

Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District

Meeting Minutes #660

February 4, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was held in the Lac qui Parle Annex, 422 5th Avenue, Madison, MN with a virtual ZOOM login option. The meeting was officially called to order by Chairman Andrew Weber at 9:00 a.m. **Managers Present:** Chairman Andrew Weber, Secretary David Craigmile, Publicity Michael Knutson, & Treasurer Jon Olson. **Managers absent:** Vice-chairman (waiting to be filled by Lincoln County). **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 VanKampen. **Staff Absent:** None. **Others present:** Pat Stanley, & 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 a Watershed permit for Ben Johnson. Manager Jon Olson motioned to approve the amended agenda as presented, seconded by Manager David Craigmile. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

SECRETARY REPORT: Secretary minutes #659.

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve minutes #659 as emailed, seconded by Manager David Craigmile. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

TREASURER REPORT: Manager Olson read the Treasurers report.

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

Manager Jon Olson motioned to add an additional \$30,000 or so to the Dawson Coop Credit Union CD to make it an even \$100,000.00 seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

Number Vendor Details 01/10/25 to 02/05/25

GENERAL KLEIN ACCOUNT:

6640	Lac qui Parle SWCD	1W1P 3r & 4 th Quarter Technical	\$14,221.59
6641	Yellow Medicine SWCD	1W1P 3 rd & 4 th quarter technical	<u>\$813.20</u>
TOTAL			\$15,034.79

PARK EXPENSE ACCOUNT:

1910	Running's Supply, Inc.	supply	\$21.75
1911	Running's Supply, Inc.	battery, shockwaver kit 100 pc	\$69.98
1912	LQP County Environmental Office	park cell phone	\$41.39
1913	Midcontinent Communications	park internet	\$70.00
1914	Ag Plus Cooperative	fuel, oil filter,	\$406.10
1915	Auto Value Canby	supply	\$1,718.00
1916	Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water	rural water	\$71.14
1917	Olson Sanitation	Park trash	<u>\$105.89</u>
TOTAL			\$2,504.25

UPB GENERAL ACCOUNT:

4930	LQP-YB Liability Acct	Federal withholding	\$3,208.46
25001-25006	semi-monthly payroll	January 1-15 payroll	\$10,649.65
25007	David Craigmile	per diem, mileage	\$222.38
25008	Michael Knutson	per diem, mileage	\$304.85
25009	Andrew Weber	per diem, mileage	\$130.84

25010	Jon Olson	per diem, mileage	\$447.62
4931	Rodney Hansen	47 nuisance beaver	\$1,175.00
4932	Quill Corporation	presentation booklets, tabs, post-its	\$71.24
4933	Brent Mortenson	40 nuisance beaver	\$1,000.00
4934	Morris Electronics, Inc.	Jen & Eric laptops & monitors	\$4,447.00
4935	Rinke Noonan Attorneys at Law	monthly retainer	\$200.00
4936	MADI – Colby Palmersheim	2025 Dues	\$100.00
4937	City of Madison	shop utilities	\$129.36
4938	LQP-YB Liability Acct	Federal withholding	\$3,856.48
4939	LQP-YB Liability Acct	State withholding	\$1,159.00
4940	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	Health Insurance	\$11,476.28
4941	LQP County Auditor/Treasurer	Aflac, Dental, EyeMed, Life, LTD	\$802.04
4942	LQLP County Auditor/Treasurer	January postage	\$145.97
25011-25016	semi-monthly payroll	January 16-31 payroll	\$10,658.65
25017	monthly payroll	January park payroll	\$1,718.00
4943	LQP-YB Liability	PERA	\$2,605.02
4944	LQP-YB Liability	January sales & use tax	<u>\$955.00</u>
		TOTAL:	\$57,582.53

DEBIT CARD:

DC	Instant Ink	monthly subscription	14.95
DC	Americinn	Abby SSTS conference	\$316.31
DC	Adobe PS Creat	yearly subscription	<u>\$256.37</u>
		TOTAL:	\$587.63

DITCH ACCOUNT:

None **TOTAL: \$-0-**

Manager Mike Knutson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Manager David Craigmile. Motion passed 4-0.

C23-006 Implementation Grant 2023-2025

Hastad reported that BWSR will be doing a reconciliation of February 10, before we receive the 2nd half funding.

C25-0264 Implementation Grant 2025-2027

Hastad reported we received the 1st half funding for this grant.

CRP Incentive Grant

Received the full funding for this grant in January.

Staff Reports:

Park Report: Ethan Kack

- The Canby Fireman & Sportsman Club held the annual fishing tournament on Del Clark Jan 31/Feb 1. There were over 250 fish houses on the lake and things went well.
- A pickup went in the lake in about 29' of water on Sunday. Everyone was ok and they will be getting the truck out in the morning.
- On-line booking is filling up for 2025 and 1st half seasonal payments are starting to come in.
- Discussed the repairs needed on the T-dock. Staff think it is almost beyond repair. Pat Stanley said he will pay \$5,000 towards a new dock. Discussion followed. Ethan will visit with DNR about possibilities and will get some quotes for a new dock.
- Discussed the Midco late payment fee. Administrator Hastad will call them and get this figured out.
- Ethan asked the status of the possible wind towers. Hastad reported we are still waiting on Attorney Kolb's review of the possible contracts.

- Ethan discussed the log splitter and possibly getting a skid steer with loader as he is currently using his private skid steer.

