



Who we are as an organization – Mille Lacs SWCD is applying a civic governance approach to SWCD actions and activities. The work of the SWCD and the outcomes of its activities will produce a base of active citizens with common interest in sustainable soil & water conservation. All stakeholders are committed to organize, educate, and apply policy according to principles and standards instituted in democracy.

Frequently Used Acronyms:

(AgBMP) Agricultural BMP Loan Programs

(SCS) State Cost Share

(BWSR) Board of Water & Soil Resources

(CLWMP) County Local Water Mgmt Plan

(SWCD) Soil & Water Conservation District

(MASWCD) MN Assn. of Soil & Water Cons. Districts

(MLLWMG) Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Mgmt Group

(NRBG) Natural Resources Block Grant

(PFM) Private Forest Management

(CAI) County Agricultural Inspector

(NRCS) Natural Resources Conservation Service

(WCA) Wetland Conservation Act

(SRWMB) Snake River Watershed Mgmt Board

(CWF) Clean Water Fund

(TSA 3) Technical Service Area 3

(MAWQCP) MN Ag. Water Quality Certification Program

(WPLMN) Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network

(1W1P) One Watershed, One Plan

(PTM) Priority Target Measure

(JAA) Job Approval Authority

Mille Lacs SWCD Board Meeting – MINUTES
Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Mille Lacs County Historic Courthouse, Conference Room D with remote option.

Members Present:

Chair, Jake Janski, District 3

Vice Chair, Kurt Beckstrom, District 2

Treasurer, Robert Hoefert, District 5

Secretary, Andre LaSalle, District 4

Member, Dan Campbell, District 1

Staff Present:

District Administrator, Susan Shaw

Shoreland Technician, Lynn Gallice

Visitors:

Commissioner Liaison, Genny Reynolds

NRCS, Barb Zeroth

Members Absent: none

Call To Order – Chair Janski called the meeting to order at 6: 05 PM

a. Pledge of allegiance

1. Conflict of Interest Declaration – Supervisors were requested to identify any real or perceived conflicts of interest they may have regarding meeting business. The conflict-of-interest declaration form was provided to each for signature.

2. Approval of Agenda – (additions and deletions of new business or committee reports)

Motion by LaSalle to approve the agenda as updated. Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

3. Open Public Forum - Board policy limits public forum time for board meeting topics not scheduled within the agenda to 10 minutes, but allows time extension by vote. – Barb Zeroth provided updates to the written report provided in the packet. Additional funds have been made available for a variety of land management projects. Applications for funding should be provided on or before June 4th.

4. Consent Agenda

a. Approve April 14, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

b. Approve Monthly Disbursements - Electronic transfer's #E21-059- E21-084 and checks written #7730-7742, totaling \$72,510.79.

c. Information Only: Partner Reports, Project Summaries, News Releases

d. Administrators leave request May 18-21

Motion by Campbell to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

5. Staff Reports/Presentations

- a. SWCD staff chat – Q&A: Lynn Gallice - Shoreland Tech – provided an overview of the 2021 tree sale highlights and shared ideas for 2022.
- b. Administrators Report – no updates outside of what will be discussed later on the agenda

6. District Policy, Planning, Activities, Projects, Grants

- a. Work Plan Progress Reports (WPPRs) – provided for review detailing info on the conservation tree sales program and updates on the ongoing Rum River watershed comprehensive planning process.
- b. Comprehensive Watershed Planning (1W1P) updates
 - i. Rum River – 1W1P Policy Cmte RUM River (Janski) – Shaw will send materials for the board to review prior to the 5/24 special meeting. Materials will summarize the Issue statements, Goals and Strategies and pose 2-3 questions for the board to consider and discuss at the special meeting.
 - ii. Snake River – Management Board/CAC & 1W1P Policy Cmte SNAKE River (Beckstrom) – DNR presentation on mussels and sturgeon and how they are impacted by water quality. Discussion upcoming on the future organizational structure for the SRW.
 - iii. Mississippi St. Cloud / Sartell (staff)
 1. Level of involvement by staff/bd policy cmte representation – Dan Campbell expressed interest in acting as a representative to the planning process once it kicks off.
- c. Area3/MASWCD Business
 - i. A3 Resolutions Mtg - Thurs, June 3rd 9AM-2PM at the Carlton Transportation Bldg – the meeting space has a capacity limit so each district will need to designate up to 2 attendees and 3 alternates. Bob Hoefert and Jake Janski plan to attend. Kurt Beckstrom will attend remotely. Registration is approximately \$15 for a meal for those in attendance. There are no proposed resolutions from the MLSWCD.
- d. MN Greencorps application was denied. There were many applicants and Greencorps selected applications with multiple goals vs the MLSWCD application for one targeted effort working with schools.
- e. Rum River Community Foundation grant awarded – partial funding.
 - i. Authorization to accept \$300 and match with \$1,000 SWCD funds.
Motion by Beckstrom to accept the grant funds and terms. Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**
 - ii. Authorization to contract for services Doris Illies - Illies Consulting for Adele's work on grant.
Motion by Beckstrom to approve the service contract to reimburse Illies Consulting for work provided by Adele Olson in an amount not to exceed \$1,300. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**
- f. MDH Groundwater Protection Initiative Accelerated Implementation Grant awarded in the amount of \$42, 492 for work to be done between 2021 and 2023. Action tabled until June when the grant agreement should be available.
- g. RIM Authorization for Administrator to DocuSign the Easement Services JPA Work order 48-20-W099, contract # 188575 effective 4/1/2021-6/30/2025 not to exceed \$750 annually for easement delivery for 15 easements @ \$50 each.
Motion by Beckstrom to authorize Administrator signature. Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

