

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County Soil & Water Office
1424 E. College Drive, Ste 600
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively

Absent: Mason Johnson

Staff: Ben Skorczewski, Brock Boerboom, John Biren, Anita Cauwels County: Gary Crowley

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *All recited Pledge of Allegiance*

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

3. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

3.1 March 11, 2026 Agenda

[March SWCD Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz , 2nd by Laleman to approve March 11, 2026 Agenda. 6.2 Agenda Item should be for Nonstructural Engineered Practices.

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve as Amended

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively

Motion Result: Passed

4. APPROVE MINUTES

4.1 February 11, 2026 SWCD Minutes

Motion by , 2nd by to approve February 11, 2026 Minutes.

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively

Motion Result: Passed

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

5.1 Account Activity Report

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

5.2 2026 Budget

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

5.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

Cauwels presented Grant Breakdown Sheet.

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Resolution to Extend the Yellow Medicine River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan

Formal request to request an extension from BWSR for the approved Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan to December 31, 2028. [Entity Resolution to Extend.pdf](#)

Motion by Hively, 2nd by Laleman to approve the resolution to extend the Yellow Medicine River Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan.

Mover: Justin Hively

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively

Motion Result: Passed

6.2 Lyon Soil and Water Conservation District Cost Share Policy for Structural Engineered Practices

*The policy is for **Nonstructural** Conservation Practice Cost Share. Board was given two different policies to go over. One is for rates for single species and multi species are to match corresponding Watershed Rates. Until Final Plans are approved, set rates for single species and multi species are \$45/acre and \$60/acre respectively. [Nonstructural Conservation Practices 2026 Amendment_draft1.docx](#) [Nonstructural Conservation Practices 2026 Amendment_draft2.docx](#)*

Motion by Laleman, 2nd by Deutz to approve Non Structural to include rates for Single Species and Multi Species to match corresponding Watershed Rates.

Mover: Gary Laleman

Seconder: Allen Deutz

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Justin Hively

Motion Result: Passed

7. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

MACFO Conference end of March. 4 to 8 Soil Health Delivery Contracts for April. Radio station wants to replace footings for radio tower.

8. DISTRICT ADMIN

8.1 Handouts and Information

8.2 GBERBA Update

Handout for the GBERBA Update.

[February 2026 Program Update.docx](#)

9. DISTRICT MANAGER

2 job postings will be posted. Ditch work has been ramping up. A variance and CUP were at the Planning and Zoning Meeting. Garvin Park Camper Cabins. Met with City of

Ghent to possibly annex properties into City of Ghent.

10. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL BIOLOGIST

CRP Deadline on March 20th. 100 have signed up. 60 will re-enroll. 40 new enrolls. Rates are lower this year. April 1 - Prescribed Burn Education at Brau Brothers at 6:30 p.m. for Public and Landowners. CREP - Grazing - EQIP funding Prairie Bank at Lindsley residence.

11. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST -

NRCS *No report*

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

12.1RCRCA

- **WRAPS / SWAG Update**

The 2nd cycle of WRAPS (Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies) begins with a 2-year SWAG (Surface Water Assessment Grant) grant for Intensive Watershed Monitoring (IWM). In 2017-2018, RCRCA collected this information for both the Cottonwood and Redwood watersheds. RCRCA intends to contract with MPCA to do this again in 2027-2028. The kickoff meeting was held February 12th to outline the process and allow partners to submit sites for monitoring that may not have been productive during the 1st cycle. Brawner Lake at Camden State Park (dam failed in 2017) and Lake Redwood (not considered a lake at that time) will be submitted by RCRCA. Once the MPCA's selected sites are reviewed, staff may add additional monitoring sites for consideration. Sampling would begin Spring 2027.

[2026_03 Area 2_RCRCA Report to Lyon SWCD.pdf](#)

12.2Area II River Basins

- *Bonding Bill Language Senator Dahms office confirmed that they will draft language to request \$1.5 million in bonding. If successful, this funding would replace the MMB General Fund Construction Grant that would be returned.*
- *Custer 9 Grade Stabilization/WSCB Final touches are being made to the plans for this project on the west side of Garvin Park. This project would help control the excessive erosion/gullyng that is bringing sediment into the park and depositing the sediment by the new shelter.*

12.3Area V

Area V Meeting was held on February 19, 2026 Virtually.

[Doug Bos - 2025 -2026 SWPTSA 5 Accomplishments Report.pdf](#) [Minutes - 2025 - September - Area V.pdf](#) [TSA - Administrative Report.pdf](#)

[2025 SWPTSA Year End Report.pdf](#)

[Dawn Madison - 2025 SWPTSA 5 Accomplishments Report with year end pictures.pdf](#)

12.4SWPTSA

Attachments as part of the Agenda item.

[TSA - Administrative Report.pdf](#)

[2025 SWPTSA Year End Report.pdf](#)

[Dawn Madison - 2025 SWPTSA 5 Accomplishments Report with year end](#)

[pictures.pdf](#)

[Doug Bos - 2025-2026 SWPTSA 5 Accomplishments Report.pdf](#)

12.5 Parks

Discussed Camper Cabins and Special Deer Hunting for Handicapped Individuals.

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

- *Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update The workplan amendment to add \$200,000 to Ag Practices (\$50,000 from Technical/Engineering and \$150,000 from Nonstructural Practices) was approved by BWSR. Williams collected cover crop information from the Redwood SWCD (federal RCPP and MN Alliance) and entered the information into MSF4Front. This information increased the nitrogen and phosphorus reductions greatly with a large advancement made towards the Plan goals.*

12.9

One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

- *Redwood CWMP Update The BWSR Southern Region Committee met virtually on February 19th to review/ approve the Plan. Netzke presented the PowerPoint summarizing the planning process, 10-year plan goals and implementation strategies. The committee recommended the plan for approval by the BWSR Board on March 25th. Netzke and Williams presented the draft WBIF workplan, policy, budget and scoring/ranking sheet to the Steering Team on February 9th. The only item that met opposition was scoring/ranking farmable vs nonfarmable basins differently. The argument is that the tile is the largest cost with this practice and the size/lengths of tile does not change whether it is farmable or nonfarmable. After reviewing some past basin projects, cost savings would range between \$3000-\$6000 per contract just based on dirt volumes. The Policy Committee will meet Monday, March 9 at 1:00 PM to discuss this further. Expenditures for the remaining grant funds will be proposed and discussed including a Stacked Hydrograph Analysis for the Redwood to locate subwatersheds with viable floodwater storage potential.*

12.10 County

Job openings are coming up.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman adjourned meeting at 5:30 p.m.