COTTONWOOD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING
August 28, 2025
Cottonwood SWCD Office – 210 10th Street, Windom, MN

CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL
AGENDA – Approval
MINUTES of July 24, 2025 Board Meeting
1. FINANCIAL – Annitra Moody •Financial Report •Accounts Payable •MSRS Transfer Completed (Dave Bucklin) •PMFL (Paid Medical Family Leave)
2. COMMITTEE REPORTS and ACTION ITEMS
RCRCA – **Clark Lingbeek**
GBERBA – Clark Lingbeek
1W1P DES MOINES – Kay Gross
1W1P COTTONWOOD/LITTLE COTTONWOOD – Kay Gross
1W1P BLUE EARTH – Kay Gross
SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE JPO – Tom Muller
•Southwest Prairie TSA Vouchers, Financial and Administrative Report
AREA V – Clark Lingbeek – Next Mtg – Thursday, September 18
MASWCD – Clark Lingbeek
NRCS – Karen Boysen, Acting CST Lead
FSA – Rhonda Crowell, County Executive Director
COMMISSIONER REPORT – Tom Appel
•County Update

3. ADMINISTRATIVE – Kay Gross

•BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Cancellation - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant – FY2023-2025 (C23-0008)

Tom Muller	23-DMRW-COT-02	Dale 20 Terrace/WASCOB	Cost $13,712.40	C-S $11,655.54

•BWSR Cost-Share Contract Approval - WBIF FY25-27 - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C25-0177)

Lindemann Land Co LLC	25-DMRW-COT-011	Southbrook 17	Cover Crops 45.87 ac – 3 yrs	Incentive $4,816.35

•BWSR – Des Moines - CRP Incentive Contract Approval – 2025 CRP State Incentive Program (P25-0453)

Mary Lou Walinga	25-CRP-COT-001	Great Bend 9	13.7 ac – 15 yrs – CP38E-25	Incentive $10,000.00
Ron Jorgenson	25-CRP-COT-002	Dale 21	14.2 ac – 10 yrs – CP38E	Potential $7,100.00
David Jorgenson/Shalom Hill		Amo12	72.04 ac – 10 yrs-CP1	Potential $10,000.00
Diane Wells		Dale 7	126.0 ac – 10 yrs – CP2	Potential $10,000.00

•BWSR Cottonwood–Middle MN CRP Incentive Contract Approval–2025 CRP State Incentive Program (P25-0846)

Daniel Jensen	25-CRP-COT-001	Westbrook 34	39.78 ac – 15 yrs – CP38E	Incentive $5,000.00
Andrew Haar	25-CRP-COT-002	Des Moines River 13	46.1 ac – 10 yrs – CP38E	Incentive $4,610.00
Curt Peterson	25-CRP-COT-003	Highwater 27	6.9 ac – 10 yrs – CP38E	Incentive $690.00
Stanley Barklow		Amboy 26	1.5 ac – 10 yrs – CP21	Potential $150.00
Troy Callanan		Delton 9	25.8 ac – 15 yrs – CP38E	Potential $3,870.00
Patricia Christensen		Germantown 17	3.8 ac – 10 yrs – CP21	Potential $380.00
Patricia Christensen		Germantown 17	1.2 ac – 10 yrs – CP38E	Potential $120.00
Tracee Eucken		Amboy 33	2.10 ac – 15 yrs – CP5A	Potential $315.00
Karen Gallagher		Amboy 33	2.2 ac – 15 yrs – CP5A	Potential $330.00
Nancy Herder		Ann 10	7.0 ac – 10 yrs – CP38E	Potential $700.00
Wayne Pankonin		Charlestown 28	14.8 ac – 10 yrs – CP23	Potential $1,480.00

•GBERBA CRP Incentive Contract Approval - FY25 Conservation Reserve Program State Incentive Grant Program Agreement (P25-0457)

James P Dick	Mountain Lake 6	2.0 ac – 10 yrs – CP2	Potential
F & F Farms	Selma 34	1.6 ac – 10 yrs – CP23A	Potential
James R Dick Rev Living Trust	Carson 14	0.5 ac – 15 yrs – CP16A	Potential
Wesley J Kroeker Rev Trust	Carson 20	5.17 ac – 10 yrs – CP21	Potential

•GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Approval - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092)

Brittany & Vincent Johnson	17-21(WBIF-WW-24)	Carson 14	SSTS – 1 no	Incentive $5,000.00

-OVER-

•**BWSR Cost-Share Contract Approval - WBIF FY25-27 – Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C25-0341)**

Joel Wellner	25-CWMM-COT-004	Delton 9	WASCOB – 1 no.	Cost $14,001.00	C-S $11,900.85
Denise Wellner	25-CWMM-COT-005	Delton 9	Grass Waterway–1.25 ac. 1,375 LF	Cost $21,731.10	C-S $18,471.44

•**BWSR – Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - WBIF - Des Moines River Watershed Implementation Grant - FY2023-2025 (C23-0008)**

David & Beatrice Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-01	Dale 20	Grass Waterways (2) – 0.6 ac–550 LF	Cost $3,463.27	C-S $1,062.61
David & Beatrice Muller Trust	23-DMRW-COT-03	Dale 17	Grass Waterways (3) – 1.4 ac–1,450 LF	Cost $9,034.32	C-S $2,710.10

