



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District
505 3rd St N, Ste A
Virginia MN 55792

Regular Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2024

The meeting was held in person at the District office. A virtual link was available.

Supervisors Present at Roll Call: Chuck Bainter, Frank Modich, Peggy Pearson, Mark Peterson, and Gary Rantala were present in-person.

Staff Present: Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Zach Evans, Regional Farm Bill Forester, Miranda Frenning, Accounting & Human Resources Specialist; and Tristan Nelson, District Forester were present in-person. John McCormick, Regional Farm Bill Forester; Kaela Natwora, Watershed Conservationist, and Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist; and joined virtually.

Others Present: Melanie Bomier, BWSR Board Conservationist, was present online.

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m. by Chair, Peggy Pearson.

1. Agenda - Moved by Gary Rantala/Chuck Bainter to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
2. Minutes of Last Meeting – Moved by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
3. Financial Reports & Program Summary – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Gary Rantala to accept the financial reports and program summary. Motion carried.
4. Accounts Receivable and Payable – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve accounts payable and accounts receivable as updated 5/8/24. Motion carried.
5. Guest Introductions and Comments – none.

NEW BUSINESS

6. BWSR
 - a. Little Fork River Watershed Planning Grant Support & Board Resolution 2024-07 – Moved by Gary Rantala/Frank Modich to approve Board Resolution 2024-07. Motion carried.
 - b. Soil Health Cost Share Contract with Landowner – Moved by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve a soil health cost share contract in the amount of \$12,000 or 75% of the project cost, whichever is less. Motion carried.
7. Financial
 - a. Operating Reserve Contribution – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve an operating reserve contribution of \$50,000. Motion carried.
 - b. YTD Budget vs Actual – Anita reviewed the first quarter financial performance compared to the budget.
8. Forest Stewardship Plan Rates (adopt DNR rates and effective dates) – Moved by Frank Modich/Gary Rantala to adopt DNR rates and effective dates for forest stewardship plans. Motion carried.
9. MPCA 319 Grant for Pelican Lake Watershed & Board Resolution 2024-08 – Moved by Gary Rantala/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2024-08. Motion carried.
10. Resolution – Adding Climate Change Prevention Practices to SWCD Goals – Moved by Frank Modich/Gary Rantala to not approve the resolution for MASWCD action to add climate change prevention practices to SWCD goals in its current format. Motion carried.
11. Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and/or Trainings
 - a. Area 3 Resolutions Meeting – June 7
 - b. Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development – May 20 or June 3?
 - c. SWCD Forestry Association – May 16

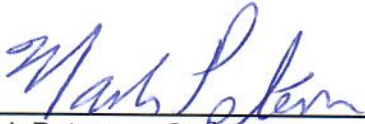
d. Other – Local Work Group – May 8

REPORTS – See packet for reports

12. District Administrator Report – Anita
13. Accounting & Human Resources Specialist – Miranda
14. Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator Report – Jon U.
15. Community Conservationist Report- Becca
16. District Forester Report – Tristan
17. Regional Farm Bill Forester Report – John M.
18. Regional Farm Bill Forester Report – Zach
19. Resource Conservationist Report – Phil
20. St. Louis River Watershed Conservationist Report – Kaela
21. NRCS District Conservationist Report – No report this month
22. Supervisor & Committee Reports – None this month

CLOSING

23. Next Meeting Date – The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.
24. Adjourn – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 p.m. Motion carried.



Mark Peterson, Secretary
June 12, 2024



**North St. Louis
Soil and Water Conservation District**
505 3rd St N, Ste A
Virginia MN 55792
(218) 749-2000

**Resolution to Support Developing a Comprehensive Watershed Management Plan
For the Little Fork River Watershed**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources has policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.311, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.332, subdivision 7 authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to participate, as appropriate, in the comprehensive watershed management planning program; and

WHEREAS, the counties and soil and water conservation districts within the Little Fork River Watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 09030005), as delineated in the map on the next page, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties and soil and water conservation districts within the Little Fork River Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District supports an application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties and soil and water conservation districts, within the Little Fork River Watershed, to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

Little Fork River Watershed Boundaries



Certificate of Recording Officer

I, the undersigned hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District Board at its monthly board meeting held on this 8th day of May 2024, and that I am duly authorized to execute this certificate.



Mark Peterson, North St. Louis SWCD Board Secretary

Motion by Kantala
Seconded by Modich
Affirmed by Baister, Modich
Peterson, Peterson & Kantala



Resolution 2024-08

**North St. Louis
Soil and Water Conservation District**

505 3rd St N, Ste A
Virginia MN 55792
(218) 749-2000
www.nslswcd.org

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT A 319 SMALL WATERSHEDS GRANT FOR THE
PELICAN LAKE WATERSHED FROM THE MPCA**

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency offers a federal Section 319 Small Watersheds Focus Programs grant used to implement a series of projects outlined in a nine-element plan, provide a steady source of funding, focus implementation efforts, and achieve measurable water quality improvements on a specific waterbody, and

WHEREAS, the Pelican Lake watershed is nearly impaired for some water quality impairments and is barely meeting other standards; and

WHEREAS, Section 319 funding is expected provide four rounds of federal funding that is matched with 40% state, county or local funding to do work aimed at preventing the lake from becoming impaired.

WHEREAS, the District staff have worked with MPCA staff to develop a Nine Key Elements plan for the Pelican Lake Watershed, which is now approved; and

WHEREAS, staff have identified work to be accomplished in the first cycle totaling \$486,522; and

WHEREAS, the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board desires to accept the first round of funding in the amount of \$291,965 and will contribute \$194,557 as match.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors authorizes the District Administrator or Board Chair to secure and sign all documents related to such funding.

Motion Made by: *Rantala*

Seconded by: *Peterson*

Affirmative: *Bainter, Modich, Pearson, Peterson, Rantala*

Opposed: *None*

Certification of Recording Officer

I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the North St Louis SWCD Board on the 8th day of May 2024 and that I am duly authorized to execute this certificate.

Mark Peterson, Board Secretary