



AGENDA

Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

Thursday, June 9, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Conference Room A – Dakota County Extension and Conservation Center
4100 220th Street Farmington, MN 55024

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Audience
Anyone wishing to address the Board regarding an item that is not on the agenda may come forward at this time. Comments are limited to five minutes.
4. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

CONSENT AGENDA

To be adopted under one motion unless a request is made to move an item to Regular Agenda for discussion

5. Approval of May 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes
6. Approval of June 9, 2022 Accounts Payable
7. Acceptance of May Finance Report

REGULAR AGENDA

8. Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Sarah Bridges for Installation of Grassed Waterways Action
9. Authorization to Execute Contract with Metropolitan Mosquito Control District for installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat Action
10. Authorization to Execute Contract with MMDDDB, LLC for Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat Action
11. Authorization to Execute Contract with Barbara Jaeger for Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat Action
12. Consider Resolution to Adopt Certain Wetland Conservation Act Authorities from Hampton Township Action
13. Consider Policy Resolution for Submittal to the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Action
14. Announcements and Reports
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Dakota County
 - Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board
 - Metropolitan Conservation Districts Joint Powers Board
 - Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - District Managers Report
 - Board of Supervisor Announcements

15. Upcoming Events

- June 9, 2022 Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington – 9:00 a.m.
- June 15, 2022 Black Dog Watershed Management Organization Meeting
Burnsville Maintenance Facility, 13713 Frontier Court, Burnsville – 5:00 p.m.
- June 15, 2022 Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Meeting
Chaska City Hall, Once City Hall Plaza 2nd Floor – 7:00 p.m.
- June 21, 2022 Eagan-Inver Grove Heights Watershed Management Organization Meeting
Eagan Maintenance Facility, 3501 Coachman Point – 5:30 p.m.
- June 23, 2022 MN Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts – Metro Meeting and Tour
Carver County SWCD, 11360 Hwy 212, Suite 6, Cologne – 9:00 a.m.
- June 23, 2022 Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting
Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington – 1:00 p.m.
- July 6, 2022 Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board Meeting and Tour
Rice County Government Services Building, 320 3rd Street NW, Faribault – 9:00 a.m.
- July 13, 2022 Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization Meeting
Veterans Memorial Community Center, 8055 Barbara Avenue, IGH – 3:00 p.m.
- July 14, 2022 Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
Extension and Conservation Center, 4100 220th Street West, Farmington – 9:00 a.m.

16. Adjourn

DRAFT



MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Thursday, May 12, 2022
 9:00 a.m.
 4100 220th Street W, Suite 102
 Farmington, Minnesota

Board Members Present:

Laura Zanmiller, Chair
 Kevin Chamberlain, Vice Chair
 Jayne Hager Dee, Treasurer
 Chelsea Skog, Secretary
 Bruce Johnson, Information Officer

SWCD Staff Present:

Brian Watson
 Lana Rotty
 Curt Coudron
 Matthew Sorvig
 Ashely Gallagher
 Todd Matzke

Others Present:

George Fischer, Dakota County
 Mark Zabel, VRW JPO
 Matthew Lundberg, NRCS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Zanmiller called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Zanmiller led the Board of Supervisors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Audience

Chair Zanmiller asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Board on an item that is not on the agenda. Nobody came forward.

4. Introduction of New Staff

Watson introduced Matthew Sorvig, Resource Conservationist, he began employment on Monday, May 9, 2022. Matthew provided background on his educational and work experiences.

5. Approval of Agenda

22.143 Motion by Johnson, second by Chamberlain to approve the agenda. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. Approval of April 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The April 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes were presented.

7. Approval of April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The April 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes were presented

8. Approval of May 12, 2022 Accounts Payable

The May 12, 2022 Accounts Payable were presented.

9. Approval of April Finance Reports

The April Finance Report was Accepted.

22.144 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to approve the consent agenda items. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

REGULAR AGENDA**10. Authorization to Provide Final Payment to Jeremy Irrthum for Installation of Grassed Waterways**

Jeremy Irrthum has completed the installation of 3,360 linear feet of two grassed waterways in Hampton Township, Pine Creek Watershed of the Cannon River. The project was approved for funding at the April 14, 2022 Board meeting at 85% cost share not to exceed \$21,930 and based on a cost estimate of \$25,800. Final project cost was \$25,500.

22.145 Motion by Johnson, second by Chamberlain to approve final payment of \$21,675 to Jeremy Irrthum (21-IPP-03) for installation of grassed waterways with funding coming from the FY21 WBIF Metro Cannon River grant and North Cannon River Watershed Management Organization. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain. Motion carried.

11. Authorization to Execute Two Contracts with Pat Maher for Establishment of Cover Crop (1-Year)

Pat Maher is proposing to establish a cover crop totaling 127 acres on two fields. The fields are located in Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed. Each field will have a separate contract that will require cover crop establishment for one year. A seeding plan has been prepared and accepted for each field. Under each contract, incentives for establishing the cover crop are: 100 acres not to exceed \$2,500 and 27 acres not to exceed \$675.

