

Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District

Meeting Minutes #662

April 4, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was held in the Lac qui Parle County Commissioners' Room, Lac qui Parle County Courthouse, Madison, MN. The meeting was officially called to order by Chairman Andrew Weber at 9:00 a.m. **Managers Present:** Chairman Andrew Weber, Publicity Michael Knutson, Treasurer Jon Olson, and new manager Brent Larson. **Managers absent:** Manager Daniel Buseth. **Staff present:** Administrator Trudy Hastad, Park Manager Ethan Kack, Environmental/HHW Specialist Jennifer Schuelke, Ditch Inspector Jared Roiland, Coordinator Eric Stahl, Ditch Specialist Cindy Brehmer, & Environmental/Feedlot Officer Abby VanKempen. **Staff Absent:** None. **Others present:** LQP County Commissioner Greg Thole.

Introductions were held to introduce new Lac qui Parle County Watershed Manager Brent Larson.

Administrator Hastad conducted the swearing in of office for new manager Brent Larson.

Approval of the Agenda

Chairman Weber noted a quorum was present and asked for additions to the agenda. Administrator Hastad asked to add two bills to the agenda. Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the amended agenda as presented, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

Administrator Hastad asked the Board to hold their reorganization of the Watershed Board which is done each April.

Manager Jon Olson motioned the following for office of the Watershed Board

Chairman: Andrew Weber

Vice-Chairman: Mike Knutson

Treasurer: Jon Olson

Secretary: Brent Larson

Publicity: Daniel Buseth

Chairman Andrew Weber asked for other nominations three times, with their being none, Mike Knutson seconded the motion. Chairman Weber called for roll call with motion passing 4-0.

SECRETARY REPORT: Secretary minutes #661 as emailed.

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve minutes #661 as emailed, seconded by Manager Brent Larson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

TREASURER REPORT: Manager Olson read the Treasurers report.

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve the Treasurers' report as read, seconded by Manager Brent Larson. Upon vote, motioned passed 4-0.

Number Vendor Details 03/06/25 to 04/04/25

GENERAL KLEIN ACCOUNT:

None

TOTAL

\$-0-

PARK EXPENSE ACCOUNT:

1925	Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc.	park electricity	\$1,113.70
1926	Canby True Value	batteries, smoke & carbon monoxide alarms	\$42.48
1927	Lac qui Parle County Environmental	park cell phone	\$41.39
1928	Midcontinent Communications	park internet	\$60.00
1929	Running's Supply, Inc	mower lift, mojack XT750	\$269.95
1930	Canby Builders Supply	lumber	\$256.56
1931	C.A.S. Plumbing & Heating	replace lid on septic system	\$401.96
1932	Ag Plus Cooperative	gas	\$47.99

1933	EMK Properties LLC	snow removal	\$187.50
1934	Olson Sanitation Inc	March trash	\$19.89
1935	Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water	March water	\$67.89
1936	Lyon-Lincoln Electric Cooperative	March electricity	<u>\$757.95</u>
TOTAL			\$3,267.26

UPB GENERAL ACCOUNT:

4961	LQP-YB Liability Acct	PERA	\$2,119.69
4962	LQP-YB Liability Acct	Federal withholding	\$3,221.40
25035-25040	Semi-monthly payroll	March 1-15 payroll	\$10,658.67
25041	Michael Knutson	per diem, mileage	\$153.24
25042	Jon Olson	per diem, mileage	\$125.24
25043	Andrew Weber	per diem, mileage, expense	\$667.88
25044	David Craigmile	per diem, mileage	\$150.44
25045	Daniel Buseth	per diem, mileage	\$178.44
4963	Houston Engineering, Inc.	CD #63 Improvement	\$14,552.75
4964	LQP-YB Old National General Acct	1W1P 2024 Reconciliation Adm reimb	\$340.50
4965	Rinke Noonan Attorneys @ Law	monthly retainer, CD#63	\$485.00
4966	City of Madison	shop utilities	\$129.18
4967	Lac qui Parle County Auditor/Treasurer	2025 real estate taxes on shop	\$524.00
4968	Yellow Medicine County Treasurer	2025 real estate taxes	\$5,390.00
4969	Lac qui Parle County Auditor/Treasurer	March postage	\$111.88
4970	LQP-YB Liability Acct	PERA	\$3,856.44
4971	LQP-YB Liability Acct	State withholding	\$1,181.00
4972	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	Health Insurance	\$11,476.33
4973	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	EyeMed,Dental,Aflac,Life,LTD	\$804.02
4974	Dan Aakre	tree snagging	\$480.00
4975	LQP-YB Liability Acct	PERA	\$2,605.02
4976	LQP-YB Liability Acct	March sales & use tax	\$3,143.00
25046-25051	semi-monthly payroll	March 16-31 payroll	\$10,658.66
25052	monthly payroll	Park payroll	\$1718.01
4977	LQP Coop Oil Company	fuel	\$43.74
4978	Prairie Five Rides	donation for April 7, 2025 tour	<u>\$250.00</u>
TOTAL:			\$75,024.53

DEBIT CARD:

DC	Instant Ink	monthly subscription	14.95
DC	UPS	postage for ink cartridges	<u>9.05</u>
TOTAL:			\$24.00

DITCH ACCOUNT:

None	TOTAL:	\$0.00
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Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Manager Brent Larson. Motion passed 4-0.

