



WHERE THE FOREST MEETS THE PRAIRIE

**Todd County**  
• MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

**SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

215 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, Suite 104

Long Prairie, MN 56347

Phone: 320-732-2644 Fax: 320-732-4803

## **Minutes from June 11, 2026 Regular Board Meeting**

The meeting was held in person at Todd County Historic Courthouse, Commissioner's Board Room, located at 215 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Chairperson Katterhagen called the Thursday, June 11, 2026 meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call for Introductions.

Board members present were: Dale Katterhagen, Barb James, Tom Williamson, Larry Bebus and Wayne Wendel.

Others present were: Adam Ossefoort (Division Director), Sarah Katterhagen (Program Coordinator), Josh Votruba (Conservation Technician), Kasen Christiansen (Conservation Technician), Luke Thoma (NRCS), Alex Fellbaum (FSA), Tim Denny (Todd County Commissioner), and Brett Arne (BWSR).

**Approval of Agenda:** Katterhagen asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. Wendel made a motion, seconded by James, to accept the revised agenda with the following items removed:

- 4.1 Goodwin amendment request
- 5.1 Renneberg Hardwoods LLC payment request
- 5.3 Goodwin payment request
- 5.11 Soil Health Payment requests

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Bebus made a motion, seconded by Wendel to approve the May 14, 2026 regular board meeting minutes as distributed. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

**Financial Report:** James made a motion, seconded by Williamson, to accept May 2026 Treasurer's Report with receipts totaling \$11,642.78 and disbursements totaling \$96,650.27.

Discussion: S. Katterhagen reviewed the revenues and disbursements.

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

**Call for Conflict of Interest:** Katterhagen declared conflict of interest on item 5.2 – Katterhagen request for cost share payment for tree establishment.

**Celebration:**



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Katterhagen, James and Jason Kreemer have filed for elections for SWCD Supervisor positions.

**Commissioner's Report:** Commissioner Denny reported the County is getting a jump start on the 2027 Budgets. He noted controversy on the Solar panel request and the County is looking at opening up the Solar ordinance for review. The County is making improvements to the Fairgrounds.

**Director Report:** Ossefoort reported the County Comprehensive plan update is completed. The cannabis ordinance has been updated, working on 2027 budgets and discussions about data centers and establishing a moratorium.

**SWCD Manager Report:** No report.

**Staff Visual Report:** Votruba presented his visual report. The report included photos of the current shoreline projects, project fixes and tree pick up.

### Report on Staff Accomplishments:

Ossefoort reported:

- Scheve attended a youth education event at Battle Point Park and has shifted into the feedlot position.
- Christiansen has been working on notice of decisions and attended a youth educational event at Battle Point Park.
- S. Katterhagen worked on financials, received well sealing inquiries, assisted in grant reconciliation for MDA Drinking Water grant and has assisted in budgets for the County.
- No report for Moore.

**NRCS Report:** Thoma reported the NRCS office will be closed on June 19<sup>th</sup> and July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The office has been receiving calls about buckthorn control and parsnip; and staff is working on the open contracts.

**FSA Report:** Fellbaum provided an update from the FSA office.

- Todd County FSA is down one employee; staffing is 3 Program Analysts and the County Executive Director.
- The acreage reporting deadline is July 15. Due to staffing, FSA highly encourages appointments. Walk-in appointments are limited.
- This year's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) enrollments include 29 Continuous CRP contracts; (which include 2 Farmable Wetlands Program (FWP) contracts and 6 State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement (SAFE) Initiative contracts) and 21 General CRP contracts. The Primary Nesting Season started on June 1 and goes through August 1, so any CRP participants that have concerns with noxious weeds, pests, etc. must inform FSA and request approval for spot mowing or spot spraying. FSA has also been working with Kasen on acreage with an easement and CRP contract.
- On July 4, 2025, the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, passed, providing landowners with the opportunity to increase base acres. The base acre update is in preparation for enrollment in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2026 and future years. The enrollment period will be announced at a later date.



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Landowner's Base Allocation Summary will be available on June 1, 2026, and can be accessed at [fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc](https://fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc) using a Login.gov account. If landowners do not have a Login.gov account, they can contact their local Farm Service Agency office to receive the summary.

- Todd County FSA will be seeking nominations for the County Committee (COC) Election starting June 15, 2026. Local Administrative Area (LAA) #1 will be up for election and includes the Todd County townships of Stowe Prairie, Bartlett, Staples, Villard, Bertha, Germania, Moran, Fawn Lake, Ward, and Turtle Creek.

### **1W1P Reports:**

- **Sauk River Report:** At the May 21, 2026 meeting discussion of new fiscal agent agreement. Working on phase three for funding
- **Red Eye Report:** No meetings. Working on phase three for funding
- **Long Prairie Report:** No meetings. Working on phase three for funding.
- **Crow Wing Report:** No meetings. Realigning the budgets.
- **Mississippi Brainerd Report:** Bebus attended a meeting. Phase two of funding has been approved.

**BWSR Report:** Arne provided the Board a handout on 2026 Legislative updates. There will be changes for fraud control and updates to the RFP process which will align more with other state agencies. The Office of Grant Management (OGM) will post reviewed grants on their website.

Fellbaum and Thoma left the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

### **Decisions needed for encumbering cost share funds**

Bebus made a motion, seconded by James to approve encumbering C24-0198 Mississippi Brainerd WBIF for Rieffer, #2026.06.11-3.1 in the amount of \$28,965.90 for livestock access control project. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

Williamson made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve encumbering FY23 LCCMR funds for Beste, #2026.06.11-3.2 in the amount of \$1,200 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve encumbering FY23 LCCMR funds for Rice Lake Properties, 2026.06.11-3.3 in the amounts of \$1,200, \$353.25 and \$1,200, respectively for three large acreage non-contiguous acres for a contract total of \$2,753.25. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

### **Decisions needed for cost share contract amendments**

Goodwin request for amendment was removed. Board discussion to bring discussion of amendments to the next board meeting.