22.146 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to execute contracts 22-IPP-07 and 22-IPP-08 with Pat Maher for establishment of cover crop on 127 acres on two fields, in Section 23 and 11, Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed, encumbering \$3,175 from agreements executed with Dakota County and Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller. Motion carried.

12. Authorization to Execute Three Contracts with Doug Wille for Establishment of Cover Crop (3-Year)

Doug Wille is proposing to establish a cover crop totaling 157 acres on three different fields. Two fields are located in Castle Rock Township, Cannon River Watershed and the third field is located in Hampton Township, Vermillion River Watershed. Each field will have a separate contract that will require cover crop establishment for three consecutive years. A seeding plan has been prepared and accepted for each field. Under each contract, incentives for establishing the cover crop are: 75 acres not to exceed \$7,875, 47 acres not to exceed \$4,935 and 35 acres not to exceed \$3,675.

22.147 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contracts 22-IPP-09, 22-IPP-10 and 22-1PP-11 with Doug Wille for establishment of cover crop on 157 acres on three fields, two in Section 36 of Castle Rock Township, Cannon River Watershed and one in Section 17 & 18 of Hampton Township, Vermillion River Watershed, encumbering \$16,485 from executed agreements with Dakota County and the FY22 CWF Drinking Water Protection Phase 2 grant. Members voting in favor: Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog. Motion carried.

13. Authorization to Execute Contract with Don Peterson for Establishment of Cover Crop (1-Year)

Don Peterson is proposing to establish a cover crop on 253 acres. The fields is located in Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed. A seeding plan has been prepared and accepted. Based on adopted cost share policy, a landowner is eligible for cover crop incentives of up to 100 acres per field.

22.148 Motion by Skog, second by Johnson to execute contract 22-IPP-15 with Don Peterson for establishment of cover crop on 100 acres in Section 7, Marshan Township, Vermillion River Watershed, encumbering \$,2,500 from the agreements with Dakota County and Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee. Motion carried.

14. Authorization to Execute Four Contracts with Paul Gergen, Jr. for Establishment of Cover Crop (1-Year)

Paul Gergen, Jr. is proposing to establish a cover crop totaling 97 acres on four different fields. The fields are located in Hampton Township, Pine Creek Watershed of the Cannon River Watershed. Each field will have a separate contract that will require cover crop establishment for one year. A seeding plan has been prepared and accepted for each field. Under each contract, incentives for establishing the cover crop are 36 acres not to exceed \$900, 29 acres not to exceed \$725, 17 acres not to exceed \$425 and 15 acres not to exceed \$375.

22.149 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contracts 22-IPP-16, 22-IPP-17, 22-IPP-18, 22-IPP-19 with Paul Gergen, Jr. for establishment of cover crop on 97 acres on four fields in Section 28 of Hampton Township, Cannon River Watershed encumbering \$1,525 from executed agreement with Dakota County. Members voting in favor: Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee. Motion carried.

15. Authorization to Execute Two Contracts with DST, LLP for Establishment of Cover Crop (1-year)

DST LLP (Scott Weber) is proposing to establish a cover crop totaling 145 acres on two fields. The fields are located in Douglas Township, Trout Brook Watershed of Cannon River. Each field will have a separate contract that will require cover crop establishment for one year. A seeding plan has been prepared and accepted for each field. Under each contract, incentives for establishing the cover crop are: 55 acres not to exceed \$1,375 and 90 acres not to exceed \$2,250.

22.150 Motion by Chamberlain, second by Johnson to execute contracts 22-IPP-20 and 22-IPP-21 with DST LLP (Scott Weber) for establishment of cover crop on 145 acres on two fields, in Section 23 and 11, Douglas Township, Cannon River Watershed, encumbering \$5,150 from executed agreement with Dakota County. Members voting in favor: Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain. Motion carried.

16. Authorization to Execute Two Contracts with City of Burnsville for Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat

The City of Burnsville is proposing to install two native prairie restorations. Both projects are located in the Minnesota River Watershed. The first project is a 0.8 acre native prairie with pollinator habitat at North River Hills Park. This is the second phase of restoration at the park; the first phase was done in 2021 under a cost share contract with Dakota SWCD. An existing sand court and non-native vegetation will be removed followed by seeding of native vegetation. The sand court removal is not eligible for cost share, but costs associated with the vegetation restoration are eligible. The total eligible cost of the project is estimated at \$4,800. This project is eligible for 85% cost share.

