

Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District

Minutes of the Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District on August 12, 2026. Held at 1408 21st Ave NW, Austin, MN.

Meeting was called to order by Randy Smith, Board Chairman.

Supervisors Present: Randy Smith Jon Erichson
 Jim Kellogg Jay Soltau

Staff Present: Cody Fox, District Manager
 Jeanne Crump, Office Manager

Agenda:

Erichson made a motion to approve the August agenda. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Secretary Report:

Erichson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2026, board meeting. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Treasurer Report:

Budget Report/Checks Payable:

The July budget report and August payables report were reviewed with the board. Kellogg made a motion to approve the July budget report, August payables, August payroll, and to transfer money as needed. Soltau second the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Commissioner Report, Polly Glynn:

Not in attendance.

BWSR Report, Dave Copeland:

Not in attendance.

NRCS Report, Teddy Moreno Santos:

Not in attendance.

Action Items:

Cost Share:

ARPA:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twps/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Year	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share	Date
ARPA-23-11	ARPA Funding	PAYMENT	Matthias Bush	Clayton 3/GM 35	Reduce Till/Strip Till	196 ac @20	3rd	\$3,920.00	\$3,920.00	8/12/2026

Kellogg made a motion to approve the 3rd year strip till incentive payment for Matthias Bush. Funding for this project will come from the ARPA grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg

Opposed: None

Abstained: Soltau

Cedar Wapsi WBIF:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share	Date	L/O Cost
CW24-26-04	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	PAYMENT	Liz Kellner	Lansing 3	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$2,645.00	\$1,322.50	8/12/2026	\$1,322.50
CW24-26-14	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	PAYMENT	Joann Wollschlager	Lansing 11	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$2,825.00	\$1,412.50	8/12/2026	\$1,412.50
CW24-25-02	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	PAYMENT	Francis D Guiney Rev F	Red Rock 32	WASCOB	95% + \$3000 Cover	\$30,281.50	\$31,116.43	8/12/2026	\$1,514.07

Soltau made a motion to approve the well-selling cost share payments for Liz Kellner and Joann Wollschlager, along with the WASCOB cost share payment with pre-construction cover for Francis Guiney Rev. Family Trust. Funding for these payments will come from the FY24/25 Cedar Wapsipinicon 1W1P grant. Erichson seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share	Date	L/O Cost	AMENDED TYPE	AMENDED COST SHARE	AMENDMENT APPROVAL DATE
CW24-26-08	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	AMEND/PMT	Barbara Felten	Nevada 2	Waterway	90% with other funding	\$13,313.00	\$3,092.70	8/12/2026	\$1,331.30	AMOUNT	\$3,092.70	8/12/2026

Soltau made a motion to approve the amended cost share amount to \$3,092.70 for Barbara Felten's waterway project. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Soltau made a motion to approve the waterway cost share payment for Barbara Felten at \$3,092.70 not to exceed the total cost share and 90% of the total cost when combined with additional federal cost share dollars. Funding for the SWCD share of the waterway projects will come from the FY24/25 Cedar Wapsipinicon WBIF grant. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share	Date
CW24-26-20	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Brian Bergene	Marshall 24	Waterway	90% with other funding	\$10,725.00	\$3,231.50	8/12/2026
CW24-26-18	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Randy Freund	Adams 32	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$2,825.00	\$1,500.00	8/12/2026
CW24-26-19	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Steve Reinartz	Adams 1	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	8/12/2026
CW26-26-03	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Laura Cederberg	Austin 9	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$4,225.00	\$1,500.00	8/12/2026
CW26-26-04	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Mark Christopherson	Austin 9	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$3,225.00	\$1,500.00	8/12/2026
CW26-26-05	Cedar-Wapsi 1W1P	CONTRACT	Ron Bergstrom	Austin 5	Well Sealing	50% not to exceed \$1500	\$2,825.00	\$1,500.00	8/12/2026

Erichson made a motion to approve the above Waterway contract for Brian Bergene, along with the 5 well sealing contracts for Randy Freund, Steve Reinartz, Laura Cederberg, Mark Christopherson and Ron Bergstrom. Funding for these projects will come from the FY24/25 & the FY26/27 Cedar Wapsi WBIF grants. Kellogg seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Root River 1W1P:

Contract #	Funding Source	Contract/ Payment Approval	Landowner	Twp/Sect	Project	Total Cost Share Rate/Other	Total Estimate/ Cost	Total Cost Share	Date
RR26/27-26-01	Root River 1W1P	CONTRACT	Henry Miller	Frankford 13	Waterway	90% with other funding	\$6,852.00	\$2,018.80	8/12/2026

Kellogg made a motion to approve the above waterway cost share contract for Henry Miller not to exceed the total estimated cost share and 90% of the total cost when combined with additional federal cost share dollars. Funding for the waterway projects will come from the FY26/27 Root River WBIF grant. Soltau seconded the motion.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

Website Update:

Ruzek and Fox talked about the upcoming mandatory ADA compliance for websites and the need to update the 3 websites that the SWCD manages (SWCD, TCWD and CRWD). They informed the board of the different companies that were looked into for the websites. Erichson made a motion to approve staff to move forward working with Aurora web solutions to update the websites and bring them into ADA compliance moving forward. The proposed cost breakdown for the websites is 50% for the SWCD and 25% for each CRWD and TCWD.

Affirmative: Smith, Erichson, Kellogg, Soltau

Opposed: None

2027 Budget:

The board discussed the proposed 2027 budget. Approval of the proposed budget was tabled until September.

Discussion Items:

2028 Budget:

Fox reviewed the early look at the 2028 budget with the board. Discussion was held.

Intern/Staff Introduction:

The 2026 summer intern is Rose Garry. She was not in attendance for the introduction at the board meeting.

Staff Report (See Attached)

The Staff Report and all programs were reviewed.

Supervisor Reports:

No supervisor reports were added.

Meeting was adjourned. The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 8:00 a.m.

APPROVED _____ DATE _____