7. Financials

- a. Statement Audit (Finance Committee Member) - LaSalle reconciled the April accounts with First National Bank of Milaca and Neighborhood Bank of Mora.

- b. Treasurers Report – Shaw reported progress made by working with Linda Donnay of BWSR to draft and test an excel grant per employee predictive worksheet that once tested is planned to be shared with SWCDs statewide. Shaw is using the template to depict how each of the dozen grants making up the 2021 budget are distributed per employee to fund the work being done. This same worksheet will be used for budgeting 2022. Shaw also reported progress in updating the 2022 excel program log used to track employee time per grant.
- c. Wahkon Stormwater Mgmt FY19 CWF grant C19-2703 - no action needed.
- d. SRW 1W1P Planning Grant P20-9953 fiscal expenditures to be reimbursed. **Motion by LaSalle to reimburse Kanabec SWCD in the amount of \$3,853.32.** Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

8. Informational Updates

- a. Water Management/Workgroups
 - i. Technical Service Area 3 - (Hoefert) next meeting is in June.
 - ii. Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group - (Janski) Not able to hold the plant sale as planned so may go back to being held at the Healthy Lake Healthy Land workshop. Working on group objectives and discussing what outreach the group might participate in.
 - iii. Forestry Association - (LaSalle) meeting is next week and will attend remotely.
 - iv. Local Water Management Plan Advisory Committee - (LaSalle) no April meeting, just an informational email. The committee plans to meet in July.

9. Approved SWCD Meetings & Events - Motion by Hoefert to approve supervisor attendance/reimbursement for the following meetings. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

- a. 1W1P Rum River Policy Committee (Janski)..... May 27 @ 5:00, Remote
- b. Snake River Watershed CAC & Board Meeting (Beckstrom).... May 24 @ 9:00, in person with RSVP/remote
 1W1P Snake River Policy Committee @ 10:30, Remote
 1W1P Snake River TAC (Beckstrom as PC liaison) May 13 @ 1:30, Remote
- c. SWCD Forestry Association (LaSalle) May 20 @ 10:00, Remote
- d. Special SWCD Board Meeting to review draft Rum 1w1p plan..... May 24 @ 4:00, in person/remote
- e. Area 3 Resolutions Meeting (Janski, Hoefert in person, Beckstrom remotely) June 3 @ 9AM, Carlton Trans Bldg, limited in person
- f. Internal Operational Committee Meetings
 - i. Personnel (Janski/LaSalle) personnel reviews typically occur in June
 - ii. Joint Conservation & Public Outreach Cmte meeting (Beckstrom/Campbell) – tentatively June 9 before next Bd meeting
 - iii. One on One Meetings with Administrator please schedule monthly as needed

10. Supervisor Updates – Beckstrom reported on the wildfire conference and impacts of the pandemic on SWCD office across the nation.

11. Evaluate the Meeting – in person makes discussion easier

12. Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, June 9 - 6PM, Historic Courthouse, conference rm D/remote option

13. Adjourn – Chair Janski adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM

 Andre LaSalle, Mille Lacs SWCD Secretary

06-09-21

 Date

Our specific purpose or vision is to organize more sustainable partnership between government and community, by developing and supporting an active role for all citizens in managing soil & water resources, that will ensure soil and water resources can meet the needs and the common good of all citizens.