The second project is a 1.5 acre native prairie with pollinator habitat at Highland View Park. Existing turf grass will be removed and native prairie plants will be seeded. The project will improve infiltration, protect water quality, and provide pollinator habitat. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$7,000. This project is eligible for 85% cost share,

22.151 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contracts 22-IPP-13 and 22-IPP-14 with City of Burnsville for establishment of native prairie with pollinator habitat on 0.8 acre at North River Hills Park at 85% cost share, not to exceed \$2,400 and 1.5 acre at Highland View Park at 85% cost share, not to exceed

\$4,500 with encumbering both contracts from the executed agreement with Dakota County. Members voting in favor: Skog, Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller. Motion carried.

17. Authorization to Execute Contract with Mike & Suzanne Everson for Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat

Michael and Suzanne Everson are proposing to install 1.9 acre native prairie with pollinator habitat in Ravenna Township, Vermillion River Watershed. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$7,400. This project is eligible for 85% cost share.

22.152 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contract 22-IPP-23 with Michael & Suzanne Everson for establishment of native prairie with pollinator habitat on 0.8 acre in Ravenna Township, Vermillion River Watershed at 85% cost share, not to exceed \$5,700 from executed agreements with Dakota County and Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization. Members voting in favor: Johnson, Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog. Motion carried.

18. Authorization to Execute Contract with Dana Groh Installation of Native Prairie with Pollinator Habitat

Dana Groh is proposing to install a 4.0 acre native prairie with pollinator habitat in Ravenna Township, Vermillion River Watershed. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$15,600. The project is eligible for 85% cost share.

22.153 Motion by Johnson, second by Dee to execute contract 22-IPP-24 with Dana Groh for establishment of native prairie with pollinator habitat on 4.0 acres in Ravenna Township, Vermillion River Watershed at 85% cost share, not to exceed \$12,000 from executed agreements with Dakota County and Vermillion River Watershed. Members voting in favor: Dee, Chamberlain, Zanmiller, Skog, Johnson. Motion carried.

19. Authorization to Amend Grant Agreement with Metropolitan Council for Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program Services

Watson stated that this item was added to the new agenda that was distributed today. The Metropolitan Council is changing the time frame on the Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program (WOMP) Grants to follow the calendar year. The current grant we are working under terminated on March 31, 2022 and no WOMP tasks have been completed since then. The amendment presented will cover the time frame of May 4, 2022 through December 31, 2022 and they are providing additional funding for those services.

22.154 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to approve Amendment Number One to the Grant Agreement with The Metropolitan Council for Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program with additional funds of \$8,619.64 no to exceed \$40,619.64 through December 31, 2022. All members voting in favor.

20. Announcements and Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) report was provided by Matthew Lundberg. He stated that they have obligated 5 total contracts in Dakota/Washington counties through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), they are awaiting additional funding and plan on obligating additional applications in May/June. The recently hired District Conservationist, Lizzie Dawson, will start on June 6, 2022. Matt indicated that he attended a regional conservation partnership meeting to review irrigation methods; several producers have shown interest. Irrigation water management EQIP signups will mostly be routed through Ashley Gallagher with Dakota SWCD. Matt mentioned he is also in the planning stages of a Soil Health Field Day with Clean River Partners as part of the Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Organization work plan for large-scale producers to share their stories; the event is planned for late summer/fall.

Dakota County

The Dakota County report was provided by George Fischer. He thanked the Board and stated that they are happy to be working together with all of the Capital Improvement Projects that were just approved. There was discussion on continuing this funding through the 5-Year agreement renewal between Dakota County and the SWCD. He noted that there have been a few staffing changes in the Physical Development Division, Erin Laberee is the new Transportation Director and Nikki Geisler is the new Parks Director. They along with Watson, and a few other unit managers met yesterday to discuss collaborative efforts. Parks are interested in expanding landscaping for clean water type projects on both public and private lands along greenway corridors. Steve Mielke will be retiring the end of May, staying on part-time with the changeover. His successor has not yet been announced.

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization

There was no Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization report.

Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board

There was no Cannon River Watershed Joint Powers Board (JPB) report.

Metropolitan Conservation Districts Joint Power Board

There was no Metropolitan Conservation District Joint Powers Board (JPB) report.

Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

The Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts report was presented by Watson. He stated that the next area meeting and tour is scheduled for June 23 and will be hosted by Carver County SWCD. Resolutions will be addressed at that meeting, please forward resolution topics to Watson to be discussed at our June Board meeting. Watson stated that he would like to pursue a resolution so MASWCD could lobby to increase the Natural Resource Block Grant and Wetland Conservation Act funding as it has not changed for 12 years and the last time it was change, it was reduced. Zabel added that Carver SWCD is planning the meeting and tour to be in person.

District Manager Reports

Watson stated that he had nothing additional to add.

Board of Supervisors Reports

Dee stated that filing to run for Supervisor begins on Tuesday, May 17 and runs through May 31, 2022. Zannmiller added that the Master Gardeners are having their annual plant sale on May 14, 2022 at Whitetail Woods Regional Park.