•**GBERBA Cost-Share Contract Final Payment - FY2024 (2.0) BWSR WBIF-Watonwan Watershed Implementation Grant Agreement (C24-0092)**

Shannon Haberman	17-15(WBIF-WW-24)	Midway 20	Grass Waterway – 1.0 ac-1,042 LF	Cost $5,152.00	C-S $4,379.20
Mark Peschges	17-19(WBIF-WW-24)	Selma 32	SSTS Incentive – 1.0 no.	Incentive: $5,000.00	

•**Talcot Lake Project** – We will be listening to testimony – but DNR felt that they were well suited to testify

•**String Lake Project** – Becky and Dylan are working on Easement – both the legal side and on the ground
Permitting will be started in the coming months – Drainage Authority
Grant Application Open – Due September 16
Will work with Ray Elston on Snowmobile Club and Game and Fish and Deer Hunters donations

•**BWSR – FY2026 Soil Health Practices Grant Program Grant Agreement**
$180,000 Allocation Effective Date: August 14, 2025 Expiration Date December 31, 2028
•**RCPP – Staff Permission to Approve Prior to Board Meetings**
•**Soil Health Mentor Contract** – Matt Lund

•**2026 Budget**
•**Staff Payout for Annual/Compensation**
•**Contract Staff for Educational Programs**

•**Board Meeting Date Change – September – Monday, September 22 at 8:30 a.m.**
Board Meeting Date Change – October – Monday, October 27 at 8:30 a.m.

•**Training** – State Manager's Meeting – September 24-25 – St. Cloud
Registration - $20/person plus lodging and meals

•**Meetings**

August	28	Doug Bos Retirement Party – Luverne	Staff
September	4	Area II/RCRCA – Marshall	Clark
September	4	State TSA Manager's Meeting – Virtual	Kay
September	8	Southwest Prairie TSA Meeting – Marshall	Tom, Kay
September	8-11	Education Days – Lamberton Experiment Station	Breanna
September	9-11	MASWCD Governance Training – St. Cloud	Kay, Becky, Annitra
September	16	MASWCD State Board Meeting – St. Paul	Clark, Kay
September	17	GBERBA Technical Committee Meeting – Office/Virtual	Staff
September	18	Area V MASWCD Meeting – Marshall	Supervisors, Staff
September	19	Des Moines Executive Board – Office/Virtual	Tom/Daryl, Staff
September	19	GBERBA Policy Board Meeting – Office/Virtual	Clark, Staff, Tom A
September	22-24	Environmental Fair – Marshal	Staff
September	22	SWCD Board Meeting – Office/Virtual	Supervisors, Staff, Tom A
September	23-24	Manager's Co-Hort – St Paul	Kay
September	24-25	Manager's State Meeting – St Cloud	Kay

4. **SENIOR TECHNICIAN – Becky Buchholz**
5. **PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Breanna Wagner**
6. **PROGRAM TECHNICIAN – Nathan Harder**
7. **MAWQCP SPECIALIST – Herman Bartsch**
8. **MAWQCP SPECIALIST – Danielle Evers**
9. **MN CONSERVATION CORP – Adriene Matthews**
10. **PLANNING & ZONING TECH – Alex Schultz**
11. **COTTONWOOD COUNTY DRAINAGE INSPECTOR – Dylan Oeltjenbruns**

Next Regular Meeting – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 at 8:30 a.m. – Cottonwood SWCD Office

AUGUST TRANSACTIONS

District Checking Account Balances 7-24-2025 (Bank Midwest)	**$695,464.28**
Correction in Payroll, Check Register Incorrect-NOT Paycheck	**$385.97**

RECEIPTS: (since last board meeting)

Interest July - 2025 Bank Midwest (Checking Account $90.24 and Sweep Account $829.44)	$919.68
Tree and Tube Sales/Pruning/Deposits	$267.19
BWSR - Reimbursement Easement Work - 17-03-24-03	$2,500.00
BWSR - Reimbursement Easement Work - 17-01-24-01	$2,500.00
Cottonwood County-June Contract $7466.60, P & Z 886.44, Reimbursement $111.00	$8,464.04
Cottonwood County Auditor - 3rd Qtr Allocation ($13,000), July Contract $9,570.73	$22,570.73
Des Moines River Watershed - July Administrative Contract	$1,203.95
GBERBA - Coordinator - June Contract	$8,110.16
GBERBA - MAWQCP Area 6 - June Contract	$5,015.46
Southwest Prairie TSA - Administrative Contract - July	$4,443.57
Southwest Prairie TSA - Mentor-Staff Reimbursement - July	$1,237.28
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**$57,232.06**

DISBURSEMENTS: (since last board meeting)

