

LYON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Lyon County
607 West Main Street - Commissioner's Room
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 4:00 PM

LWG Starting at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Absent: Justin Hively

Staff: Brock Boerboom, Anita Cauwels County: Gary Crowley NRCS: Kelly Heather, NRCS

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone received Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSERVATION PLANNING LOCAL WORK GROUP (LWG)

Review resource concern causes for local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs.

2.1 Lyon, Lincoln and Yellow Medicine Counties Resource Concern Survey

2026 Conservation Local Work Group Survey Results

Kelly Heather explains Local Work Group and Screening/Ranking for Survey Results. Erosion Control and Water Resource Protection were top resource concerns on Survey. Screened applications will include Beginning farmer, Social Disadvantaged, and Veteran Farmers. Practices included will be those with engineering practices and with a practice lifespan of 5 years or more. Interest in EQIP applications. Typically around 500 applicants with very few actually receiving the funds.

[Lyon County Survey Results 2026 - LWG.docx](#)

Move to adopt LWG recommendations

Mover: Allen Deutz

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Motion Result:

2.2 NRCS EQIP Screening

Handout for NRCS Screening process.

[FY26 Screening - EQIP.docx](#)

3. IDENTIFY ANY CONFLICT OF

INTEREST *No conflicts of interest.*

4. AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA

4.1 April 8, 2026 Agenda

[April SWCD Agenda.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Johnson to approve April 8th, 2026 Agenda

Mover: Allen Deutz

Second: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

5. APPROVE MINUTES

5.1 March 11, 2026 SWCD Minutes

[March 2026 Minutes.docx.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Laleman to approve March 11, 2026 Minutes

Mover: Mason Johnson

Second: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

6. FINANCIAL REPORTS

6.1 Account Activity Report

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

6.2 2026 Budget

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

6.3 Grant Breakdown Sheet

Cauwels presented Grant Breakdown Sheet.

[Grant Breakdown Sheet.pdf](#)

7. BUSINESS

7.1 Amendment to Non-Structural Policy

*The policy is for **Nonstructural** Conservation Practice Cost Share. Amendment to the current policy to take out " if no Watershed rates are available, set rates of \$45/Ac and \$60/Ac are to be used for Single and multi-species plantings and add "per practice per year" after The maximum cost-share per contract is \$7,500, both under Cover Crops. Under Flat Rate Cost Share - addition of "partial" to payments after one full year of practice implementation.*

[Nonstructural Conservation Practices 2026 amendment 3_31.docx](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Johnson to approve amendment for Nonstructural Conservation Practice Cost Share.

Mover: Allen Deutz
Seconded: Mason Johnson
Moved To: Approve
For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson
Motion Result: Passed

7.2 #01/26 - Eric Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract - Approval

Soil Health Delivery Grant Contract Approval Contract is for Multi - Species Cover Crop and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic for 125 acres for 3 years. Total amount of flat- rate contract is \$9,067.50. Payment will be out of 2025 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2026 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2024 SWCD Aid (Years 2 & 3). Field A is Fairview 30 and Field B is Stanley 34. Total Amount of contract is \$27,202.50 for a total of 375 acres at \$72.54/acre.

[01-26 Eric Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Johnson to approve Soil Health Delivery Cost- Share contract for \$9,067.50 each year for 3 years.

Mover: Gary Laleman
Seconded: Mason Johnson
Moved To: Approve
For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson
Motion Result: Passed

7.3 #02/26 - Bobbi Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract - Approval

Soil Health Delivery Grant Contract Approval Contract is for Multi - Species Cover Crop and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic for 125 acres for 3 years. Total amount of flat- rate contract is \$9,067.50. Payment will be out of 2025 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2026 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2024 SWCD Aid (Years 2 & 3). Field A is Fairview 30 and Field B is Stanley 31 and Field C is Stanley 34.

[02-26 Bobbi Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Laleman to approve Soil Health Delivery Cost- Share contract for \$9,067.50 each year for 3 years.

Mover: Mason Johnson
Seconded: Gary Laleman
Moved To: Approve
For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson
Motion Result: Passed

7.4 #03/26 - Ryan Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract- Approval

Soil Health Delivery Grant Contract Approval Contract is for Multi - Species Cover Crop and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic for 125 acres for 3 years. Total amount of flat- rate contract is \$9,067.50. Payment will be out of 2025 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2026 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2024 SWCD Aid (Years 2 & 3). Field A is Fairview 30 and Field B is Stanley Section 31, Field C is Stanley Section 34.

[03-26 Ryan Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract.pdf](#)

Motion by Deutz, 2nd by Johnson to approve Soil Health Delivery Cost- Share

contract for \$9,067.50 each year for 3 years.

Mover: Allen Deutz

Seconder: Mason Johnson

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

7.5 #04/26 - Gary Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract- Approval

Soil Health Delivery Grant Contract Approval Contract is for Multi - Species Cover Crop and Conservation Crop Rotation - Basic for 125 acres for 3 years. Total amount of flat- rate contract is \$9,067.50. Payment will be out of 2025 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2026 Soil Health Delivery Grant and 2024 SWCD Aid (Years 2 & 3). Field A is Lake Marshall 35.

[04-26 Gary Vandendriessche - Soil Health Delivery Contract.pdf](#)

Motion by Johnson, 2nd by Deutz to approve Soil Health Delivery Cost- Share contract for \$9,067.50 each year for 3 years.