C23-006 Implementation Grant 2023-2025

- Approve a contract for Paul Engels for a WASC OB project in the NE1/4, section 13, Hansonville Township for \$13,120.92.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the contract for a WASC OB project in the NE1/4 section 13, Hansonville Township for \$13,120.92, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Motion passed 4-0

- Approve a contract for Stephen Full for a water & sediment control basin in the SW1/4 section 21, Manfred Township for \$54,904.23.

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve a contract for Stephen Full for a water & sediment control basin in the SW1/4, section 21, Manfred Township for \$54,904.23, seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

C25-0264 Implementation Grant 2025-2027

Nothing

CRP Incentive Grant

Nothing

Staff Reports:

Park Report: Ethan Kack

- I have collected around \$2,000 in donations from the business & community for the 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Stonehill Park/Del Clark Lake. This event will be held on Saturday, April 19 starting at 3:00 p.m.
- Yellow Medicine County is going to use some of their AIS money for a new dock for the boat launch around \$9,000, garbage cans, & a Airdronick Chair for the park. Discussed putting up some signage saying this was sponsored by Yellow Medicine County.
- Talked to DNR regarding the main dock and sounds like we are in line for funding for the dock.
- Discussed adding a coating on the bathroom floors to make them less slippery. Ethan said it would cost approximately \$6900 to do all the bathrooms.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to redo the bathroom floors with a coating to make them less slippers, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- Pat Stanley met with Heather Nursery to discuss putting in a pollinator field, approximately .68 acre on the hillside, in honor of Ron Fjerkenstad at Pat's cost. The Board was in favor of this.
- DNR notified Ethan that they will be out sometime next week to stock 500 brown trout in Canby Creek.
- Ethan reported having seasonal help start either on the 13th or the 21st depending on weather.

Environmental/HHW Specialist: Jennifer Schuelke

- I finished my SCORE report on the 19th and my 1st quarter HHW education points report on Tuesday.
- The SWAs from Lincoln, Rock, Redwood, Renville, Lyon, Yellow Medicine and LQP completed the C&D Management Plan grant application and submitted it on March 8th. We found out on Wednesday that we were awarded the grant for \$290,273.
- The County provided a letter of support to Kris Shelstad for her application for the Waste Reduction and Reuse Grant.
- I presented the 2024 recycling and reuse summary to the Prairie Eco-Links group last Thursday.

Environmental Feedlot/Planning & Zoning/SSTS Officer: Abby VanKempen

- Busy with mining and extraction conditional use permit renewals and also discussed reclamation plans.
- Spoke at the annual township meeting in March regarding wind, solar, and cannabis.
- Office of Cannabis Management submitted their rules for final approval and closed the application period for licenses.
- Attended the MN Association of County Feedlot Officers at the end of March in Detroit Lakes.
- Attended the SSTS Talking Tour in March put on by MPCA.
- The office did 16 passports last month with a yearly total of 61.

Coordinator: Eric Stahl

- Finished the final pieces of reconciliation of grant C23-006 to receive the 2nd half funding.

- Awaiting BWSR comments before bringing TEP together for review of the Dahl Ag Bank Prospectus and the Moen Ag Bank Prospectus. We have had multiple questions from the public in respect to the Moen Bank site.
- We will be doing a Bridge delineation review for Bridge 93103 on April 11, 2025.

Ditch Specialist: Cindy Brehmer

- I did the monthly bank statements for the Watershed.
- I have been focusing on Audit prep for the County, month end cash balancing and running two payrolls for the County Staff.
- The ditch system is really working well since the update with preparing reports for the auditors.
- I am hoping to finish up the Counties year end entries for audit this week and review the fixed assets with Tiffany.
- Worked with MCIS to take off the cemeteries as these parcels are not supposed to be assessed special assessments. The ones that paid were refunded.