20. Upcoming Events

The upcoming events were reviewed.

21. Adjourn

22.155 Motion by Dee, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting. All members voting in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsea Skog
Secretary

**Dakota County SWCD
Income and Expense Summary
May 2022**

	Current Month	Year to Date
Income		
County Revenues	\$27,608.50	\$250,835.08
State Revenues	\$0.00	\$98,624.91
Local Revenues	\$0.00	\$74,574.63
Interest Earnings	\$284.22	\$1,028.63
Charges for Services	\$2,500.00	\$7,150.00
Tree Program Revenues	<u>\$41.03</u>	<u>\$22,287.57</u>
Total Income	\$30,433.75	\$454,500.82
Expense		
County Expenses	\$0.00	\$39,519.08
State Expenses	\$0.00	\$23,398.75
Local Expenses	\$1,306.44	\$14,908.41
Operating Expenses	\$2,311.46	\$23,376.68
Payroll/Personnel Expenses	\$94,115.86	\$456,111.33
Project Expenses	\$107.57	\$628.74
Tree Program Expenses	<u>\$276.92</u>	<u>\$3,656.48</u>
Total Expense	\$98,118.25	\$561,599.47
Revenues Over/-Under Expenditures	<u>-\$67,684.50</u>	<u>-\$107,098.65</u>

**Dakota County SWCD
Balance Sheet
May 2022**

ASSETS:

Cash in Checking - Castle Rock	\$45,407.71
Cash in Savings - Castle Rock	\$672,179.75
Cash in Checking - Vermillion Bank	\$30,023.00
Certificate of Deposit - Vermillion Bank	\$400,472.05
Petty Cash	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total Cash:	\$1,148,182.51

Accounts Receivable:

BWSR	2020 DC Drinking Water 10% Request (2020)	\$393.68
BWSR	2020 DC Drinking Water 10% Request (2021)	\$6,040.72
BWSR	2020 DC Drinking Water 10% Request (2022)	\$755.50
BWSR	2018 CWF Trout Brook Projects 10% Request	\$37.19
City of Inver Grove Heights	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$722.50
DC Environmental Resources	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$44,965.00
DC Environmental Resources	Q1 Invoice for Services 2022 CIP	\$6,587.50
DC Environmental Resources	Q1 Invoice for Services 2021 CIP	\$39,406.71
DC Parks, Facilities, Fleet	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$3,299.87
Lower MN River WD	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$1,317.50
MCD Hosting	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$3,120.00
MCD Subwatershed Analysis	Cannon River Direct Final 10% Request (2020)	\$959.79
MCD Subwatershed Analysis	Cannon River Direct Final 10% Request (2021)	\$740.21
MDA Nitrogen Fertilizer Mgmt Plan	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$1,184.00
North Cannon River WMO	Q1 Invoice for Services	\$8,445.02
North Cannon River WMO WBF	Q1 Invoice for Services	<u>\$773.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivable:		\$118,748.19

Undeposited Funds

TOTAL ASSETS: **\$1,266,930.70**

**Dakota County SWCD
Balance Sheet
May 2022**

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY:

Payroll Liabilities	-\$679.00
Sales Tax Payable	<u>\$1,597.19</u>
Subtotal:	\$918.19

Unearned Revenue:

Buffer Law Funds 2020	\$3,427.78
Buffer Law Funds 2021	\$17,200.00
Buffer Law Funds 2022	\$17,000.00
Conservation Delivery 2021	\$3,362.63
Conservation Delivery 2022	\$21,240.00
Local Capacity Services 2021	\$23,796.93
Local Capacity Services 2022	\$102,135.00
DC Drinking Water PP 2022	\$74,952.50
Met Council WOMP Funds	\$182.85
State Cost Share 2021	\$9,621.48
State Cost Share 2022	\$22,054.00
WBIF 2019 Dakota SWCD	\$44,719.23
WBIF 2021 Cannon River	\$57,687.59
WBIF 2021 Miss River East	\$16,188.00
WBIF 2021 MN River South	\$19,250.37
WBIF 2021 Vermillion River	\$21,392.85
DC Natural Resources Block Grant	\$36,353.00
DC Operating Allocation	<u>\$193,259.50</u>
Subtotal:	\$683,823.71

Total Liabilities: \$684,741.90

Fund Balance Beginning of Year	\$689,287.45
Current Net Increase/-Decrease	<u>-\$107,098.65</u>
Fund Balance End of Current Period	\$582,188.80

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY: \$1,266,930.70

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Agenda

Request for Board Action

Roll Call Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Curt Coudron

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize final payment of \$19,040 to Sarah Bridges for the installation of grassed waterways.

SUMMARY:

Sarah Bridges has completed the installation of three grassed waterways in Eureka Township and the upper portion of the Vermillion River Watershed.

