



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
February 28, 2024
8:00 A.M.

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

Agenda (All times are estimates)

- I. Call meeting to order8:00
- II. Pledge of Allegiance.....8:01
- III. Approve Agenda8:02
- IV. Minutes of the Previous Meeting8:03
- V. Other Items8:04
 - A. Discuss a diversity, equity and inclusion plan framework – information item
 - B. Authorize the Chairperson to sign the Memorandum Of Agreement Between the NACD and Benton SWCD – action item
 - C. Vulnerable Drinking Water Protection Grant Program Changes – information item
- VI. One Watershed One Plan8:25
 - A. Rum River Watershed Partnership
 - 1) January 25, Rum River Watershed board meeting
 - 2) February 13, outreach office hour
 - 3) March 11 (scheduled), implementation planning committee meeting
 - 4) March 12 (scheduled), outreach office hour
 - 5) March 21 (scheduled), Rum River Watershed board meeting
 - B. Mississippi River St. Cloud 1W1P
 - 1) January 29, citizen advisory committee meeting
 - 2) February 5, landscape stewardship plan final meeting
 - 3) February 7, steering committee meeting
 - 4) February 14, education and outreach subcommittee meeting
 - 5) February 20, steering committee meeting
 - 6) March 6 (scheduled), steering committee meeting
 - 7) March 19 (scheduled) technical advisory committee meeting
 - C. Mississippi River Sartell 1W1P
 - 1) None
- VIII. Other Items8:55
 - A. Education and outreach update – information item
 - B. Select a date and time for an education committee meeting – action item
 - C. Clarify the low interest loan program scoring process – information item

	D. Select an auditor to perform the 2023 financial audit and authorize the chairperson to sign the audit engagement letter – <u>action item</u>	
	E. Decide attendance at the MASWCD legislative briefing & networking reception and SWCD day at the capitol – <u>action item</u>	
	F. Approve a new position description and authorize the hiring process – <u>action item</u>	
	G. Irrigation RCPP proposed grant application letter of commitment – <u>information item</u>	
IX.	Treasurers’ Monthly Report	9:45
X.	Payment of Bills	9:55
	A. Benton SWCD Bills – <u>action item</u>	
	B. WCTSA Bills – <u>action item</u>	
XI.	Progress Reports	10:05
	A. BWSR report	
	B. District Manager report	
	C. Staff reports	
	D. NRCS report	
XII.	Information Items	11:00
	A. Supervisor / Manager Reports	
	1) January 25, Rum River Watershed board meeting	
	2) January 29, Minnesota Association of SWCDs board meeting	
	3) February 13, SWCD Supervisor Orientation/Refresher training	
	B. Calendar of Future Events:	
	1) March 4, MASWCD legislative priorities webinar	
	2) March 5, Winter conservation day 2024	
	3) March 6, MASWCD area 2 meeting	
	4) March 12, MASWCD legislative briefing & networking reception	
	5) March 13, SWCD Day at the capitol	
	6) March 18, Benton County soil health team meeting	
	7) March 27, Benton SWCD board meeting	
	8) April 25, Mississippi River Sartell watershed “We Are Water” exhibit opening ceremony	
	9) May 21 – June 4, Candidate filing period, SWCD areas 1,4 and 5	
XIII.	Supervisor Open Forum	11:35
XIV.	Adjourn	11:45