Direct Deposit	Payroll 07-13-25 to 07-26-25 Plus Pera, MN Dept of Rev, Bank Midwest	$16,903.93
Direct Deposit	Payroll 07-27-25 to 08-09-25 Plus Pera, MN Dept of Rev, Bank Midwest	$16,903.91
EFT	Voya (Daves sick 177 hrs)	$7,915.44
26851	Mikkala Hup-Tree Cost Share Contract-25-03	$3,500.00
26852	Rod Junker-Tree Cost Share Contract-24-05	$3,500.00
26853	Cigna Health - Accident Ins - August 2025	$9.70
26854	Fidelity Security - Vision Ins August 2025	$6.61
26855	The Hartford - LTD August 2025	$167.68
26856	Met Life - Dental Ins August 2025	$96.12
26857	Sun Life Financial - STD August 2025	$7.40
26858	Grunewald Frame & Glass-Brake disc rotor & pads, 4 tires	$1,690.52
26859	Indoff Inc. - Copy Paper	$235.60
26860	Schwalbach Hardware - Misc	$46.98
26861	Gordon Flesch-Copier	$214.00
26862	Hy-Vee-Misc Supplies	$111.83
26863	Running's - Misc Supplies	$90.94
26864	Staples Enterprises-July	$196.41
	TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	**$51,597.07**
	BALANCE BEFORE BOARD MEETING	**$701,485.24**

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ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
8/28/2025
(to be approved at this board meeting)

Payable		Amount
26865	Cottonwood County Auditor- Insurance - September 2025	$3,112.44
26866	Met Life - Dental Ins September 2025	$96.12
26867	Sun Life Financial - STD September 2025	$7.40
26868	Cottonwood County Auditor- County Rent - September 2025, Phone Usage	$2,168.29
26869	Bob's Biffy's-2 Field Days	$600.00
26870	Citizen - Site Hosts (3) Digital ad-Fair ($15), Shopper ad-Fair ($230), Ag Edition-Fair ($445)	$735.00
26871	Crystal Clean Car Wash - July Washes	$22.00
26872	Elan Financial Services - Meals, Postage, Landfill, MCIT (3 @ $75 each-Kay, Becky, Annitra)	$288.87
26873	Jack Slades-Lunch for Cover Crop School	$702.00
26874	Murray SWCD - SWPTSA Admin Assistance	$2,272.32
26875	NCPERS - Group Life Insurance - September 2025	$96.00
26876	ODP Business Solutions-Office Supplies	$332.73
26877	Verizon - JetPack - 1 Month	$49.06
26878	Bob Gohr-Speaker for Cover Crop School-Windom	$500.00
26879	Daniel Nelson-Speaker for Cover Crop School-Windom	$500.00
26880	Grant Breitkreutz-Speaker for Cover Crop School-Windom	$500.00
26881	JD Tippin-Speaker for Cover Crop School-Windom	$500.00
26882	Jordan Klassen-Speaker for Cover Crop School-Windom	$500.00
26883	Mike Larson-Tent and table rental-Cover Crop School	$1,070.00
26884	Herman Bartsch - Mileage & Cell	$500.10
26885	Rebecca Buchholz-Cell	$40.00
26886	Kay Gross - Mileage, Cell, & Hotel	$512.86
26887	Annitra Moody-Rain Gauges, Wireless Phone	$1,143.79
26888	Breanna Wagner-Door prizes @ County Fair Demos	$20.00
	TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	**$16,268.98**
	District Checking Account Balance	**$685,216.26**

Balances as of 8-28-2025

PETTY CASH (Included in District Fund Balance)	**$50.00**
6 Month CD - Bank Midwest - Interest - 2025 ($1,182.64 - Included in Total)	**$55,706.41**
Savings Account - Bank Midwest - Interest - 2nd Quarter ($527.96 - Included in Total)	**$56,999.10**
Account Balances: Checking (2)/Savings/Petty Cash/CD:	**$797,971.77**