The project was approved for funding at the April 14, 2022 Board meeting at 85% cost share not to exceed \$19,040 and based on a cost estimate of \$22,400.

Project installation has been certified by SWCD staff. Final eligible expenses were \$26,000. Based on the approved not-to-exceed amount, staff is recommending final payment of \$19,040 to Sarah Bridges.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

Funds to install the project are available through our agreement with the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization and the FY21 Watershed Based Implementation Grant for the Vermillion River Watershed.

Supporting Documents:

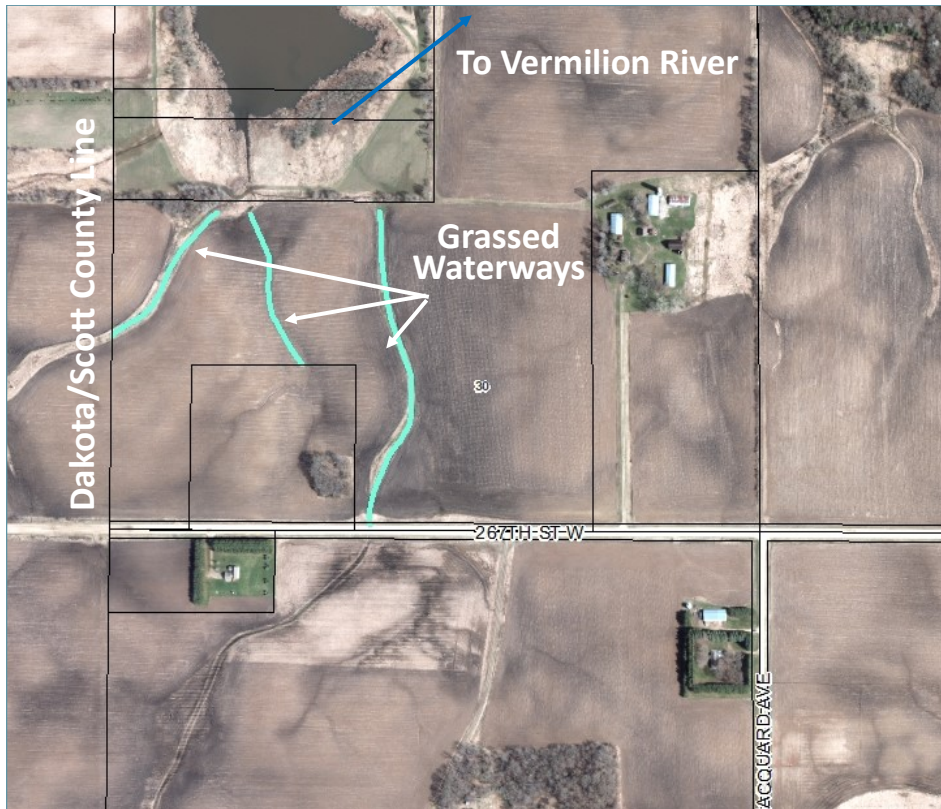
22-IPP-04 Bridges, Sarah WWs Factsheet

Previous Board Action:

Motion 22.133 on 4/14/2022
Authorization to Execute Contract

SARAH BRIDGES

GRASSED WATERWAYS



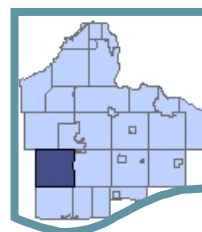
PROJECT: Surface water runoff was causing gully erosion in a concentrated flow channel and within two existing waterways that were beyond their functional lifespan. The project included the construction of three grassed waterways to adequately convey the runoff and reduce future erosion.

FUNDING:	Total Project Cost:	\$26,000
	Cost Share Amount:	\$19,040
	Landowner Amount:	\$6,960



Clean Water Fund:
 Protecting and restoring
 Minnesota's waters for
 generations to come.

LOCATION:
 Eureka Township



PRACTICE:

- Grassed Waterways

BENEFITS:

- 110 tons of sediment per year prevented from traveling downstream
- 127 lbs. of phosphorous per year prevented from traveling downstream

PARTNERS:

- Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

WATERSHED:

- Vermillion River

RECEIVING WATERS:

- Upper Mainstem Vermillion River

INSTALLATION:

- Spring 2022



Concentrated water flow was causing erosion in the existing grassed areas.



Silt accumulation within portions of the existing waterways resulted in runoff flowing in the field and causing erosion.



A rock plunge pool was constructed at the top of the eastern waterway to dissipate energy of water from the culvert.



Waterways were graded and shaped to adequately convey runoff.



Waterways were seeded with a cool season grass mix.



All three waterways had erosion control blanket and mulch installed to reduce erosion until grass is established.

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Agenda

Request for Board Action

Roll Call Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Curt Coudron

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize execution of a contract with Metropolitan Mosquito Control District not to exceed \$2,100 for the installation of native prairie with pollinator habitat.

