

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

October 14, 2025 – 7:30 A.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Tuesday, October 14, 2025. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Ledermann. Also, in attendance were County Commissioner Way, Staff attending Haggenmiller, Albertsen, Arceneau, Anderson, Jenc, Rice and Olson.

Pledge was recited.

Minutes of the regular September 8 meeting were discussed. Motion by Rutten to approve the minutes, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was read. Motion by Rutten to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggenmiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** – Barsness reviewed they met on September 12, 2025. Paid Bills reviewed 16/16 Construction Permit for Pomme De Terre Lake, Ryley Construction started on Precon Lake, and audit is scheduled to be reviewed at the next meeting.
- C. Sauk River Report** – Rutten attended two meeting on the cleanout of JD2. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 20, 2025.
- D. Chippewa River Report** – Ledermann reported they met on September 1. Reviewed normal business, how to use endowment funds,
- E. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – No Report
- F. DCLA Report** – No meeting until May 2026
- G. Long Prairie Report** – No Report
- H. Area II Meeting** – Rutten, Dropik and Albertsen attended.
- I. Douglas County Commissioner Report**- Commissioner Whey mentioned their levy increased 5 ½ %, Hired Steve Finch as the Ditch Inspector.

Old Business

- A. Fair Booth Recap** – Supervisor's and Staff reported on this year's booth.
- B. Commissioner Budget Meeting** – Haggenmiller reported he met with the Commissioners on August 19, where they approved the 2026 budget.
- C. 2026 Conservation Cooperation Award Application** – Bryan Meichner is the 2026 Conservation Cooperator.

New Business

- A. NRCS Field Office** – No Report

B. Health Insurance 2026 Rates – Haggenmiller will have rates at the November meeting.

C. Cost Share Amendments

1. CR-WBIF24-25-019 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 18 of Solem Township. Amend total cost-share of \$47,943.37 to \$48,100.87 to help pay for additional compacted earth fill using Chippewa FY24 WBIF. Motion by Froemming to approve Amendment CR-WBIF24-25-019 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
2. Ida II-4 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Amend total cost-share of \$5,760 to \$6,060 to help pay for native plugs using Ida II CWF. Motion by Rutten to approve Amendment Ida II-4 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
3. Ida II-5 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Amend total cost-share of \$11,344.68 to \$11,742.18 to help pay for fill using Ida II CWF. Motion by Dropik to approve Amendment Ida II-5 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
4. Ida II-6 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Amend total cost-share of \$15,356.25 to \$11,517.18 to help pay for fill using Ida II CWF. Motion by Rutten to approve Amendment Ida II-6 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
5. Ida II-8 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Amend total cost-share of \$7,275 to \$7,416.05 to help pay for tax using Ida II CWF. Motion by Froemming to approve Amendment Ida II-8 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

D. Cost Share Applications

1. CR-WBIF24-25-025 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 18 of Solem Township. Project Cost \$45,506 with cost-share at 75% totaling \$34,129.50. NRCS to pay \$19,408.10 and SWCD to pay \$14,721.40 using Chippewa FY24 WBIF. Motion by Dropik to approve application CR-WBIF24-25-025 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
2. LP-WBIF Well sealing Sec. 31 Ida Twp. Cost estimate of \$2,995.00 Cost share 50% or \$1,497.50 using LP WBIF funds. Motion by Dropik to approve application LP-WBIF Well sealing seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
3. FY25 Soil Health #11 Leaf Valley Twp. Sec. 7, 41.6 acres of single species cover crop @ \$35.00/acres. Total cost share using FY25 Soil health funds \$1,456.00 Motion by Ledermann to approve application FY25 Soil Health #11 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

E. Cost Share Payments

1. CR-WBIF24-25-019 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 18 of Solem Township. Total Project Cost \$64,134.50. Cost-share payment of \$48,100.87 at 75% using Chippewa FY24 WBIF. Motion by Froemming to approve cost-share payment of \$48,100.87 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
2. Ida II-4 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$8,080. Cost-share payment of \$6,060 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Ledermann to approve cost-share payment of \$6,060 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

3. Ida II-5 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$15,656.25. Cost-share payment of \$11,742.18 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Dropik to approve cost-share payment of \$11,742.18 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
4. Ida II-6 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 1 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$15,656.25. Cost-share payment of \$11,517.18 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Rutten to approve cost-share payment of \$11,517.18 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
5. Ida II-7 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 35 of Leaf Valley Township. Total Project Cost \$21,240. Cost-share payment of \$15,930 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Froemming to approve cost-share payment of \$15,930 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
6. Ida II-8 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 13 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$9,888.07. Cost-share payment of \$7,416.05 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Dropik to approve cost-share payment of \$7,416.05 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
7. Ida II-9 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 26 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$17,745. Cost-share payment of \$13,308.75 at 75% using Ida II CWF. Motion by Ledermann to approve cost-share payment of \$13,308.75 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
8. FY25NRBG Septic #10 Section 20 Ida Twp. Septic update total cost \$20,000.00 cost share flat rate \$15,000.00 using FY25 NRBG Septic funds. Motion by Rutten to approve cost-share payment of \$15,000.00 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
9. FY25NRBG Septic #7 Section 7 La Grande Twp. Septic update total cost \$26,510.00 cost share flat rate \$12,000.00 using FY25 NRBG Septic Funds. Motion by Froemming to approve cost-share payment of \$12,000.00 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
10. CR-CRP-05 CRP Incentive for 14.78 acres in Section 31 of Solem Township. Incentive payment of \$2,956 at \$200/ac using Chippewa FY25 CRP Incentive Funding. Motion by Dropik to approve incentive payment of \$2,956 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
11. SR-CRP- CRP incentive for 4.11 acres in Section 11 Orange Twp. Incentive payment of \$411.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk River FY24 CRP Incentive Funding. Motion by Rutten to approve incentive payment of \$411.00 seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.
12. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 25.35 acres in section 12 Hudson Twp. Incentive payment of \$2,535.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk River FY24 CRP incentive funding. Motion by Rutten to approve incentive payment of \$2,535.00 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
13. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 6.11 acres in section 27 Leslie Twp. Incentive payment of \$3,055.00 at \$500/ac. using Sauk River FY24 CRP incentive funding. Motion by Dropik to approve incentive payment of \$3,055.00 seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.
14. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 13.08 acres in section 27 Leslie Twp. Incentive payment of \$6,540.00 at \$500/ac using Sauk River FY24 CRP incentive funding. Motion by Ledermann to approve incentive payment of \$6,540.00 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

15. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 2.83 acres in section 11 Orange twp. Incentive payment of \$283.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk River FY25 CRP incentive funding. Motion by Froemming to approve incentive payment of \$283.00 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
16. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 3.24 acres in section 25 Orange Twp. Incentive payment of \$324.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk River FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Dropik to approve incentive payment of \$324.00 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
17. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 17.64 acres in section 8 Osakis Twp. Incentive payment of \$1,764.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk Rive FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Ledermann to approve incentive payment of \$1,764.00 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
18. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 9.14 acres in section 3 Orange Twp. Incentive payment of \$914.00 at \$100.ac using Sauk River FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Rutten to approve incentive payment of \$914.00 seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.
19. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 64.23 acres in sections 32,33 Belle River Twp. Incentive payment of \$15,000.00 (max payment) using Sauk River FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Dropik to approve incentive payment of \$15,000.00 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
20. SR-CRP CRP incentive for 11.97 acres in section 2 Orange Twp. Incentive payment of \$1,197.00 at \$100/ac using Sauk River FY 25 incentive funding. Motion by Rutten to approve incentive payment of \$1,197.00 seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
21. D-LPCRP 25-06 CRP incentive for 50.50 acres in section 16 Leaf Valley Twp. Incentive payment of \$15,000.00 (max payment) using Long Prairie FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Froemming to approve incentive payment of \$15,000.00 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
22. D-LPCRP 25-07 CRP incentive for 20.94 acres in section 11 Leaf Valley Twp. Incentive payment of \$10,470.00 at \$500/ac using Long Prairie FY25 incentive funding. Motion by Dropik to approve incentive payment of \$10,470.00 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
23. LP-WBIF Cover Crop section 19 Carlos Twp. 73.6 acres of Multi Species cover crop, cost share rate \$50/acre total payment \$3,680.00 using Long Prairie WBIF funds. Motion by Dropik to approve cover crop payment of \$3,680.00 seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
24. FY25 Soil Health #2 cover crop section 36 Spruce Hill Twp. 110 acres multi species cover crop, cost share rate of \$45/ac total payment \$4,950.00 using FY25 Soil health funds. Motion by Ledermann to approve cover crop payment of \$4,950.00 seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

25. FY25 Soil Health #6 cover crop section 20 Leaf Valley Twp. and Section 12 Millerville Twp. 190 acres multi species cover crop, cost share rate of \$50/ac total payment of \$9,520.50 using FY25 Soil Health funds. Motion by Rutten to approve cover crop payment of \$9,520.50 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
26. FY25 Soil Health #7 cover crop sections 13 and 35 Carlos Twp. 33.1 acres multi species cover crop, cost share rate of \$50/ac total payment of \$1,654.00 using FY25 Soil Health Funds. Motion by Dropik to approve cover crop payment of \$1,654.00 seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.
27. Long Prairie WBIF well sealing requesting partial payment for 5 well sealings. All wells within the City of Alexandria. Total cost for sealing 5 wells \$2,505.00 Cost Share 50% or \$1,252.50 using Long Prairie WBIF funding. Leaving \$1,247.50 in remaining funds in cost share contract. Motion by Froemming to approve well sealing payment of \$1,252.50 seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
- F. Set 2026 Tree Prices. Motion by Rutten to leave tree prices as is. seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.
- G. MASWCD Resolution packets due October 24
- H. Tire quotes for Grey Ford
- I. State Convention Scheduled for December 1-3 at Double Tree in Bloomington. Arceneau will register Supervisors and staff.
- J. BWSR Grant Agreement. Motion by Barsness to approve BWSR Conservation Grant. seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.
- K. Six month review of Danielle Andersons part time status. Motion by Barsness to approve Anderson to continue for next year with review in April. seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.
- L. Six month review of Kasey Jenc. Motion by Dropik to approve a \$1.00 increase plus \$66.00 monthly cell phone stipend. seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

Bills to Pay. During the month of October, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #11988-12043 for a total of \$280,871.62 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). Motion by Froemming to pay the bills, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Barsness to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.

Secretary,

Bill Dropik, Secretary