Southwest Prairie Technical Service
Balance Sheet Detail
As of July 31, 2025

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Class	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
ASSETS									1,395,592.13
Current Assets									1,190,142.45
Checking/Savings									1,177,220.17
Checking Account									355,000.08
Liability Check	07/02/2025		QuickBooks Payroll ...	Created by P...		X	Direct Deposit ...	-7,912.68	347,087.40
Liability Check	07/02/2025	auto	MN UI Fund			X	-SPLIT-	-218.00	346,869.40
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2025	4266	Murray SWCD	Rent April-Jun...		X	Accounts Paya...	-683.73	346,185.67
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2025	4267	MCIT	Auto Audit		X	Accounts Paya...	-71.00	346,114.67
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2025	4268	Mike Skoglund	reimb-cap, wh...		X	Accounts Paya...	-9.76	346,104.91
Paycheck	07/03/2025	DD1685	Hoogendoorn, Russell	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...	X	-SPLIT-	0.00	346,104.91
Paycheck	07/03/2025	DD1686	Skoglund, Michael	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...	X	-SPLIT-	0.00	346,104.91
Paycheck	07/03/2025	DD1684	Harrison, Jacob L	Direct Deposit	FY20 ESTS	X	-SPLIT-	0.00	346,104.91
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	EFTPS	41-1811267		X	-SPLIT-	-3,026.12	343,078.79
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	MN Revenue	1947844		X	State Withholdi...	-557.00	342,521.79
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	MSRS			X	Federal Withho...	-100.00	342,421.79
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	PERA			X	-SPLIT-	-1,631.51	340,790.28
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	MSRS			X	HCSP-Def C	-475.00	340,315.28
Liability Check	07/03/2025	auto	MSRS			X	HCSP-Def C	-30.00	340,285.28
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2025	4269	Cottonwood SWCD	Admin TSA $...		X	Accounts Paya...	-2,967.12	337,318.16
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2025	4270	Cottonwood SWCD	Professional ...		X	Accounts Paya...	-621.00	336,697.16
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2025	4271	Elan Finanical Servi...	gas,meals		X	Accounts Paya...	-291.82	336,405.34
Liability Check	07/09/2025	4272	MN PEIP			X	Health Insuran...	-2,919.28	333,486.06
Bill Pmt -Check	07/15/2025	4273	Chandler Co-op	gas		X	Accounts Paya...	-105.83	333,380.23
Liability Check	07/16/2025		QuickBooks Payroll ...	Created by P...		X	Direct Deposit ...	-7,912.68	325,467.55
Bill Pmt -Check	07/16/2025	4274	Lipinski Garage	VOID: tires			Accounts Paya...	0.00	325,467.55
Paycheck	07/17/2025	DD1687	Harrison, Jacob L	Direct Deposit	FY20 ESTS		-SPLIT-	0.00	325,467.55
Paycheck	07/17/2025	DD1688	Hoogendoorn, Russell	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...		-SPLIT-	0.00	325,467.55
Paycheck	07/17/2025	DD1689	Skoglund, Michael	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...		-SPLIT-	0.00	325,467.55
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	EFTPS	41-1811267		X	-SPLIT-	-3,026.14	322,441.41
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	MN Revenue	1947844		X	State Withholdi...	-557.00	321,884.41
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	MSRS			X	Federal Withho...	-100.00	321,784.41
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	PERA			X	-SPLIT-	-1,631.51	320,152.90
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	MSRS			X	HCSP-Def C	-475.00	319,677.90
Liability Check	07/17/2025	auto	MSRS			X	HCSP-Def C	-30.00	319,647.90
Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2025	4275	Lincoln SWCD	Rent July-Sep...			Accounts Paya...	-845.28	318,802.62
Bill Pmt -Check	07/21/2025	4276	Lipinski Garage	tires		X	Accounts Paya...	-1,732.95	317,069.67
Bill Pmt -Check	07/22/2025	4277	esri			X	Accounts Paya...	-400.00	316,669.67
Bill Pmt -Check	07/22/2025	4278	Ratwik, Roszak & M...	Review & anal...		X	Accounts Paya...	-253.00	316,416.67
Bill Pmt -Check	07/22/2025	4279	Green Garden Place...	June 2025		X	Accounts Paya...	-3,785.02	312,631.65
Bill Pmt -Check	07/22/2025	4280	Verizon			X	Accounts Paya...	-192.82	312,438.83
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4281	Cottonwood SWCD	Farm Mentor/...			Accounts Paya...	-1,237.28	311,201.55
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4282	Jackson SWCD-	Farm Mentor		X	Accounts Paya...	-1,875.00	309,326.55
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4283	Lac qui Parle SWCD-	Quarter 2-FY...			Accounts Paya...	-3,956.25	305,370.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4284	Lincoln SWCD	Quarter 2-FY...			Accounts Paya...	-5,780.00	299,590.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4285	Lyon SWCD-	Qtr 2 Farm M...		X	Accounts Paya...	-1,785.00	297,805.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4286	Nobles SWCD-	Qtr 2-Farm M...			Accounts Paya...	-900.00	296,905.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4287	Redwood SWCD-	qtr 2 FY24 Ag...			Accounts Paya...	-10,030.00	286,875.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4288	Rock LMO/SWCD	qtr 2 Farm Me...			Accounts Paya...	-1,122.50	285,752.80
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2025	4289	Yellow Medicine SW...	qtr 2 FY24 So...		X	Accounts Paya...	-641.75	285,111.05

Southwest Prairie Technical Service
Balance Sheet Detail
As of July 31, 2025

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Class	Clr	Split	Amount	Balance
Liability Check	07/30/2025		QuickBooks Payroll ...	Created by P...		X	Direct Deposit ...	-7,912.67	277,198.38
Paycheck	07/31/2025	DD1690	Harrison, Jacob L	Direct Deposit	FY20 ESTS		-SPLIT-	0.00	277,198.38
Paycheck	07/31/2025	DD1691	Hoogendoorn, Russell	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...		-SPLIT-	0.00	277,198.38
Paycheck	07/31/2025	DD1692	Skoglund, Michael	Direct Deposit	FY23 NP...		-SPLIT-	0.00	277,198.38
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	EFTPS	41-1811267		X	-SPLIT-	-3,026.14	274,172.24
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	MN Revenue	1947844			State Withholdi...	-557.00	273,615.24
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	MSRS				Federal Withho...	-100.00	273,515.24
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	MSRS				HCSP-Def C	-475.00	273,040.24
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	MSRS				HCSP-Def C	-30.00	273,010.24
Liability Check	07/31/2025	auto	PERA			X	-SPLIT-	-1,631.51	271,378.73
Deposit	07/31/2025			Deposit		X	Interest on Che...	506.51	271,885.24
Total Checking Account								-83,114.84	271,885.24
Savings Interest Account									0.00
Total Savings Interest Account									0.00
Select Business Savings									0.00
Total Select Business Savings									0.00
Sweep Account									822,220.09
Deposit	07/31/2025			Deposit			Interest on Che...	1,292.85	823,512.94
Total Sweep Account								1,292.85	823,512.94
Total Checking/Savings								-81,821.99	1,095,398.18
Accounts Receivable									2,229.00
Accounts Receivable									2,229.00
Total Accounts Receivable									2,229.00
Total Accounts Receivable									2,229.00
Other Current Assets									10,693.28
CDs									0.00
Total CDs									0.00
FY16 CW ESTS-Part 1 Lincoln									0.00
Total FY16 CW ESTS-Part 1 Lincoln									0.00
FY16 CW ESTS-Part 2 Equip									0.00
Total FY16 CW ESTS-Part 2 Equip									0.00
Interest Income CD									0.00
Total Interest Income CD									0.00
Interest Money									0.00
Total Interest Money									0.00