SUMMARY:

Metropolitan Mosquito Control District is proposing to install a 0.7-acre native prairie with pollinator habitat at their Rosemount office site located in the Vermillion River Watershed. The native prairie will increase infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat for pollinators.

Total costs of the project are estimated at \$3,500. Projects that install native prairie vegetation with pollinator habitat are eligible for cost share up to \$3,000 per acre. Staff is recommending approval at 85% cost share not to exceed \$2,100.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

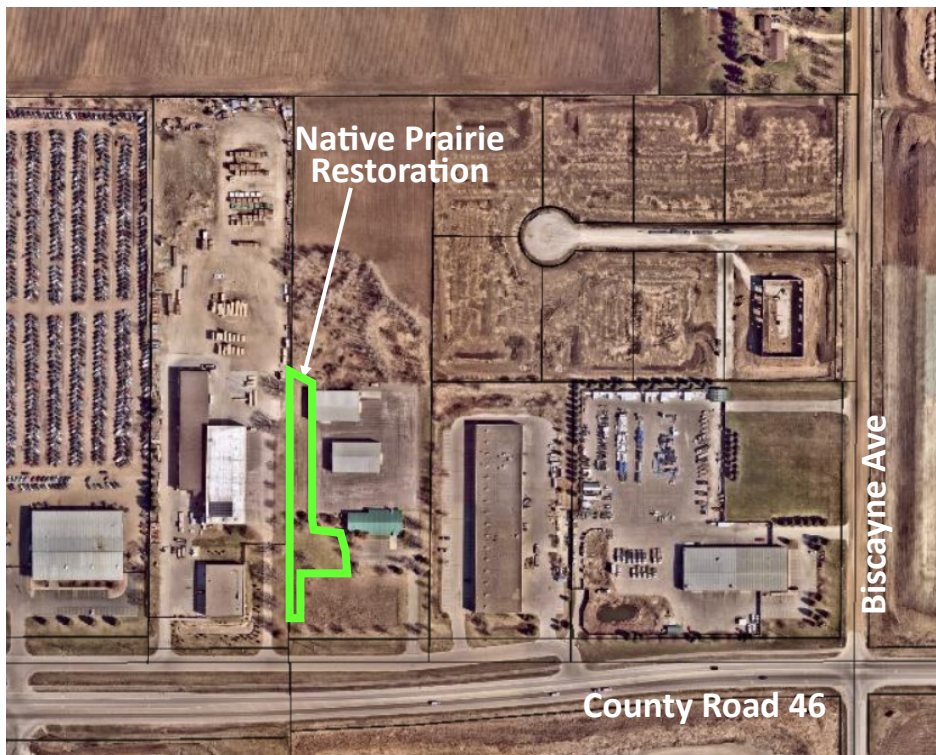
Project funds to install the project are available through our agreement with Dakota County and the Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization.

Supporting Documents:
21-IPP-25 MMCD NPR Factsheet

Previous Board Action:
None



METROPOLITAN MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICT NATIVE PRAIRIE RESTORATION



PRACTICE:

- Conservation Cover

BENEFITS:

- 0.16 tons of sediment per year prevented from traveling downstream
- Improved wildlife habitat, in particular for pollinators
- Reduced inputs to maintain turf grass

PARTNERS:

- Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization
- Dakota County

WATERSHED:

- Vermillion River

RECEIVING WATERS:

- Lower Mainstem Vermillion River

INSTALLATION:

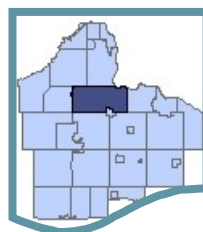
- Fall 2022

PROJECT: 0.7 acres of turfgrass will be restored to native prairie vegetation. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators.

FUNDING:	Estimated Project Cost:	\$3,500
	Cost Share Amount:	\$2,100
	Landowner Amount:	\$1,400



LOCATION:
Rosemount



DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Agenda

Request for Board Action

Roll Call Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Curt Coudron

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize execution of a contract with MMDDDB, LLC not to exceed \$3,300 for the installation of native prairie with pollinator habitat.

SUMMARY:

MMDDDB (Dave Hartung, Dan’s Bar) is proposing to install a 1.1-acre native prairie with pollinator habitat in Hampton Township, Trout Brook Watershed of the Cannon River. The site is located next to the municipal boundary of New Trier. The native prairie will be planted around a recently installed septic system. Native shrubs will be planted as part of the project to discourage winter snowmobile traffic from damaging the prairie. The native prairie will reduce erosion and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators.

Total costs of the project are estimated at \$4,900. Projects that install native prairie vegetation with pollinator habitat are eligible for cost share up to \$3,000 per acre. Staff is recommending approval at 85% cost share not to exceed \$3,300.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

Project funds to install the project are available through our agreement with Dakota County.

