

East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District February 12, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: David Kiecker, Scott Balstad, Kory Sonstelie, Larry Vettleson and Ken Pederson.

Other's Present: Rachel Klein, Gabby Rodriguez, Logan Handyside, Justin Muller, and Matt Sorvig.

Meeting called to order at 8:31 am by Chairman Pederson

Approve the February 12, 2026 Agenda. Motion by Vettleson, Seconded by Sonstelie.

Secretary's Report:

Approve the January 15, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Sonstelie, Seconded by Vettlson.

Financials:

Approve the January 2026 Treasurer's Reports, subject to revisions. Motion by Kiecker, Seconded by Vettleson.

Old Business:

New Business:

Approve Pederson Company Management Representative Letter for the 2025 Audit. Motion by Kiecker, Seconded by Vettleson.

Presentation from the North Pod Engineering Staff for the work done in East Polk in 2025.

Approve Soil Health Policy Updates – No Till: Residue and Tillage Management (329) rate to \$35/acre. Add statement to the Eligibility that reads "Multiple practices can be utilized on the same field but must have a cash crop in between." Motion by Balstad, Seconded by Sonstelie.

Reports:

NRCS: Conservation planning for FY26 funding is ramping up. Our annual programs rollout training is this week. Once the training is done there will be 22 business days to complete EQIP sign-up 1.

Member Reports

Kiecker: Two CDs reenrolled at 3.6% interest.
Balstad: Crop Improvement went well.
Pederson: Red Lake 1W1P Policy Meeting
Sonstelie: No Report
Vettleson: No Report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- Water Festival Meeting
- Envirothon Meeting

- East Polk Crop Improvement Meeting

Admin:

- Payroll, month end, bills, and deposits
- Supervisor 4th Quarter Pay
- Board meeting prep
- eLink Reporting Complete
- Newsletter Mailing Completed
- Intern Position Posted
- Projects:
 - o One new request
 - o One Preliminary Plan Received

WCA:

- One Delineation Concurrence Application Received – Fosston Airport
- TEP Meeting with Steve
- Year End Reporting Complete

Feedlot:

- Year End reporting Complete
- Year End Review Prep

Jenna:

Meetings/Trainings:

- AIS Webinar
- East Polk Crop Improvement Meeting

Buffers:

Trees:

- 42 orders, 4210 trees sold
- Invoices
- Order tracking

Water Quality:

Feedlots:

- Notice of Completed Registration Letters
- Reminder letters

Other:

- Lake Leader Design
- No Till Sign Design
- RLWD Logo Design

Gabby:

Meetings/Trainings:

- Shoreline Restoration/Rain Garden Webinars
- Strategic Farming Webinars

Soil Health:

- Soil Health 2026 Applications

Water Quality:

Shoreline/Rain Gardens:

- Project Inquiries

Other:

- JAA Certification Submitted
- Newsletter folding
- Crop Improvement Meeting Presentation

AgBMP Report: Matt Erickson Livestock Barn Application approved for funding.

Open Discussion:

Next Meeting March 10, 2026 at 8:30am

Motion to adjourn at 10:03 am by Balstad, Seconded by Vettleson.



Secretary

Date