Monthly Treasurer's Report
Southwest Prairie Technical Service Area
July 2025

Use of Cash	Beginning Balance 7/1/2025	Receipts	Disbursements	Ending Balance 7/31/2025	EXPIRES
Checking Account	$ 355,000.08	506.51	$ 83,621.35	271,885.24	
Select Business Svg	$ -			-	
Interest Money	$ -			-	
Compensated Absences	$ -			-	
Sweep Account	$ 822,220.09	1,292.85		823,512.94	
CD	$ -			-	
Total	**$ 1,177,220.17**	**1,799.36**	**$ 83,621.35**	**1,095,398.18**	
Program Summary					
JPO Fund Balance	$ 107,861.13	1,799.36		109,660.49	
Technical Services	$ 376,881.83		$ 82,416.50	294,465.33	
GRANTS	$ 606,369.04			606,369.04	
Training	$ 12,108.17			12,108.17	
Education/Outreach	$ 20,000.00		$ 1,204.85	18,795.15	
Compensated Absences	$ 54,000.00			54,000.00	
NACD Grant	$ -			-	
	$ 1,177,220.17	**1,799.36**	**$ 82,416.50**	**1,095,398.18**	
eLINK Grants					
FY21 ESTS Grant	$ -	-		-	12/31/2023
FY21 Local Match	$ -			-	
FY21 Administration	$ -			-	
FY22 ESTS Grant				-	12/31/2024
FY22 Local Match	$ -			-	
FY22 ESTS Administration				-	
FY22 NPEA Grant	$ -			-	12/31/2024
FY22 NPEA Local Match	$ -			-	
FY22 NPEA Administration	$ -			-	
FY23 ESTS Grant	$ -			-	12/31/2025
FY23 Local Match				-	
FY23 ESTS Administration	$ 8,666.44		$ 2,880.27	5,786.17	
FY23 NPEA Grant	$ -			-	12/31/2025
FY23 NPEA Local Fund	$ -			-	
FY23 Administration	$ -			-	
FY24 ESTS	$ 190,380.96			190,380.96	12/31/2025
FY24 Local Match	$ -			-	
FY24 Administration	$ 36,512.11			36,512.11	
FY24 NPEA	$ 103,448.27			103,448.27	12/31/2025
FY24 Local Match	$ -			-	
FY24 Administration	$ 15,000.00			15,000.00	
FY24 NPEA Supplies/Equip	$ 5,774.80			5,774.80	
FY24 Soil Health Staffing Grant	$ 469,820.79		$1,563.30	468,257.49	12/31/2027
FY25 ESTS Grant	$ 204,400.00			204,400.00	12/31/2026
FY25 ESTS Administration	$ 38,100.00			38,100.00	
FY25 ESTS Local Match	$ 24,250.00			24,250.00	
	$ 1,096,353.37		**Total**	**1,091,909.80**	

SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE TECHNICAL SERVICE AREA

210 10th Street, Windom, MN 56101 Phone: 507-832-8287

DATE: **AUGUST 28, 2025**

TO: **SOUTHWEST PRAIRIE TECHNICAL SERVICE AREA MEMBERS**

FROM: **KAY GROSS, ADMINSTRATIVE COORDINATOR**

SUBJECT: **COORDINATOR REPORT**

Soil Health/Training Contract Position
Great turnout in Cottonwood County – 74 participants for the Russell Hendrick event with Pipestone hosting 58 participants and Dawn 83 participants. Approximately 70 were in attendance at the Field School Event on August 19.

Continuing to work with District staff in gaining Job Approval Authority and also working with the Administration to help report and assist with our quarterly meetings for the Soil Health Staffing Grant. And also assisting with area trainings, soil health events, and working with the Soil Health Staffing quarterly meetings and reporting.

MAWQCP Technical Assistance
Continued work with local landowners to receive worksheet and ulimately certification through MAWQCP.
Danielle also has JAA for Ecological Services and Non-Structural practices if that service is needed by your office.
Danielle is working with SWCD staff to understand and help local landowners with the MAWQCP additional cost-share available for practices ($5,000 per project). Danielle has been busy working with local landowners to apply and also review applications for some participants.

State TSA Managers Meeting
Next meeting is set for September 4.

BWSR Soil Health Staffing Grant
The first round reporting has been completed for 2024. With the start of the grant in April 2024 here are our 2024 numbers.