Supporting Documents:
21-IPP-26 MMDDDB LLC NPR Factsheet

Previous Board Action:
None

MMDDB LLC NATIVE PRAIRIE RESTORATION



PRACTICE:

- Conservation Cover

BENEFITS:

- Improved wildlife habitat, in particular for pollinators.

PARTNERS:

- Dakota County

WATERSHED:

- Cannon River

RECEIVING WATERS:

- Trout Brook

INSTALLATION:

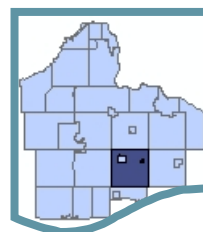
- Fall 2022

PROJECT: 1.1 acres will be restored to native prairie vegetation. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators.

FUNDING:	Estimated Project Cost:	\$4,900
	Cost Share Amount:	\$3,300
	Landowner Amount	\$1,600



LOCATION:
Hampton Township



DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Agenda

Request for Board Action

Roll Call Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Curt Coudron

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize execution of a contract with Barbara Jaeger not to exceed \$7,500 for the installation of native prairie with pollinator habitat.

SUMMARY:

Barbara (Barb) Jaeger is proposing to install a 2.5-acre native prairie with pollinator habitat in Inver Grove Heights, Mississippi River Watershed. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators.

Total costs of the project are estimated at \$9,400. Projects that install native prairie vegetation with pollinator habitat are eligible for cost share up to \$3,000 per acre. Staff is recommending approval at 85% cost share not to exceed \$7,500.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

Project funds to install the project are available through our agreement with Dakota County.

Supporting Documents:
21-IPP-29 Jaeger, Barb NPR Factsheet

Previous Board Action:
None



BARBARA JAEGER

NATIVE PRAIRIE RESTORATION



PRACTICE:

- Restoration of Rare and Declining Native Plant Communities

BENEFITS:

- Improved wildlife habitat, in particular for pollinators.
- Improved infiltration

PARTNERS:

- Dakota County

WATERSHED:

- Mississippi River

RECEIVING WATERS:

- Rich Valley

INSTALLATION:

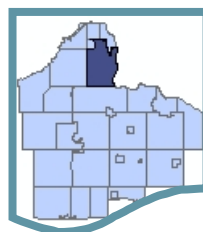
- Fall 2022

PROJECT: 2.5 acres of turfgrass will be restored to native prairie vegetation. The native prairie will improve infiltration, reduce erosion, and provide wildlife habitat, particularly for pollinators.

FUNDING:	Estimated Project Cost:	\$9,400
	Cost Share Amount:	\$7,500
	Landowner Amount	\$1,900



LOCATION:
Inver Grove Heights



DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Regular Agenda

Request for Board Action

Voice Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Brian Watson

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Adopt resolution accepting certain Wetland Conservation Act authorities from the Township of Hampton.

SUMMARY:

The Hampton Township Board passed a resolution at their April 19, 2022 meeting to delegate its decision and administrative authority to the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District for the following WCA purposes:

- Official Listing as WCA Contact
- Wetland Boundary and Type Decisions
- No Loss Decisions
- Exemption Decisions
- Providing State Required Annual Reports

With adoption of this resolution, the SWCD would perform these delegated authorities within Hampton Township.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

It is anticipated that less than 20 staff hours per year will be required under this delegation agreement. Staff costs to administer the program will be derived from a Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Natural Resource Block grant that Dakota County receives and transfers to the SWCD annually and from application fees established annually by the SWCD Board.

Supporting Documents:

Draft SWCD resolution accepting delegated WCA authorities
Hampton Township resolution delegating WCA authorities to the SWCD

Previous Board Action:

N/A

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING ADMINISTRATION
OF THE MINNESOTA WETLAND CONSERVATION ACT OF 1991**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 (WCA) requires local government units (LGUs) to implement this law by adopting the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) pertaining to wetland draining, filling and excavation; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR requests notification of an LGU's decision adopting or excepting administrative responsibility for another LGU in accordance with Minn. Rule 8420 which requires each local government unit of the State to acknowledge in writing to the BWSR that it is assuming its responsibilities under the Wetland Conservation Act; and

WHEREAS, the LGU is responsible for following the WCA rules as stated in 8420.0200, Determining Local Government Unit; Duties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District as delegated by Hampton Township hereby accepts administrative responsibility as the LGU for the WCA within the legal boundaries of Hampton Township as of June 10, 2022 within the guidelines as set forth by WCA rules.

