



Benton Soil & Water Conservation District

www.soilandwater.org

It is the mission of the Benton Soil and Water Conservation District to protect and enhance Benton County's soil, water, and other natural resources; to nurture a conservation ethic by educating county residents on conservation and environmental issues.

Benton SWCD
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday
April 26, 2023
8:00 A.M.

Chair, Chuck Rau
Vice Chair, Mike Winkelman
Secretary, Bernie Thole
Treasurer, Wade Bastian
Member, Joe Jordan

Attendance: Supervisors—Wade Bastian, Mike Winkelman, Chuck Rau, Bernie Thole, Joe Jordan
Other: Gerry Maciej (District Manager), Josh Bork (NRCS District Conservationist), Megan Tritz (District Technician), and Renee Thell (Administrative Assistant).

In for part of the meeting: Emily Forbord (Watershed and Outreach Specialist), Jessica Hoheisel (District Technician), Scott Johnson (Benton County Commissioner), and Mike McMillin (District Technician).

- I. **Call meeting to order** – The meeting was called to order by Rau at 8:06 a.m.
 - II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – recited.
 - III. **Approve Agenda**- Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve agenda. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
 - IV. **One Watershed One Plan**
 - A. **Rum River Watershed Partnership** – Forbord and Maciej updated the board.
 - 1) March 23, Rum River Watershed Partnership board meeting
 - 2) May 8 (upcoming), Implementation Planning Committing meeting
 - B. **Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P**
 - 1) March 24, policy committee meeting
 - 2) March 5, steering committee meeting
 - 3) April 18, technical advisory committee meeting
 - 4) May 1 (upcoming), citizen advisory committee meeting
 - 5) May 3 (upcoming), technical advisory committee meeting (changed from steering committee)
 - 6) May 4 (upcoming), policy committee meeting
 - 7) May 16 (upcoming), technical advisory committee meeting
- Johnson left after 1W1P discussions. Thole came into the meeting at this time.
- V. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**- Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve March minutes. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.
 - VI. **Treasurers' Monthly Report**- Maciej presented March Program Summary Report. Motion by Bastian, second by Thole to approve reports. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

VII. Payment of Bills

A. Benton SWCD Bills - Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report. Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

B. WCTSA Bills - Maciej presented the Accounts Payable report for the WCTSA. Motion by Thole, second by Winkelman to approve the accounts payable report and pay bills. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

McMillin came into the meeting at this time and left after conservation plans.

VIII. Conservation Plans

A. FY 2021 Mayhew Lake / Elk River grant

- 1) FY2021 CWF-ERM20, Joe Knappek - New Contract for cover crops – Motion by Jordan, second by Winkelman to approve contract FY2021 CWF-ERM20 for cost sharing not to exceed \$2,411.00 or up to 75% of the total eligible cost, whichever is less. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

IX. Other Items

A. Education and outreach update – Forbord updated the board.

Forbord left the meeting at this time.

B. Poster and essay contest judging results – Maciej informed the board.

C. Treasurer training follow up – Bastian and Maciej informed the board of their training.

D. Close the West Central Technical Service Area bank account - Motion by Bastian, second by Winkelman to close the West Central Technical Service Area bank account. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

Hoheisel came into the meeting and left after cover crop discussion.

E. CWF- Cover Crop- Morrison/Benton grant- first contract deadline- Hoheisel updated the board.

F. Programs update – information item

- 1) EQIP “IRA” program and Rum River “CIC” program – Bork updated the board.
- 2) Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P landscape stewardship plan – Maciej updated the board.

G. MASWCD resolutions – board to bring resolution ideas to Maciej if any.

H. Legislative update – Rau updated the board. SWCD Aid to go thru.

X. Progress Reports

A. Staff reports

B. District Manager report – Maciej updated the board.

C. NRCS report – Bork updated the board.

D. BWSR report

XI. Information Items

A. Supervisor / Manager Reports

- 1) March 22, We Are Water – World Water Day
- 2) March 23, Rum River Watershed Partnership board meeting
- 3) March 24, Mississippi River St. Cloud One Watershed One Plan policy committee meeting
- 4) April 17, Benton County Committee of the Whole meeting
- 5) April 19, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting
- 6) April 22, We are Water – Kids to Water event
- 7) April 24, Last day for the We Are Water exhibit

B. Calendar of Future Events:

- 1) April 27 – 28, Benton SWCD tree pickup and nitrate testing clinic
- 2) May 4, Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P policy committee meeting
- 3) May 24, Benton SWCD board meeting
- 4) June 6, MASWCD Area 2 and WCTSA meetings
- 5) June 21, Foley Fun Days 75th anniversary parade float
- 6) June 28, Benton County local workgroup meeting
- 7) July 13, We Are Water Agricultural Field Day – Glen and Brian Kaschmitter Farm

XII. Supervisor Open Forum

XIII. Adjourn– Motion by Jordan, second by Bastian to adjourn the board meeting. A moment was taken to ask if there were any objections, all were in favor. The motion passed.

Bernie Thole
Secretary, Board of Supervisors

5-24-23
Date