



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, October 13, 2021

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

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

Visitors:

Commissioner Liaison, Genny Reynolds (remote)

Members Absent: none

Call To Order & Pledge of Allegiance– Chair Janski called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

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)
 - additions – 6.f FY22 Capacity & Buffer Law grant agreement; 6.g RIM Work Order 48-21-W001
 - deletions - _____

Motion by LaSalle to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Beckstrom. 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. - **No public comment.**
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approve September 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - b. Approve Monthly Disbursements - Electronic transfer's #E21-179- E21-204 and checks written #7783-7792, totaling \$42,914.49.
 - c. Information Only: Partner Reports, Project Summaries, News Releases

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

5. Staff Reports/Presentations

Administrators Report –

- Shaw reported that all staff have registered for BWSR Academy online training which will be done remotely.
- Latest issue of the ML County newsletter has not been published yet. In the future it is planned to be a bi-annual publication.
- The MLSWCD preparedness plan is still in place on the website. MLC has removed their plan and gone to a simple reference to the CDC website.

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

a. Comprehensive Watershed Planning (1W1P) updates

i. Rum River – 1W1P Policy Cmte RUM River (Janski/Campbell)

As noted in the work plan progress report in the packet, the Technical Committee and Policy Committee have reviewed the full draft plan and provided comments. The general consensus was that the plan was comprehensive and covered the priorities that the policy committee had agreed to. The plan has been provided to state agencies for a 60-day review. Contact has been made with the new MLBO DNR Commissioner in order to determine interest in participating in the joint powers organizational agreement.

ii. Snake River – Management Board/CAC & 1W1P Policy Cmte SNAKE River (Beckstrom/Hoefert)

The Policy Committee agreed to a direction for the organizational agreement structure as a merged entity which will be further developed by a committee.

b. Area3/MASWCD Business

i. Fall A3 meeting/tour report

Annual meeting and Tour occurred September 21st and was attended by Beckstrom and Janski. Beckstrom attended the tour which provided a sequence of sites demonstrating how a project is developed from start to completion. Beckstrom and Janski participated in a roundtable discussion of comprehensive watershed planning experiences. All officers were re-elected by the membership to another term. Bylaws were updated and approved by the membership. The executive committee approved keeping the dues the same in 2022.

ii. A3 Director resignation

Russell Kurhajetz has resigned his elected position at the Carlton SWCD and therefore as Area Director. As Co-Director, Janski has committed to attend some of the meetings associated with the Director’s role in an attempt to complete this year’s director term. The executive committee will consider the appointment of someone to fill the vacancy until the next Annual meeting.

iii. MASWCD Resolutions Voting

<p>INSTRUCTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each current SWCD Supervisor is entitled to ONE vote on each resolution. ▪ Mark the vote of each Supervisor in ONE category (approve or disapprove) for each resolution. ▪ Each resolution can receive only as many votes as the number of Supervisors named on the ballot. ▪ ALL SUPERVISOR VOTES MUST BE TALLIED & SUBMITTED ON THIS BALLOT. ▪ E-mail ballot to sheila.vanney@maswcd.org by November 1. ▪ Only member SWCDs are eligible to participate. 	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">SWCD Name:</td> <td>Mille Lacs</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">name of voting Supervisor</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1</td> <td>Robert Hoefert</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> <td>Kurt Beckstrom</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td>Dan Campbell</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td>Jake Janski</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> <td>Andre LaSalle</td> </tr> </table>	SWCD Name:	Mille Lacs		name of voting Supervisor	1	Robert Hoefert	2	Kurt Beckstrom	3	Dan Campbell	4	Jake Janski	5	Andre LaSalle
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#	Resolution Title	APPROVE					DISAPPROVE					DISCUSS OR AMEND				
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
1	Minnesota Wetland Conservation Agency Coordination	x	x	x	x	x										
2	State Cost-Share for Septic System Replacement	x		x						x	x		x			
3	Increased State Cost-Share for Well Sealing	x	x	x	x						x					
4	Job Approval Authority Coordination		x	x	x	x						x				
5	Public Water Inventory Map Re-Addition Public Hearings	x	x	x	x	x										
6	Outdoor Heritage Funds for Private Shoreline Projects	x	x	x	x	x										
7	BWSR Continued Forestry Support		x	x	x	x						x				
8	Private Forest Management MOU and BWSR Forest Conservation Program	x		x	x	x							x			
9	Local-State-Federal Partnership on Forestry in Minnesota	x	x	x	x	x										
10	Contact List of Locally-Active Conservation Groups to Increase Legislative Effectiveness		x								x		x	x		
11	Cost Sharing for Removal of Tile Intakes			x	x	x						x	x			
12	Climate-Smart Agriculture		x	x		x						x			x	
13	Right of Way Vegetative Management	x				x	x						x	x		
14	Increased Payment Rate for Easement Delivery		x	x	x	x						x				

- iv. MASWCD Annual Convention – The event will be held in person Dec 12-14 in Bloomington. The SWCD will pay for two outstanding conservationist meals, registration and per diem for supervisors. Kurt Beckstrom plans to attend and will accompany the outstanding conservationists. Jake Janski plans to attend the conference as Acting Area Director, but not the conservationist luncheon.
- c. 2022 Tree Sale
 - i. Preliminary planning (LaSalle/Shaw) reported staff have placed an order for 10,250 trees which is 1,650 more than last season. There was discussion about launching orders in December.
 - ii. Approval to incur expense in the amount of \$12,835 to preorder trees from Wolcyn’s Nursery. Half down is typically required and the balance upon delivery.
Motion by Beckstrom to incur expense in the amount of \$12,825 to preorder trees. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

