

East Polk Soil & Water Conservation District August 21st, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: David Kiecker, Kory Sonstelie, and Ken Pederson.

Other's Present: Rachel Klein, Jenna Simonson, and Gabby Rodriguez.

Meeting called to order at 8:30 am by Chairman Pederson

Approve the August 21, 2025 Agenda. Motion by Kiecker, Seconded by Sonstelie.

Secretary's Report:

Approve the July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion by Kiecker, Seconded by Sonstelie.

Financials:

Approve the July 2025 Financial & Treasurer's Reports, subject to revisions. Motion by Sonstelie, Seconded by Kiecker.

Old Business:

Soil Health Delivery RCPP Funds – Coming Soon!

New Business:

Approve encumbering funds for Ronn Syverson's WASCB project, CS-25-25. Total project cost is \$6,444.08. 75% cost share is \$4,830.06. This project will be funded by Clearwater 1W1P. Project is located in Hill River 16. One basin. Motion by Sonstelie, Seconded by Kiecker.

Approve encumbering funds for Richard Larson's outlet project, CS-25-30. Total project cost is \$17,424.51. 90% cost share is \$15,682.06. This project will be funded by SHR 1W1P. Project is located in Winger 25. Motion by Kiecker, Seconded by Sonstelie.

Approve Partial payment for Rebecca Moe's Shoreline Restoration, CS-24-01. The invoice submitted was for \$3250.00. 75% cost share is \$2,437.50. Total encumbered amount was \$10,065 (\$13,420.00 total). This application is funded by Soil Health Incentive Cost Share 2023. Motion by Sonstelie, Seconded by Kiecker.

Cover Crop Approvals: None currently (8-21). Once the RCPP grant is executed, hopefully early next week, August 25th, all contracts will be signed. Otherwise, contracts will be signed as needed. We can't encumber funds from grants that aren't executed.

Reports:

NRCS: No Report

Member Reports

Kiecker: Three CDs were reenrolled for 4.2%

Pederson: No Report

Sonstelie: No Report

Staff Reports

Rachel:

Meetings/Training:

- North Pod TSA Meeting
- RRCVCSA Meeting
- BWSR Prevailing Wage Meeting
- SHR 1W1P Steering Committee Meeting
- Water Festival Planning Meeting
- Clearwater River 1W1P Planning Meeting

Admin:

- Payroll, month end, bills, and deposits
- Board meeting prep
- Soil Health Admin
- Quarter 2 Invoices & Payroll

WCA:

- Inquires
- RLWD Permits
- Boundary Flagging
- TEP Meeting with Steve

Other:

- Feedlot Registration Letter

Jenna:

Meetings/Trainings:

- Feedlot CFO Webex
- Buffer Meeting with County and BWSR

Buffers:

- Updating Country Records

Water Quality:

- Lake Monitoring
- SWAG Lake Monitoring
- Stream Monitoring & Lake Level

Feedlots:

- Registration Notices
- Newsletter
- Updating registrations

Other:

- WCA Site visit w/ Rachel
- WCA Maps

Gabby:

Meetings/Training:

- Becker Soil Health Tour

Soil Health:

- Cover Crop Projects
- No Till Projects

Water Quality

- Lake Monitoring
- SWAG Lake Monitoring
- Stream Monitoring & Lake Level

AgBMP Report: Accepting Applications!

Open Discussion: Rachel provided information on Prevailing Wage discussions that are happening at the North Pod and RRVCSA level. Brett Arne, BWSR Board Conservationist, held a meeting for the managers and explained that BWSR has a task force working with the MN Department of Labor to determine whether SWCD practices qualify. Prevailing Wage Law was established for State Agencies that directly hire contractors for projects. SWCDs are not directly hiring contractors and are only reimbursing landowners. Each SWCD can determine how they want to handle prevailing wage. BWSR is hopeful that they will have guidance soon and Rachel recommends waiting for that guidance before any changes are made.

Next Meeting September 18th, 2025 at 8:30am

Motion to adjourn at 9:31 am by Sonstelie, Seconded by Kiecker.

Secretary

Date