



**24-10-08**     **SWCD Staff Reports:**

SWCD staff reports have been filed within the 2024 SWCD Board Meeting Agenda and Minutes Binder.

**24-10-09**     **NRCS Report**

There was a total of 321 EQIP applications in Teams 2 Area. There was a total of 64 applications in Red Lake County.

NRCS has until December 16th to spend the RCPP One Watershed One Plan funding.

There were 11 CSP renewals. CSP payments are active and will be processed this week.

There is a CSP Classic signup until November 15th.

Staffing: Luke is the active Team Lead. Luther has transfer now to Faribault. A soil Con position was offered in Thief River Falls, but Luke was unaware if the position was accepted. There are currently several positions open in the area.

**24-10-10**     **Old Business:**

Discussion was held on the Red Lake River 1W1P. Tanya provided a brief update on what is currently happening in the Red Lake River watershed along with the plan amendment status.

**24-10-11**     Discussion was held on the Clearwater River 1W1P. Tanya provided a brief update on what is currently happening in the Clearwater River watershed. There is an Advisory / Policy committee meeting scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> in Thief River Falls.

**24-10-12**     Discussion was held on 2024 Construction Contracts.

Discussion was held on the Oak Knolls Golf Course Conservation Practice Assistance Contract. Mark LaCrosse **motioned to approve the Oak Knolls Golf Course Cost-Share Assistance Contract in the amount of 158,000.00 for a Lined Waterway or Outlet project. The total amount authorized for cost-share assistance is 90% up to \$142,200.00. Funding for this project will be provided by the Clearwater River Watershed Based Implementation (Supplemental) Funds.** Kevin Reich seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

**24-10-13**     Discussion was held on 2024 Project Bids for the Oak Knolls Golf Course Lined Waterway or Outlet project. There was a total of three bids received. Gladen

Construction was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$154,267.97. David Miller **motioned to approve the lowest bid received which was from Gladen Construction in the amount of \$154,267.97. Cost-share assistance for the project will be provided at a rate up to 90%, not to exceed \$142,200.00. The total cost estimate for the Lined Waterway or Outlet project was \$158,000.00. Funding for this project will be provided by the Clearwater River Watershed Based Implementation (Supplemental) Funds.** Mark LaCrosse seconded the motion, and the motion **passed**. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

**24-10-14** Discussion was held on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet. SWCD staff have scheduled the banquet for November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Red Lake Falls City Hall. The event will start at 10:30 a.m. with a short program, power point of 2024 Construction projects, and a meal to follow.

**24-10-15** Discussion was held on the Red Lake County Non-structural Land Management Policy. Mark LaCrosse **motioned to approve the Red Lake County Non-structural Land Management Policy.** Jim Hagge seconded the motion, and the motion **passed**. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

**24-10-16** **New Business:**  
Discussion was held on the Red Lake County Cooperative Weed Management contract. Mark LaCrosse **motioned to approve providing 75% cost-share assistance in the amount of \$10,324.00 to Red Lake County for Cooperative Weed Management spraying throughout the county. The total cost of the chemical was \$13,765.34. Funding for this will come from the 2022 and the 2024 Cooperative Weed Management Program grants.** Nathan Whalen seconded the motion, and the motion **passed**. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

**24-10-17** Discussion was held on the Ag BMP Loan Program. Currently, there is \$2,000,000.00 available for funding.

**24-10-18** Discussion was held on the new Employee Performance Evaluation Forms that the District Manager created for FY2024 performance evaluations. A new evaluation form was created for each separate staff position.

**24-10-19** Discussion was held on Health Care Savings Plan with the Minnesota State Retirement System. Kevin Reich **motioned that starting in FY 2025, that Red Lake County SWCD will provide \$2,000.00 per full-time employee to their Health Care Savings Plan that will be setup through the MN State Retirement System.** Nathan Whalen seconded the motion, and the motion **passed**. Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

- 24-10-20** Discussion was held on the MN Association of Wheat Growers Land Lease Agreement. Mark LaCrosse **motioned to authorize the District Manager to sign the Land Lease Agreement with MN Association of Wheat Growers in the amount of \$100.00 per year for a five-year term.** Kevin Reich seconded the motion, and the motion **passed.** Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.
- 24-10-21** Discussion was held on Medica – Health Insurance Renewal Plan for FY 2025. Mark LaCrosse **motioned to approve the Medica – Health Insurance Renewal Plan for FY 2025.** Jim Hagge seconded the motion, and the motion **passed.** Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.
- 24-10-22** Discussion was held on the Operational Handbook. The staff requested that the board table the discussion on the operational handbook for a later SWCD Board meeting.
- 24-10-23** Discussion was held on the Employment Policy Handbook. Red Lake County's Personnel Handbook has now been updated to the Employment Policy Handbook. The District Manager updated the handbook with new MN statutes and clarification/addition of some missing items when compared with other Employee Handbooks in Area 1. Kevin Reich **motioned to approve the updated Red Lake County SWCD Employment Policy Handbook.** Mark LaCrosse seconded the motion, and the motion **passed.** Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.
- 24-10-24** Nathan Whalen **motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m.** Kevin Reich seconded the motion, and the motion **passed.** Affirmative votes: David Miller, Mark LaCrosse, Nathan Whalen, Kevin Reich, and Jim Hagge.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nathan Whalen, Secretary  
Red Lake County SWCD

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Date approved.