Mover: Mason Johnson

Seconder: Gary Laleman

Moved To: Approve

For: 4 - Allen Deutz, Gary Laleman, John Lanoue, Mason Johnson

Motion Result: Passed

8. DISTRICT TECHNICIANS

Recommendations from Board to create a screening for all projects, including cover crops, conservation crop rotation, and other cost share projects. Cattails by Radio Tower are getting taken care of. Will start working on RCPP. Feedlot inspection list is narrowed down. Septic Property Transfer list will be going out. Non-compliant Buffers will need to be addressed. Project meeting with TSA engineers. Soil Health Mentor received list of people. 5 applications submitted for CREP.

9. DISTRICT ADMIN

Septic Property Transfer letter listing. County ordinance work will be done.

9.1 MAWQCP UPDATE

10. DISTRICT

MANAGER *No report*

11. PHEASANTS FOREVER/FARM BILL

BIOLOGIST *No report*

12. DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST/LEAD CST - NRCS

Ag Waste funds went mostly to the Northern area. CSP is due soon. Screening was if you are not doing strip till/no till - cover, not eligible. 19 for Lyon County were funded. Beef tours are July 14th. Southwest is sponsoring with Lincoln and Lyon. Expecting around 600 people for tour.

13. COMMITTEE

REPORTS 13.1RCRCA

13.2Area II River Basins

- **Bonding Bill Language** *There has been no action on the \$1.5 million request.*
- **Sodus 9 Dam Restoration**
- *This is a large dam repair, estimated at \$ 125,000 without contingency funds, that may need some local funding as the landowner may not be able to cover 25% local match.*
- **Custer 3 Grade Stabilization & WSCB**
- *This project is located about 1 mile NW of Garvin Park. A single WSCB with a larger grade stabilization below will control erosion that is making its way into the park.*
- **Custer 11 Grade Stabilizations**
- *This project is planned within the Garvin Park property to cease erosion from a steep ravine that is depositing sediment into the new park shelter.*
- **Rock Lake 2 Dam Restoration**
- *This is another dam repair project but with 2 options: replace the pipe as-is or raise the dam elevation and capture additional storage. The costs are higher, estimated at \$105,000 and \$136,000 respectively, and without contingency added in. This is another situation where the landowner may need local match assistance due the cost.*
- **JD12/Shelburne 18 Grade Stabilization**
- *This is the project that received the BWSR Water Quality and Storage grant. Area II was asked to provide engineering, which is substantially complete, and a meeting with Lincoln and Lyon County staff has been held to discuss the design. A flowage easement is currently being drafted which will be followed by a meeting with the joint ditch authority (Lincoln 3 members – Lyon 2 members) which can hopefully be scheduled for April. Completion of the project prior to harvest is planned as this project replaces a bridge on the ditch system and provides a field access instead.*
- **Dam Inspections** *With the unusually warm weather, staff are considering conducting annual dam operation & maintenance inspections as soon as it starts to green up. Beaver activity is impacting the Sonstegaard-Telste Dam already.*

13.3Area V

Meeting in June in Dawson.

13.4SWPTSA

Drones not supported anymore. Prevailing wage - contractor sign-off sheet. More information to follow after April Engineer Meeting.

[SWPTSA Meeting Info.pdf](#)

13.5Parks

Camper Cabins proceeding in Garvin Park. Proceeding on bid process.

13.6 One Watershed One Plan - Yellow Medicine

Cover Crop Contracts approved.

13.7

One Watershed One Plan - Des Moines

No report.

13.8

One Watershed One Plan - Cottonwood - Middle MN

- **Cottonwood-Middle MN CWMP Update** *The Technical Committee met virtually on March 24th to discuss moving funds to Ag Practices to cover new applications. The Ag Practices budget is about \$41,000 short. Discussion involved whether to move less than \$50,000 which can be approved by the Board Conservationist, or to move a larger amount that would require a second workplan amendment. Given the current list of funded projects that will be constructed in 2026, the Technical Committee recommends moving the exact dollar amount that is needed (\$ 40,054.92) from the Technical/Engineering budget. When more cost- share applications for ag practices come in, they will be approved pending the availability of slippage funds and held by RCRCA on a first-come, first-served basis. Later in 2026, another workplan amendment will be drafted to move funds where they are needed in order to close out the grant.*

The FY27-29 WBIF grant will be available for requesting after July 1st.

13.9 One Watershed One Plan - Redwood

- **Redwood CWMP Update** *The BWSR Board approved the Plan on March 25th. The Policy Committee met March 9 to:*
 - *approve expenditures with remaining planning grant funds (printing of maps, printing of Plans, and being the flood storage study). \$20,000 from the planning grant is budgeted to begin this analysis with WBIF funding budgeted to complete the analysis.*
 - *recommend RCRCA to enter into Engineering Services Agreement No. 2 with Houston Engineering to identify flood storage potential in the subwatersheds.*
 - *recommend RCRCA to request a 6-month extension to the planning grant to allow Houston Engineering to complete the analysis work, and*
 - *recommend RCRCA to approve the Redwood River WBIF Policy Document and Work Plan, and to submit the Redwood River WBIF Grant Application for \$1,121,292. The workplan will be entered into eLINK the week of April 6th after RCRCA Board approval on April 2nd.*

13.10County

14. **ADJOURNMENT** *Adjourned
meeting at 6 p.m.*