ADOPTED: June 9, 2022

SIGNATURE: _____
CHAIR, DAKOTA SWCD BOARD

ATTESTED: June 9, 2022

BY: _____

**TOWNSHIP OF HAMPTON, DAKOTA COUNTY, MINNESOTA
RESOLUTION NO. 2022 - 02**

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE WETLAND ACT OF 1991**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act of 1991 (WCA) requires local governmental units (LGUs) to implement this law by adopting the rules and regulations promulgated by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) pertaining to wetland draining, filling and excavation; and

WHEREAS, the BWSR has defined metropolitan area cities and townships as LGUs under the WCA; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hampton acknowledged and accepted administrative responsibility for the WCA within its borders on February 14, 1994 ; and

WHEREAS, the LGU is responsible for following the WCA rules as stated in Minnesota Statute 8420.0200, Determining Local Government Unit Duties; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, § 103G.005 permits an LGU to delegate some or all of its WCA authority to a qualified entity; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District has qualified personnel trained in application of the WCA and has indicated a willingness to accept a delegation of certain WCA administrative and technical responsibilities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Township of Hampton hereby acknowledges and delegates all of its decision and administrative authority under the WCA to the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District and their technical staff including, but not limited to, the following:

- Official Listing as LGU Contact
- Wetland Boundary and Type Decisions
- No Loss Decisions
- Exemption Decisions
- Providing State Required Annual WCA Reports

DATE ADOPTED: 19 Apr 2022

SIGNATURE: [Signature]

BY: Chair, Hampton Township

ATTEST: [Signature]

BY: Clerk, Hampton Township

=====

SWCD BOARD DATE ACCEPTED AND APPROVED: _____

SWCD BOARD SIGNATURE: _____

DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**Regular Agenda**

Request for Board Action

Voice Vote

Meeting Date: 6/9/2022

Prepared by: Brian Watson

PURPOSE/ACTION REQUESTED:

Consider resolution for submittal to the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

SUMMARY:

A call for 2022 resolutions has been made by the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD). Resolutions adopted locally will be considered regionally at the next MASWCD Metro Area meeting scheduled for June 23.

The resolution process is the means by which locals SWCD Boards can identify needs and issues and bring them before the MASWCD membership for review and action. The resolution process provides a forum for education and information to SWCD Board members on statewide conservation issues. Resolutions also provide guidance and direction to the MASWCD Board of Directors.

A draft MASWCD resolution is being brought forward for consideration that seeks additional funding for local implementation of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA). This resolution will seek MASWCD involvement to pursue an increased level of funding to local units of government for implementing the WCA, a state mandate. Funding distributed to counties through a Natural Resource Block grant has remained unchanged since 2008 and prior to that year, funding was actually higher than it is today.

Staff workload and costs to implement the WCA continue to be high in counties that are experiencing population growth and there is a presence of wetland resources. In addition, in order to meet the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) Performance Standards for Soil and Water Conservation Districts, several metrics for measuring performance are predicated on the fact that SWCDs have the ability to implement WCA, including serving on the Technical Evaluation Panel, which requires staff knowledge and training.

The draft resolution also seeks to provide a direct appropriation option of BWSR funds to soil and water conservation districts when there is agreement from the county and to consider costs associated with increased workloads that local governments may experience under a scenario where the State of Minnesota assumes roles to implement Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; the federal wetland law.

EXPLANATION OF FISCAL/FTE IMPACT:

None at this time

Supporting Documents:

Draft MASWCD Resolution

BWSR Performance Standards for SWCDs

Previous Board Action:

None

Funding for Local Implementation of Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) was enacted in 1991 to protect wetlands and to provide no net loss of Minnesota's remaining wetlands;

WHEREAS, the WCA is administered through the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and Minnesota Administrative Rules, Chapter 8420 authorized under Minnesota Statute 103G;

WHEREAS, WCA is initiated and implemented at the local level and coordinated with state and federal agencies to help the public determine applicable regulatory program requirements.

WHEREAS, soil and water conservation districts (SWCD) have clear and defined roles under WCA Rule including serving on the technical evaluation panel and preparing restoration orders which requires training, skills and abilities to meet Statutory requirements and BWSR performance standards;

WHEREAS, Minnesota counties receive Natural Resource Block Grants from the BWSR for local WCA implementation and the current level of state funds distributed locally is lower today than in 2008 and insufficient to meet existing workload;

WHEREAS, the legislature along with the BWSR and other state and federal agencies are currently evaluating the option of assuming federal wetland permitting authorities under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (404).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts work with the legislature and the BWSR to increase the level of State funds distributed locally to implement the WCA taking into consideration workload, inflation and training needs to meet BWSR performance expectations;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts work with the BWSR to evaluate a means for transferring funds directly to SWCDs when there is agreement between the county and SWCD;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts work with the legislature, BWSR and other state agencies to preserve and properly increase local WCA funding under a 404 assumption scenario.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Medium-High Workload \$5,000

Submitted by: Dakota SWCD

Area Association: Metro Area 4

Date adopted:

Date adopted:

Reviewed by the MASWCD Board of Directors

MASWCD Annual Convention

Date:

Date:

Action:

For additional information contact:

Brian Watson, Dakota SWCD Manager 651-480-7778

