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

September 8, 2026
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The September Board meeting of the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District was convened on September 8, 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 present: Rick Cedergren, Matt Hardy, Lance Petersen, David Tollberg (virtual), and Justin Wilson
Staff: Craig Mell and Susan Humble (partial attendance)

IN MEMORY

The Board and staff reflected on the life and legacy of former Chisago SWCD Supervisor Jim Birkhloz, who passed away on September 2, 2026. Jim served as a Supervisor on the Chisago SWCD Board from 2006 until his retirement in 2024. Supervisor Wilson shared apples from Jim's apple orchard, Pleasant Valley Orchard in memory of Jim.

AGENDA

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Hardy to approve the Agenda as printed. Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Petersen and seconded by Wilson to approve the Consent Agenda. Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion was made by Petersen and seconded by Hardy to approve Supervisors and staff attendance at the MASWCD Area IV Fall Meeting on Tuesday September 22nd. Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

STAFF/SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Administrator Mell reviewed the NRCS and SWCD activities of the past month.

Susan Humble gave a presentation on the Chisago SWCD Tree Sale Program. No Board action taken at this time.

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

Project Certification Non-Structural BMPs

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Petersen to approve the certification of the following contracts:

1) Contract: CLLID 26-7-1
   - Conservation Practice: shoreline planting
   - Payment: One of One
   - Cost Share Payment: $500 Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District Plant Grant

- Technical Representative: Casey Thiel, Chisago SWCD

2) Contract: 13-5-2
   - Conservation Practice: 512 (pasture and hayland planting)
   - Payment: One of One
   - Cost Share Payment: $1,000
   - Technical Representative: Jacquelynn Olson, Chisago SWCD

Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

Contract Amendment

A motion was made by Petersen and seconded by Hardy to approve the following contract amendment request:

1) Contract: 13-1-6
   - Conservation Practice: 512 (pasture and hayland planting)
   - Total Acres: 9.2
   - Contract Completion Date: 11/30/~~2026~~ 2027
   - Contract Amount: $1,840 FY26 Soil Health Practices (P26-0008)
   - Technical Representative: Mary Jo Youngbauer, Chisago SWCD

Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

No Board action taken at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership

Update:

Administrator Mell updated the Board on the status of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership. No Board action taken at this time.

Steering Committee Recommendation – Contract Amendment:

A motion was made by Petersen and seconded by Wilson to accept and approve the recommendation of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Steering Committee dated August 12th, and to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize and sign a Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreement Statement of Work Amendment with the following Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership member:

1) Comfort Lake Forest Lake Watershed District
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
   - Activity: Administration/Coordination
   - Description of Project: 2027-2028 biennial work plan development, and assistance with 2025 year-end reporting including project database assistance QA/QC.
   - Grant Funds Requested: ~~$1,800.00~~ $3,800.00

Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

Steering Committee Recommendation – New Contracts:

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Hardy to accept and approve the recommendations of the Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership Steering Committee dated August 12th, and to authorize Administrator Mell to finalize and sign a Master Grant Sub-Recipient Agreement and Statement of Work with the following Lower St. Croix Watershed Partnership members:

1) Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)

- Activity: Wetland Restoration Implementation
- Grant Funds Recommended: $11,500
- Project: Jensen Wetland Restoration

2) Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
   - Activity: Wetland Restoration Implementation
   - Grant Funds Recommended: $11,500
   - Project: Olson-Hawkinson Wetland Restoration
3) Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
   - Activity: Structural Urban BMP Implementation
   - Grant Funds Recommended: $13,500
   - Project: LSCVFD Bioretention Basin
4) Pine Soil and Water Conservation District
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
   - Activity: Structural Ag BMP Implementation
   - Grant Funds Recommended: $8,100
   - Project: Anderson Gulley Erosion Stabilization
5) Pine Soil and Water Conservation District
   - Grant: 2025 WBIF – LSC (C25-0284)
   - Activity: Structural Ag BMP Implementation
   - Grant Funds Recommended: $6,400
   - Project: Peterson Rock Creek WASCOB

Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

BWSR Grant Agreements

A motion was made by Cedergren and seconded by Petersen to approve the MN Board of Water and Soil Resources FY27 grant agreements for the Chisago SWCDs Soil Health Delivery Grant and Buffer Program Implementation Grant, and to designate District Administrator Mell as the District's Authorized Representative to sign all documents related to these grant agreements. Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Board action taken at this time.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 8:00 AM.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Petersen and seconded by Tollberg to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 AM. Roll call vote: Cedergren, Yes; Hardy, Yes; Petersen, Yes; Tollberg, Yes; Wilson, Yes. Motion carried.

Secretary

10-13-26
Date