

DOUGLAS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES

December 8, 2025 – 3:00 P.M.

The Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at the Douglas SWCD Conference Room on Monday, December 8, 2025. Chairman Barsness called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Members attending were: Barsness, Dropik, Froemming, Rutten, and Ledermann. Also, in attendance were NRCS employees Cole Montgomery and Alison Guzik, Staff attending Haggemiller, Albertsen, Anderson, Arceneau, Jenc, Rice and Olson.

Pledge was recited.

Minutes of the regular November 10 meeting were discussed. Motion by Rutten to approve the minutes, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.

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

Reports

- A. Coordinator's Report** – Haggemiller handed out his monthly report.
- B. Pomme de Terre Update** – Barsness reported they met on November 14. Reviewed Mid Quarter Reports, BWSR gave a presentation, approved amended plan.
- C. Sauk River Report** – Rutten reported they met on November 17. Reported on sediment in JD2. Reviewed Houston sewage report.
- D. Chippewa River Report** – No Report
- E. Water Quality Legacy Fund** – No Report
- F. DCLA Report** – No meeting until May 2026
- G. Long Prairie Report** – Dropik reported they met on November 20. They have put two billboards up near Browerville and Long Prairie. 12 Well Sealing, 3 Feedlots and 6 construction projects have been completed.
- H. State Convention** – Supervisor's and staff reported on the Convention.
- I. Douglas County Commissioner Report**- No Report.

Old Business

- A. Calendar Year 2024 Audit-Haggemiller handed out the final audit.
- B. Proposed 2026 Meeting Schedule** – Haggemiller handed out the 2026 schedule. **Motion by Ledermann to approve the new 2026 meeting schedule, seconded by Froemming.** Motion carried.
- C. BWSR Grant Extensions** – Lake Ida Phase II – **Motion by Rutten to approve Lake Ida Phase II extension, seconded by Froemming.** Motion carried. 24 & 25 Conservation Delivery **Motion by Froemming to approve 24 & 25 Conservation Delivery extension, seconded by Dropik.** Motion carried. FY22 Septic Upgrade Grant **Motion by Dropik to approve FY22 Septic Upgrade Grant extension, seconded by Rutten.** Motion carried.

New Business

A. NRCS was completely shut down for the 40+ days, only some NRCS Field Office – Cole Montgomery reported that the national folks were in. USDA is funded for all FY26- meaning if there is another shutdown in January, that we would not be shutdown. Things have been spotty since returning- ProTracts, CD, FMML, etc. Cost lists, Minnesota ranking deadline, etc. - have yet to hear National has decided that EQIP and CSP will have a sign-up deadline of January 15th. First time this has happened in a long time. Minnesota's FY26 EQIP deadline was September 6th - it is likely that applications signed between September 6th & January 15th will be subject to screening. The whirlwind is getting back to ensure everything that got done during the shutdown was checked and certified as well as working on CSP payments. As of this week we are pretty much 100% caught up - any EQIP contracts with 2025 practices that were completed will be certified and paid. All CSP contracts with their documentation in for 2025 are certified and will be paid out. 2 CSP participants have yet to provide documentation. We'll now be pivoting to planning FY26 EQIP.

B. Sauk River WBIF Revised Work Plan Resolution **Motion by Rutten to approve Sauk River WBIF Revised Work Plan Resolution, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.**

C. Cost Share Amendments

1. FY24CC-3 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 18 of Millerville Township. Amend total cost-share of \$7,937.25 to \$11,203.56 to help pay for the addition of a WASCOB using FY25 State Cost-Share. **Motion by Ledermann to amend total cost-share of \$7,937.25 to \$11,203.56 to help pay for the addition of a WASCOB using FY25 State Cost-Share, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.**
2. CR-WBIF24-25-017 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 5 of Evansville Township. Amend total cost-share of \$24,042.18 to \$24,683.25 to help pay for additional cost from changes to the project using FY25 State Cost-Share. **Motion by Rutten to amend total cost-share of \$24,042.18 to \$24,683.25 to help pay for additional cost from changes to the project using FY25 State Cost-Share, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.**
3. FY22 NRBG Septic #4 Millerville Twp. Sec. 9 Amend contract for 1 year extension to Dec. 1, 2026. **Motion by Froemming to amend contract for 1 year extension to Dec. 1, 2026, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.**
4. FY25 NRBG Septic #2 Osakis Twp. Sec. 27 Amend Contract for 1 year extension to Dec. 1, 2026. **Motion by Dropik to amend contract for 1 year extension to Dec. 1, 2026, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.**

D. Cost Share Payments

1. FY24CC-3 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 18 of Millerville Township. Total Project Cost \$42,885.00. Cost-share payment of \$32,163.75 at 75% using \$20,960.19 NRCS Funding, \$5,418.82 FY24 State Cost-Share and \$5,784.74 FY25 State Cost-Share. **Motion by Rutten to approve Cost-share payment of \$32,163.75 at 75% using \$20,960.19 NRCS Funding, \$5,418.82 FY24 State Cost-Share and**

\$5,784.74 FY25 State Cost-Share, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.

2. CR-WBIF24-25-017 Water and Sediment Control Basin Project in Section 5 of Evansville Township. Total Project Cost \$32,911.00. Cost-share payment of \$24,683.25 at 75% using Chippewa FY24 WBIF. **Motion by Froemming to approve Cost-share payment of \$24,683.25 at 75% using Chippewa FY24 WBIF, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.**
3. FY25 NRBG Septic #3 Miliona Twp. Sec 21 Total Cost \$13,645.63 Cost share Flat rate of \$12,000.00 **Motion by Ledermann to approve Cost share Flat rate of \$12,000.00, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.**
4. FY25 Soil Health #8 Osakis Twp. Sec. 34 and Orange Twp. Sec. 4 Cover crops 86.35 acres @ \$35.00 per acre. Total cost share \$3,022.25 using FY 25 Soil Health Funds. **Motion by Rutten to approve cost share \$3,022.25 using FY 25 Soil Health Funds, seconded by Dropik. Motion carried.**
5. Long Prairie WBIF funding, well sealing Ida Twp Sec 31 total cost \$1850.00 Cost share 50% or \$925.00 using Long Prairie WBIF funds. **Motion by Dropik to approve cost share 50% or \$925.00 using Long Prairie WBIF funds, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.**
6. FY22 CD 23 final payment Ida Township \$25,772.00 using FY22 CD 23 CWF **Motion by Froemming to approve FY22 CD 23 final payment Ida Township \$25,772.00 using FY22 CD 23 CWF, seconded by Ledermann. Motion carried.**

E. Cost Share Applications

1. FY25CC-1 Shoreline Protection Project in Section 13 of Ida Township. Total Project Cost \$10,150.00. Cost-share payment of \$7,612.50 at 75% using 25 Conservation Contracts. **Motion by Ledermann to approve Cost-share payment of \$7,612.50 at 75% using 25 Conservation Contracts, seconded by Rutten. Motion carried.**

Bills to Pay. During the month of December, the Douglas SWCD issued Checks #12073-12112 for a total of \$224,863.00 including eFile (State Withholding) and EFTP (Federal Withholding). **Motion by Dropik to pay the bills, seconded by Froemming. Motion carried.**

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

Secretary,

Bill Dropik, Secretary