April – Sept 2024	**Oct – Dec 2024**	**Jan – March 2025**	**April – June 2025**
68 hrs Administration	32.25 hrs Administration	51.75 hrs Administration	58 hrs Administration
$4,602.53	$2,414.84	$4,257.49	$4,622.88
12 Mentors	11 Mentors	13 Mentors	17 Mentors
115 Contacts	86 Contacts	38 Contacts	119 Contacts
19 Meetings	25 Meetings	32 Meetings	22 Meetings
334.75 Hours	222.25 Hours	252.25 Hours	331.8 Hours
$27,121.25	$17,898.75	$20,376.25	$27,250.50
18,582 acres	23,406 acres	28,184 acres	55,064.50 acres

Total Expended - $108,544.48 Total Acres - 125,236.5 ($0.58/acre)

The Cottonwood SWCD will also be hiring a SWPTSA – Soil Health Team Lead, starting in early October.

TSA Manager Meeting
Will work towards having a TSA Manager's meeting in September.

TSA Board Meeting
The next schedule TSA Board meeting will be held in during the month of Monday, Septmeber 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. Lyon County Government Center, Marshall, MN.

210 10th St
Windom, MN 56101

Phone: 507-832-8287

COTTONWOOD
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Date: August 23, 2025

Name: Becky Buchholz (Senior Technician)

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Farm Bill Assistance, SSTS, AgBMP Loans, WCA

Past Events:

- July 17, 2025 – Des Moines Joint Powers Board meeting, Windom, MN
- July 16, 2025 – RIM Drinking Water Program, webinar
- July 24, 2025 – Cottonwood SWCD Board meeting, Windom, MN
- July 31, 2025 – Watonwan Rest Area Teams, online
- August 15, 2025 – GBERBA Exec, online/Mankato, MN
- August 20, 2025 – GBERBA Tech, online
- August 21, 2025 – Des Moines Exec, Windom, MN

Upcoming Events:

- August 27, 2025 – HR 2.0 for Public Sector Training, St. Cloud, MN
- September 10-11, 2025 – SWCD Governance 101, St. Cloud, MN
- September 17, 2025 – GBERBA Tech, virtual
- September 17, 2025 – Cottonwood 1W1P Tech meeting, virtual
- September 18, 2025 – Area V, Marshal, MN
- September 19, 2025 – Des Moines Exec, Windom, MN
- September 19, 2025 – GBERBA Policy, Windom/virtual

Farm Bill Assistance:

- Current RIM programs available: RIM Drinking Water, RIM Wetland, RIM Grasslands, RIM 1W1P (only for finished 1W1P areas), RIM Riparian & Floodplain.
    - RIM Grasslands did not receive more funding this July and is closed until they attain more funding
    - RIM Wetlands has one sign up remaining that ends August 31
    - RIM 1W1P had one batching period July 25, 2025 and may be the only batching period until July 2026.
    - RIM Drinking Water is the revamped RIM Wellhead, it offers more flexible options including: 25 years or perpetual easements, grazing, perennial cropping rotations, etc.
    - CREP is closed until next year
    - RIM Riparian & Floodplain may still have another batching period
- Submitted documentation to receive Level 3 Conservation Planner to ARC, Dave Voigt and I had a meeting, a few more AgLearn courses to do because requirements changed from when I submitted my request until now. Then we will reevaluate.
    - I have received my Level 2 Conservation Planner status.
- BWSR did finalize an amendment to the current CREP agreement:
    - Deadline extended from 9/30/2026 to 9/30/2029
    - Acreage cap from 60,000 to 75,000

    - Expanded eligible counties (54 to 66)
    - Expanded CP2 practice outside of Wellhead Protection Areas (details coming)
- Assisting landowners with RIM and other programs on their lands.
- I am working on 2027 CRP status reviews and going to be completing the CRP plans for those reenrolling and enrolling in 2025. We do have a contribution agreement with MASWCD for reimbursement for 2025 plans and status reviews.

SSTS:

- Continuing to send out letters as septic disclosure forms come in and as property transfers occur. I continue to forward any non-compliance with the property transfer clause in the ordinance to the county attorney.
- The Watonwan Watershed is now out of SSTS incentives.
- The Des Moines Watershed has a $5,000 incentive for IPHT, FTPGW (in DWSMA and shoreland only), and low-income for SSTS replacements that use other financial assistance (low interest loans, grants, etc).
- The Cottonwood-Middle Minnesota has a $5,000 incentive for IPHT and FTPGW (shoreland and DWSMA only) for SSTS replacements that use other financial assistance
- The county received a $750,000 loan for SSTS loans and is ready for disbursement now. We used up approximately half of the funds in 2024.

AgBMP Loan Program

- Interest in the loan program has increased this year, due to the low interest rate in comparison to traditional lenders.
- As of today, we have limited funds that were added to our loan funds and I will be continuing a waitlist.
- Main uses: septic system replacement, ag waste, conservation tillage, replacement wells
- The loan program is now an online based application process.