Drainage Inspector Report: Jared Roiland

- Attended the Drainage Inspector Meeting on March 6, 2025.
- Trudy & I had a virtual meeting the Ethan Janzen, DNR regarding the CD #97 outlet cleanout issue in section 6, Arena Township.
- Attended a virtual Public Waters Inventory update to discuss some details of the DNR Public Waters Inventory update that will be starting the end of 2025.
- Met with Commissioner Brehmer for a landowner meeting onsite in section 8, Walter Township. The landowners agreed to work together to draw up a plan and fill out a permit to hopefully take care of the dispute.
- Trudy & I reviewed the initial draft of the CD #63 preliminary engineer's report with the preliminary engineer hearing to be held on April 11, 2025 at the Annex. We are working on getting the notifications completed for the hearing.
- A revised Riparian Aid funding bill was proposed that would cut the current buffer funding in half. The Commissioners are aware of this and have been talking with AMC and NACO.
- Eric and I did an inspection on Watershed Ditch #1 in Section 5, Riverside Township. We found two bank washouts and a beaver dam that needs removal. We sent a work order to the contractor.

OTHERS: Commissioner Thole attended to see what the Watershed Board does and to see if the Area II funding request was approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Trudy Hastad

- Nothing new to report on rules update. Still waiting on the attorney to review our suggestions.
- Have not received the wind contracts back from Attorney Kolb's office.

NEW BUSINESS: Trudy Hastad

- Asked the Board to set a hearing date of April 11, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. for the preliminary engineer hearing for the Improvement of County Ditch #63. Discussion followed.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to set the preliminary engineer hearing for the Improvement of County Ditch #63 for Friday, April 11, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. at the LQP County Annex, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- Area II is looking for \$5,000 match from the Watershed for the LQP Floodway restoration for completion of the hydrologic model. The grant is 90% State with 10% match. Yellow Medicine County has committed \$5000 and Area II approved \$5,000. This aligns with our 1W1P and will be a good project. Discussion followed.

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve \$5,000 to help with match for the LQP Floodway project, seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- Hastad asked the Board to approve a special meeting to be held on Monday, April 7, 2025 for a bus tour of the Watershed District for the managers & staff. David Craigmile will oversee the tour. Discussion followed.

Manager Mike Knutson approved a special watershed meeting for a tour of the Watershed be held on Monday, April 7, 2025 starting at 9:30 a.m., seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0

- Hastad asked the Board for a donation to Prairie Five Rides for providing the bus for the tour. They will do it for free for the Watershed District but would accept donations. Discussion followed.

Manager Brent Larson motioned to approve \$250 donation to the Prairie Five Rides, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- Minnesota Watersheds are asking for resolutions for the 2026 year. If any watershed has any resolution requests, they need to submit to Jan Voit at Minnesota Watersheds. Discussion followed.

PERMITS:

14338	Kyle Mangle	Perry, 21 & 16	seepage lines, main tile	04/04/2025AW
14339	Richard Larsen	Norman, 14	seepage lines, main tile	04/04/25 MK
14340	Jeffrey Thielges	Norman, 30, 22, 29, 19	seepage lines	04/04/25 MK
14341 Renew	Stanley Adelman	Yellow Bank, 21	seepage lines, main tile	04/04/25 MK
14342	Mary Whitehead	Augusta, 35	cattle pond	04/04/25 AW
14343	Robert Kuechenmeister	Perry, 26	seepage lines	04/04/25 AW
14344 Renew	Anthony Rhodas	Yellow Bank, 20	seepage, main tile, intakes	04/04/25 AW
14345	Roger Karels	Yellow Bank 21, 29	seepage, main tile, intakes	04/04/25 AW
14346 Renew	Ryan Ludvigson	Garfield, 2	seepage lines, intakes	04/04/25 JO
14347	Minnesota Energy	Madison, 28	utility	04/04/25 JO
14348	Jacob Dove	Cerro Gordo, 10	seepage ,main tile, intakes, lift pump	04/04/25 JO
14349	High Bergeland	Madison, 35, 36	seepage, main tile, intakes	04/04/25 JO
14350	Derek Kuechenmeister	Madison, 6,7	seepage, main tile, ditch cleaning	04/04/25 JO
14351 Renew	Ryan Ludvigson	Garfield, 2	seepage lines	04/04/25 JO
14352	Larry Bendix	Maxwell, 26	seepage lines	04/04/25 BL
14353	Erick Meyer	Baxter, 21	seepage lines	04/04/25 BL
14354	Steven Ketelsen	Camp Release, 33	seepage tile, intakes	04/04/25 BL
14355	Rosemary Weber	Garfield, 21	seepage, main tiles, intakes	04/04/25 JO
14356	Cade Robertson	Providence, 8	seepage lines	04/04/25 BL
14357	James Robertson	Providence, 16	seepage lines	04/04/25 BL

Permits Denied: Ben Wollschlager for WCA concerns; Keith Hoffman for outlet review, Rose Weber for review, Paul Kemen for corrected map due to wetland, Jim Robertson for landowner signature.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the permits, except those held, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Andrew Weber, Chairman

Attest:

Brent Larson, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District is Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room, Lac qui Parle County Courthouse, Madison, MN 56256.