II River Basins

Hauschild-Thange Reservoir (Lincoln County) Plugged Intake The solution to unplugging the intake was for the YMRWD to hire Ground Works to remove 7

buckets of sediment/brush/clams down to clay material. Within 4-5 days, the water level was back to normal conditions, and the cause of the blockage was clearly evident – beaver activity. (See photos at the end of the report.) YMRWD will arrange for the remaining debris to be removed manually to completely clear the blockage. The local beaver trapper has also been notified.

14.3 Area V

Meeting is February 19, 2026. Will be virtual.

14.4 SWPTSA

Virtual meeting was on January 13, 2026. Discussions of Ag Professional Mentor for Soil Health, went over Financial Audit, and Staff Reports.

14.5 Parks

Next meeting is March 19, 2026

14.6 One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

Cost share payments to approve. Pass resolutions for Policy Meeting.

14.7 One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

Meeting on January 15, 2026

14.8 One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood - Middle MN

Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update The BWSR grant reconciliation is completed! The final reimbursement of \$25,300 (10% grant) should be forthcoming soon.

14.9 One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

Redwood CWMP Update Resolutions from all MOA partners were submitted along with the Plan and appendices to BWSR on December 18th. The meeting date for the BWSR Southern Region Committee cannot be scheduled until February due to quorum issues. This means that plan approval cannot happen until the March 25th BWSR Board meeting. RCRCA will begin developing a Work Plan and Budget for the \$1,121,929 of WBIF.

RCRCA will begin preparing for the grant reconciliation of this grant to prevent some of the difficulties encountered with the Cottonwood-Middle MN reconciliation.

14.10 County Update

Rifle permitting updates.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment of meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Lyon SWCD Board Chair Signature

Attest by Board Member

Date

Date