WCA

- I will be working closely with Devin Ryan (BWSR) as I administer WCA and learn how the program is run.
- I have issued the following so far in 2025
    - Drainage exemptions: 1
    - Ag exemptions: 2
    - De minimis: 1
    - Conservation exemption: 1

COTTONWOOD
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Program Technician Report for August 21st, 2025

Past Priorities:

- Cottonwood County Fair: August 6th-9th
- August 11th: Native Plant ID Training in Montevideo, MN
- Cover Crop Field School: August 19th, 2025 (currently planning)
- Flyers for Des Moines CRP Incentive

Current Priorities:

- **Projects:**
  - Flyers/Banners/Brochures for RCPP Program
  - RIM and State CS Spot-checks this Summer!
  - Potential cost-share project site visits for landowners in the Des Moines & Cottonwood River Watersheds
  - Cost-share projects for Windbreak/Shelterbelts throughout Cottonwood County.
  - Work on flyers and posters for outreach as needed.
  - Keep up with Social Media accounts for Cottonwood SWCD (Facebook & Instagram)
  - Step 2 towards Pollinator Steward Certification: Complete Habitat and Outreach Events by Aug 2025.
- **Trainings:**
  - Level 1 Conservation Planner Webinars.
  - JAA for Vegetative BMPs such as Conservation Cover and Critical Area Planting.
- **Meetings/Events:**
  - Attend Quarterly Tree Commission Meetings for Windom.
  - Tree Site Visits with landowners throughout Cottonwood County.

Future Priorities:

- **Outreach & Education:**
  - Elementary Field Days Pollinator Jeopardy: September 8th-11th.
  - Environmental Fair Glaciers Presentation: September 23rd-24th (monthly meetings)
  - Outreach to Windom/Mt Lake Schools when school starts in Fall
- **Trainings:**
  - Urban Practices/Small Scale Ag Webinars and Trainings
  - Winter Tree ID
- **Meetings/Events:**
  - Tree Care Workshop: November 2025

Breanna Wagner
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COTTONWOOD
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Program Technician Report for August 28, 2025

Completed Activities from Previous Month:

- **Trainings/Meetings attended**
  - Attended GBERBA Exec and Tech meetings
- **Tree Program**
  - In-person interview with DNR forestry Mark Kruse to close out the ReLeaf grant for Mt Lake
  - Windbreak site visits: 2
  - Put in initial tree orders with Bailey and Schumachers
  - Co-presented about trees at County Fair
- **Soil Health**
  - Ran the rainfall simulator at the County Fair, then worked on fixing up some parts
  - Cover Crops Field School – Aug 19
  - Completed installation of 3 Soil Health field signs
- **Other Activities**
  - Worked on feedlots inspections, follow-up visit on feedlot with an issue

Priorities for Month Ahead:

- **Trainings/Meetings planned**
  - MOSH Farmer networks meeting Sept 16
- **Tree Program**
  - Continue with site visits and update our order sheets for 2026
- **Soil Health**
  - Start working again with Kim Musser and Herman to wrap up Grant 43 work

- **Other Activities**
  - Start working on RCPP paperwork

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Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

South Central MAWQCP Certification Specialist

Serving the Counties of: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, LeSueur, Martin, McLeod, Nicollet, Renville, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan

GBERBA Greater Blue Earth River Basin Alliance

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CLEAN WATER LAND & LEGACY AMENDMENT

Herman Bartsch
AREA 6 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST
August 11th, 2025

Workload:

- MAWQCP Reviews
- No-till, reduced-till and cover crop plans and grants
- Brown and Blue Earth County Assessments and Certifications
- GBERBA soil health video descriptions, and farmer profile creation
- GBERBA Joint Meeting 7/11
- MAWQCP Certifiers Meeting 7/31

AREA 6	Applications	Assessments	Certifications
Blue Earth SWCD	**18**	**16**	**10**
Brown SWCD	**21**	**16**	**6**
Faribault SWCD	**44**	**37**	**30**
LeSueur SWCD	**23**	**16**	9
Martin SWCD	**37**	**27**	**21**
McLeod SWCD	**18**	**13**	**7**
Nicollet SWCD	**3**	2	1
Renville SWCD	**34**	**29**	**18**
Sibley SWCD	**5**	**5**	**3**
Waseca SWCD	**20**	**19**	12
Watonwan SWCD	**16**	**13**	**9**
Total	**239**	**193**	**126**

MAWQCP Numbers as of 7-28-25

- 1,669 producers certified
- 1,136,900 acres certified
- 7,750 new practices installed or planned to be installed
- Sediment delivery to surface waters reduced by 56,099 tons per year
- Soil loss reduced by 166,035 tons per year
- Phosphorus loss reduced by 71,630 lbs. of P per year
- 150 Soil Health Endorsements
- 111 IPM Endorsements
- 92 Wildlife Endorsements
- 204 Climate Smart Endorsements
- 15 Irrigation Endorsements

Herman Bartsch:
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Alex Schultz
Planning and Zoning Technician

210 10th Street
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Phone: 507-832-8287

COTTONWOOD
SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Date: August 28, 2025
Name: Alex Schultz

Topics: Past Events, Upcoming Events, Planning and Zoning, and Ag. Inspecting

Past Events:

- **June 21 – 23- MACAI short course**

Upcoming Events:

- **Aug 28- Board of Adjustment meeting**
- **Sept 8- MACFO FMT Meeting**
- **Sept 10- Ag Inspector Board meeting**

Planning and Zoning:

- **Planning Commission Meeting- The Sioux Rock Quarry was denied the Stay and may expand while the appeal process for their IUP is in the Court of Appeals. There have been four official appeals. The deadline to turn in all documents related to the subject was Aug 22nd**
- **Board of Adjustments- Variance hearing on Orvil Klassen- Grain bins within setback area**
- **Permits**
  - Setback Permits, 10 Issued
  - CUP, 0 Issued
  - Variances, 0 Issued
  - 911 addresses, 0 Issued

Feedlots

Feedlot inspections are in the process for Tony Dick, Steve Dick, Gary Remmers, Thibodeau, John Schwartz, Leonard Penner, and Larry Stuckenbroker

Cottonwood County Drainage

Dylan Oeltjenbruns-Drainage Inspector

Date: August 28, 2025

Past Events

- Final Hearing for 2nd group of ROB's-August 20
- Work done on open ditch section of CD30-One of FEMA Projects

Upcoming Events

- JD18CM Landowner Meeting-Date TBD
- JD24CB Landowner Meeting-Date TBD

Summary Report

Projects still in full swing. Working through information for both Plum Creek and Big Bend wind projects.

GBERBA

Greater Blue Earth River Basin

July 31, 2025

DANIELLE EVERS

AREA 5 MAWQCP CERTIFICATION SPECIALIST

Serving the Counties of: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lac Qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, & Yellow Medicine

Projects and Workload:

- Continuing to meet with producers for assessments, mapping, & uploading documents for state verification
- Working on reviews for 2025, currently **23/27** completed, I am training Adriene to assist as well
- Influx of applications are starting to arrive, in response to the Soil Health Equipment Grant period reopening
- **1 of 2** recertifications complete
- Hosted Russell Hedrick for the three field days. All successful events. Average attendance around 60-70 people

Events/Dates:

- 7/11/25 – Joint Policy/Tech GBERBA Mtg – MAWQCP Update Presentation – Fairmont, MN
- 7/16-18/25 – Russell Hedrick Field Days co-sponsored by MAWQCP – Comfrey, Jasper, Dawson
- 7/31/25 – ACS Program Update – Dayton, MN
- 8/6/25 – Farmfest – Morton, MN
- 8/7/25 – Cottonwood Co Fair – Cottonwood, MN

Program Updates and Information:

- New FY Grant applications open on July 1st! **$5,000 75%** cost-share through the MDA for producers, flat-rate incentive payments available for cover crops, reduced till, & winter out feeding
- MAWQCP has certified over **1,669 farms**, including over **1,136,900 current acres** with **7,750 new practices, 1,625 new BMP's**
- Estimated benefits include**: *56,009 tons** of TSS reduced per year, ***166,035 tons** soil reduced per year, ***71,630 lbs** Phosphorous reduced per year ***these numbers have decreased and are fluctuating as the merge of practices is taking place with the new system**
- Endorsements: **150** Soil Health, **111** Integrated Pest Management (IPM), **92** Wildlife, **204** Climate Smart, **15** Irrigation

TO DATE NUMBERS ***Numbers in bold have changed from the last report**

Area 5	Apps.	Assessments Completed	Certifications	Endorsements			
				IPM	Soil Health	Wildlife	Climate
Cottonwood	56	55	25	0	0	1	4
Jackson	38	37	24	3	3	1	4
Lac Qui Parle	18	18	11	1	1	1	4
Lincoln	**37**	35	18	1	1	1	1
Lyon	42	40	20	1	2	0	2
Murray	30	**30**	20	2	0	1	4
Nobles	21	21	15	0	1	0	3
Pipestone	**71**	67	37	3	1	0	1
Redwood	56	46	27	3	3	0	3
Rock	**70**	63	37	1	1	1	3
Yellow Med.	38	38	19	1	0	0	0
Totals	**477**	450	253	16	13	6	29

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Presenting at the Russell Hedrick Field Day in Cottonwood Co. 7/16/25

Running the Tabletop Rainfall Simulator at the Russell Hedrick Field Day in Pipestone Co.

Russell Hedrick Field Day – Pipestone Co.

MN Soybean Article

Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program

Agriculture and Water Outreach Corpsmember
Conservation Corps of MN and IA
Adriene Matthews

August 4th, 2025

Workload:

- Inputting landowner's data and mapping farms that have been assessed by Herman Bartsch and Danielle Evers into ArcGIS mapping tool.
- Attend farm verification site visits with Danielle and Herman.
- Speak with landowners regarding replacing their tree groves.
- Attend Soil health Meetings with the SWCD technicians.
- Attend cover crops trainings.
- Complete MAWQCP interviews by myself.
- Tree planting

Projects:

- Assist Breanna Wagner and Nathan Hader with documenting well locations in ArcGIS Pro.
- Creating outreach opportunities for MAWQCP and landowners.
- Map landowners fields for MAWQCP
- Interview conservation workers for CCMI blog (Danielle And Herman)

Upcoming Events:

- Conservation Planner Training 7/21 – 8/8
- County Fair Demonstrations for MAWQCP 8/7
- Landowner Assessment 8/11
- CCMI Site Visit 8/12
- Informational Interview SWCDs of MN with CCMI 8/13 – 8/14
- Informational Interview MDA with CCMI 8/18
- Cover Crop Field Day 8/19
- Informational Interview Pheasants Forever with CCMI 8/25
- Volunteer at State Fair for MDA 8/28

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