



CHISAGO SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 38500 TANGER DR STE 206 - NORTH BRANCH, MN 55056
 651/674-2333 | CHISAGOSWCD.ORG

CHISAGO SWCD

March 10, 2026
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The March Board meeting of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District was convened on March 10, 2026, at the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District office, 38500 Tanger Dr. Suite 206, North Branch, MN 55056. Chair Cedergren called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

ATTENDANCE

Supervisors: Rick Cedergren, Matt Hardy, Lance Petersen, David Tollberg, and Justin Wilson
 Staff: Craig Mell, Casey Thiel (partial attendance), Ellen Badger Hanson (partial attendance), and NRCS
 Acting District Conservationist Jacob Furst (partial attendance).

AGENDA

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Wilson to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Hardy to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

No Board action taken at this time.

STAFF/SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Jacob Furst and Craig Mell reviewed the NRCS and SWCD activities of the past month. Casey Thiel gave a presentation on the 2024 Surface Water Monitoring Report. No Board action taken at this time.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Cost Share Request 2026 Soil Health Practices Grant

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following conservation practice assistance contract:

- 1) Contract: 13-5-2
 - Conservation Practice: 512 Pasture and Hayland Planting
 - Total Acres: 5
 - Contract Length: 5 years
 - Flat Rate Payment: \$200/acre
 - \$1,000 FY26 Soil Health Practices Grant
 - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

Project Certification Non-Structural BMPs

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Tollberg to approve the following project certification:

- 1) Contract: CLLID 2025
 - Conservation Practice: Lakeshore Planting, North Center Lake
 - Total Length: 50 feet
 - Payment: \$500.07
 - Payment Certified: \$411.03 Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Lakeshore and Urban Restoration Cost Share Program
 - Technical Representative: Casey Thiel, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

BRINGING CONSERVATION TO CHISAGO COUNTY

Project Certification Structural BMPs

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to approve the following project certification:

- 1) Contract: LSC WBIF Ag Structural 23-02
 - Conservation Practice: water and sediment control basins, underground outlets, critical area plantings and lined waterways.
 - Total Project Cost: \$12,534 (partial payment)
 - Approved Cost-Share Amount: \$12,534
 - \$10,000 FY23 WBIF Lower St. Croix Watershed Partners grant (C23-0735)
 - \$2,534 Roland Cleveland Cost Share Program
 - Technical Representative: USDA NRCS

Motion carried.

Contract Cancellation

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Hardy to cancel the following conservation practice assistance contract at the request of the applicant:

- 1) Contract: 13-4-6
 - Conservation Practice: 327 Conservation Cover
 - Total Acres: 0.8
 - Contract Length: 10 years
 - Flat Rate Payment: \$500/acre
 - \$400 FY26 Soil Health Practices Grant
 - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No Board action taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership

Motioned by Wilson and seconded by Tollberg to accept and approve the recommendations of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Steering Committee dated February 26th, and to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize and sign a Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreement Statement of Work with the approved Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership members for WBIF grant funds.

- 1) Approve a Grantee Discretion Work Plan Budget Adjustment to the 2023 WBIF grant as follows:
 - a) Retain \$3,200.00 in the Activity 3 – Nonstructural Ag/Urban BMPs budget for the Washington Conservation District Oak Park Heights 2026 one-year enhanced street sweeping application.
 - b) Transfer \$3,023.61 from Activity 3 to Activity 10 – Administration to reimburse the Washington Conservation District for hours spent in 2025 exceeding the \$8,000 approved by the LSC SC on November 21, 2024, for the development of the LSC Implementation Database.
 - c) Transfer \$4,845.39 from Activity 3 to Activity 1 – Ag BMPs and allocate it towards the Pine SWCD Jones Project. This project was approved to receive FY23 and FY25 WBIF grant funds. This transfer will increase the amount of funds available in the FY25 Ag BMPs budget.
- 2) Approve an amendment to the following agreement with the Washington Conservation District, originally approved by the Chisago SWCD Board on December 19, 2024.
 - a) Washington Conservation District
 - i) Activity: 10 Administration/Coordination
 - ii) Description of Project: LSC WP Implementation Tracking Database
 - iii) Grant Funds Requested: ~~\$8,000~~ \$11,023.61
- 3) Approve allocating Lower St. Croix WBIFs to the following partner:
 - a) Washington Conservation District
 - i) Grant: 2023 WBIF – LSC (C23-0735)

- ii) Activity: Non-Structural Ag Urban BMP Implementation
- iii) Grant Funds Recommended: \$3,200
- iv) Project: City of Oak Park Heights Enhanced Street Sweeping
- b) Washington Conservation District
 - i) Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
 - ii) Activity: Non-Structural Ag/Urban BMP Implementation
 - iii) Grant Funds Recommended: \$10,000
 - iv) Project: Cities of Afton and Bayport Enhanced Street Sweeping

Motion carried.

BWSR Grant Agreement

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Wilson to approve the FY26 Soil Health Delivery Grant Agreement with the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources for \$20,000 and to authorize District Administrator Mell to be the grantee’s authorized representative, which includes signing all documents related to this grant agreement. Motion carried.

Cost Share Policy

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Petersen to approve the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District Cost Share Policy as presented. Motion carried.

Metro Conservation Districts Technical Service Area Joint Powers Board Agreements

Motion by Tollberg and seconded by Wilson to approve the Metro Conservation Districts Technical Service Area Joint Powers Board Drone Host Services Agreement pending review and approval by the Chisago County Attorney’s Office. Motion carried.

Motion by Wilson and seconded by Hardy to approve the Metro Conservation Districts Technical Service Area Joint Powers Board Drone Use Agreement pending review and approval by the Chisago County Attorney’s Office. Motion carried.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant Agreement

Motion by Hardy and seconded by Tollberg to approve the 2026 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation contract, grant ID 2004.26.08895, and to authorize District Administrator Mell to be the grantee’s authorized representative, which includes signing all documents related to this grant agreement. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Board action taken at this time.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at 8:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 AM. Motion carried.



 Secretary

4-14-2026

 Date