- d. RIM Easement program update was provided in a work plan progress report in the board mailing. The workload and time it takes to manage easements is above and beyond what the state provides at \$50 per easement.
- e. Interseeder rental program update - Beckstrom reported the Truax has been rented several times this month and its evident it needs a lot of maintenance. Beckstrom suggested that the SWCD may save some money by replacing worn the disk openers meant for native grasses, with those that would work for no-till corn/soybean. There will likely be more demand for no till corn/soybeans than for native grasses and supporting no-till crops could provide a larger conservation impact. There are adjustments that we can make that would allow the Truax to still plant the occasional native seeding. Beckstrom is seeking estimates for repairs and labor for the November meeting. He suggests we consider doing repairs this winter.
- f. 6.f FY22 Capacity & Buffer Law grant agreement P22-6126
Motion by Beckstrom to approve signature of the FY22 Capacity & Buffer Law grant agreement P22-6126. Second by Campbell. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**
- g. 6.g RIM Work Order 48-21-W001
Motion by LaSalle to authorize administrator signature. Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

7. Financials

- a. Reconciliation of Bank Statements (Finance Committee Member) – LaSalle reconciled the September bank statements with the QuickBooks accounting system. All accounts balanced.
- b. Financial update
 - i. 2020 audit – final draft will be submitted to the OSA & BWSR – Shaw will ask the auditor, Peterson’s Company, to come to a meeting and give an overview of the audit findings.
 - ii. Financial statement comparison 2013-2020: Shaw highlighted the variability in the district fund balance and how it needs to be interpreted in light of planned future expenses.
- c. SRW 1W1P Planning Grant P20-9953 fiscal expenditures to be reimbursed:
Motion by Beckstrom to approve payment to Pine SWCD in the amount of \$244.85 under the SRW 1w1p grant P20-9953. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**
- d. Supervisor 3rd quarter compensation report
Motion by Beckstrom to acknowledge 3rd quarter supervisor compensation was paid by direct deposit. Second by LaSalle. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

8. Informational Updates

- a. Water Management/Workgroups
 - i. Technical Service Area 3 (Hoefert/LaSalle) – attended remotely. TSA3 lost an engineering tech and is having difficulty finding candidates to rehire the position. They did approve advertising at a higher rate. Climate change and the impact on projects and damages were discussed.
 - ii. Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group (Janski/LaSalle) –Senator Ruud attended the entire Healthy Land Healthy Lake event and participated in the round table; Representative Erickson attended part of the event. A roundtable discussion was facilitated by landowners.
 - iii. Forestry Association (LaSalle/Janski) – Discussion about the impacts of climate change on forestry and wildfires.

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

- a. 1W1P Rum River Policy Committee (Janski/Beckstrom) no October mtg/TBD (60 day review period)
- b. Snake River Watershed CAC & Board Meeting (Beckstrom/Hoefert) TBD Oct 25 @ 9:00, Hybrid
 1W1P Snake River Policy Committee @ 10:30, Hybrid
 1W1P Snake River TAC (Beckstrom as PC liaison) Oct 14 & Nov 10 @ 1:30, Hybrid
- c. TSA Area 3 (Hoefert/LaSalle) Dec 22 @ 10:00 TBD
- d. Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Mgmt. Group (Janski/LaSalle) Oct 18 @ 10:00, Remote
- e. SWCD Forestry Association (LaSalle/Janski) Jan 21 @ 10:00, TBD
- f. Local Water Management Plan Advisory Committee (LaSalle/Janski) TBD
- g. Internal Operational Committee Meetings
 - i. Finance (Hoefert/LaSalle)
 - 1. Statement reconciliation w/Quickbooks (LaSalle) monthly
 - ii. Personnel (Janski/LaSalle) before the Nov meeting
 - iii. Conservation (Beckstrom/Campbell)
 - iv. Public Outreach (Beckstrom/Campbell)
 - v. One on One Meetings with Administrator please schedule monthly as needed

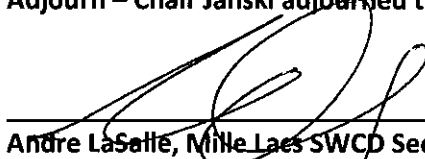
Finance Committee (Hoefert/LaSalle) before the December 2021 meeting
Motion by LaSalle to approve a meeting of the finance committee before the December board meeting.
 Second by Hoefert. Affirmative: Beckstrom, Hoefert, LaSalle, Campbell. Opposed: none. **The motion carried.**

10. Supervisor Updates

11. Evaluate the Meeting – all board members were well prepared to do resolutions voting and the process went quickly.

12. Next Regular Meeting – Nov 10, 2021 6PM, Historic Courthouse, conference room D. A remote option will continue to be offered for presenters and the public. Board members will meet in person.

13. Adjourn – Chair Janski adjourned the meeting at 7:54PM



 Andre LaSalle, Mille Lacs SWCD Secretary

11-10-21

 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.