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James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve amendment request of additional cost share funds from Muehlbauer, #2026.03.12-3.9 in the amount of \$750 for new cost share amount of \$12,195 to stabilize the base of road culvert into the channel per the recommendation of District Manager, Anton. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

#### **Decision needed for payment of cost share funds**

Renneberg request for payment was removed.

Bebus made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment of P26-0856 Soil Health Delivery funds for Katterhagen, #2026.03.12-3.5 in the amount of \$905.78 for tree establishment. Affirmative: James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Abstained: Katterhagen. Motion Carried.

Goodwin request for payment was removed from the agenda.

James made a motion, seconded by Wendel to approve payment of FY26 County Riparian funds to Muehlbauer, 2026.03.12-3.9 in the amount of \$12,195 for a waterway and diversion project pending to receiving recording document from the recorder's office.

Discussion: Bebus asked if projects should be using granite and Katterhagen questioned the size of rocks to be used. Board would like staff to follow up with engineers regarding type of rocks and size.

Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

Wendel made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve payment of FY26 County Riparian funds to Hanson, #2026.03.12-3.3 in the amount of \$716.90 for a stormwater control project. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to approve payment of FY26 County Riparian funds to Alstead, #2026.03.12-3.2 in the amount of \$1,413.42 for tree establishment project. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Bebus to approve payment C24-0198 Mississippi-Brainerd WBIF for Ager, #20260409-3.3 in the amount of \$1,132.50 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

Bebus made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment of C25-0310 Crow Wing WBIF for Pipek, #20260409-3.2 in the amount of \$1,050 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

James made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment of C24-0198 Mississippi River WBIF for John Hanowski/Bebejo Ranch, LLC, #20260514-3.5 in the amount of \$1,200 for a forest stewardship plan. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.



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Wendel made a motion, seconded by Williamson to approve payment of C22-4860 Sauk River WBIF for Padua Prairie Partnership, #20260108-3.3 in the amount of \$103,860 for a grade stabilization project pending to receiving the recording document from the recorder's office. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

Request for P26-0058 Soil Health practice payments was removed from the agenda.

Christiansen, Votruba and Arne left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

### **Decisions needed for operations**

Wendel made a motion, seconded by James to approve Sauk River Watershed Collaborative Amendment to Fiscal Agreement of transition of Fiscal Agent from Stearn's County to Stearns Conservation District. Affirmative: Katterhagen, James, Williamson, Bebus and Wendel. Motion Carried.

### **Discussion items**

#### **2027 Financial Budget meeting date with Bebus and Wendel**

Ossefoort notes Anton would like to meet in July. Wendel requested that Anton contact him with a date and time for the meeting.

#### **Large Acreage Forest Stewardship Plans by contiguous acreage**

Board discussed the current policy and discussed having a cap for contiguous acres. Bebus discussed splitting the parcels out and setting minimum acre amounts. Board consensus to continue to discussion and bring back to discussion in July.

#### **Contracts and documents approved by the Chair**

W. Sobiech request for payment of FY23 LCCMR funding, C#20260312-3.6 in the amount of \$1,125 was approve for a Forest Stewardship plan on May 14, 2026 by Katterhagen.

G. Sobiech request for payment of FY23 LCCMR funding, C#20260312-3.8 in the amount of \$525 was approved for a Forest Stewardship plan on May 14, 2026 by Katterhagen.

### **Informational**

**Radio Show:** Broadcasts continue every second Friday of the month.

**Area II Meeting:** Scheduled for June 17, 2026. Anton, Votruba, Moore, Williamson and Bebus attending.

**Local Work Group Meeting and Tour:** Scheduled for June 18, 2026. Meeting location is Battle Point Park.



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**Office Closure:** The SWCD office will be closed on June 19, 2026.

**Zimmer Update:** Zimmer request for Long Prairie WBIF was approved at the June 5, 2026 Long Prairie Steering Committee meeting.

**Host Update:** Host request for Sauk River WBIF was approved by Sauk River Steering Committee on May 27, 2026.

**Peters Update:** Peter request for Sauk River WBIF was approved by Sauk River Steering Committee on May 27, 2026.

**John Update:** John request for Sauk River WBIF was approved by Sauk River Steering Committee on May 27, 2026.

**Pheasants Forever Update:** The Cooperative Agreement was approved on May 19, 2026 by Todd County Commissioners.

**Feedlot Funding Update:** The feedlot funds grant agreement that expired received grant amendment for extension. The balance will be used to compensate Todd County to purchase a new vehicle and staff wages.

**AIS Inspection Services:** Contract with Waterguards has been rescinded on June 3, 2026. More updates at July meeting as ongoing updates and changes.

**Project State Update:** No update was provided.

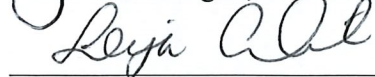
**Manager Update:** Manager Anton will not be at August's board meeting.

The next meeting scheduled for the Todd SWCD Board of Supervisors will be Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will take place at the Historic Courthouse in the Commissioner's Board Room located at 215 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Chairperson Katterhagen adjourned the meeting at 9:43 a.m.



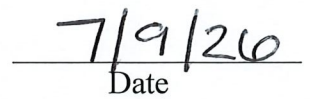
Sarah Katterhagen, Minute Preparer



Deja Anton, SWCD District Manager



Tom Williamson, Secretary

  
Date

  
Date

  
Date