Manager Jon Olson motioned to get an agreement with Ethan Kack for cost of rental (per hour) of his personal skid steer when being used for park use, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

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

- Issued two zoning permits this year for meteorological towers as Next Era is putting up a wind tower system in SW part of County by 2030.
- No variances or conditional use permits coming up in the near future.
- Still looking for a new P&Z and Board of Adjustment member to replace Dave.
- Went to septic continuing ed class last week in Mankato.
- We are seeing more passport applicants from out of the County since Chippewa County is no longer doing passports.

Coordinator: Eric Stahl

- C23-0006 Funding (2023-2025) 56% spent; additional 40% of grant is incoming after BWSR reconciliation is completed on 02/10.
- C25-0264 Funding (2025-2027) 0% spent; will not be touched until C23-0006 is spent in full or funding is needed.
- The CRP Incentive has been received; details related to contracts is accepted by the policy committee.
- 2024 reported in ELink is completed & MS4Front updated. We received approval from MCPA of the 2024 reporting.

WCA: Eric Stahl

- Reviewed the Watershed permits for WCA compliance.
- I am not currently monitoring any violations.
- 2024 WCA reporting has been drafted and WCA reporting has been accepted and approved by BWSR.
- I will be attending WCA 201 class on 02/19/25.

Ditch Specialist: Cindy Brehmer

- I have been working on taking in the final payments for all the ditch assessments.
- I have all 36 ditch assessments balanced and will push the assessments into the County tax system this afternoon.
- Will be attending the County Drainage Conference the next 3 days in Alexandria.
- Balanced the bank statements and did payroll for the Watershed.
- Doing the month end cash balancing and did 4th quarter reporting and now I have started the Audit prep process and am working on Fixed Assets for Tiffany.

Drainage Inspector Report: Jared Roiland

- Trudy & I had a phone conference with Houston Engineering regarding the CD #63 Improvement Project along with early coordination meeting with the DNR.
- Eric and I went out to look at the progress that the contractor had made on the JD#4 tree clearing.
- Finalized and submitted the Watershed and County Ditch Buffer reports for 2024 and sent them to the State.
- Received an estimate for the CD #44 partial tile line replacement. We will be scheduling a landowner meeting to discuss.

- Attorney Kolb put together a response to FEMA's claim about "duplication of benefits" for our reimbursement request for CD #84 and JD #8. We also received a rejection notice from FEMA for our CD #3 bank repair appeal.
- Reviewed proposed House File #8 which would improve the efficiency and streamline the WCA determination at the local, state, and federal level.

Environmental/HHW Specialist: Jennifer Schuelke

- Completed the Transfer Station and Demo Landfill annual reports.
- Working on finishing the HHW & SCORE reports.
- The Holiday Lights collection wrapped up on Friday with a total of 45 bags, weighing around 2,000 lbs. or 1 ton. The Canby DAC will be coming to collect the lights tomorrow.
- The SW region completed the final draft of the 10-year Solid Waste Plan and presented it to the SWRSWC at the meeting last Monday and submitted to MPCA.
- Attended a SWA meeting with the five counties that make up the northern portion of the SW Region to discuss alternatives for the future disposal of C&D waste and complete the application for the MPCA's C&D Management Planning Grant.
- Olson Sanitation Contract will be up the end of February, so working with the County and Olson's to get that renewed.

OTHERS: Brent Larson

- Brent was attending the meeting to see what happens at a Watershed meeting and to get information on a Watershed manager position and duties.

OLD BUSINESS: Trudy Hastad

- Nothing new to report on rules update. Still waiting on the attorney to review our suggestions.
- We are still waiting for Attorney Kolb to review the wind tower contracts. Consensus from Board was to have him review prior to signing the contracts.
- Area II's contract amount was ok'd with the DNR for the Florida Creek restoration.

NEW BUSINESS: Trudy Hastad

- Dan Aakre requested help with funding for some downed tree's in the LQP river upstream from the bridge by his home. Concern is that in a future high- water event they may dam up at the bridge pilings causing excessive flooding potential. His estimate to remove the trees was 50 hours of work at \$30 for a total of \$1500. Discussion followed.

Manager David Craigmile motioned to authorize \$1000 for the tree removal, seconded by Manager Mike Knutson. Upon vote, motion passed 4-0.

- Manager Andrew Weber read a thank-you from Cindy Brehmer for the plant the Board sent for her mothers' funeral.
- Received a letter from the City of Canby asking if we wanted to advertise the Watershed/park at the movie theatre. Discussion followed with the Board not interested in this at this time.
- Hastad reported that Lincoln County would be appointing a Watershed manager at their Board meeting on Feb 4, 2025.

PERMITS:

14320	Brian Croatt	Lac qui Parle, 33 & 32	main line, seepage tile	02/04/25 DC
14321	Zach Johnson	Lac qui Parle, 27	wildlife habitat	02/04/25 DC
14322	Doug DeJong	Baxter, 7	main tile, intakes	02/04/25 DC
14323	Ben Johnson	Baxter, 5 & 6	seepage tile	02/04/25 DC
14324 renewal	Ted Berckes	Freeland, 34	main tile, seepage tile, intakes	02/04/25 MK
14325	Peter Haugen	Freeland, 15	ditch cleaning	02/04/25 MK

Permits Denied: none

Manager David Craigmile motioned to approve the permits, seconded by Manager Jon Olson. Upon roll call vote, motion passed 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Andrew Weber, Chairman

Attest:

David Craigmile, Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Lac qui Parle-Yellow Bank Watershed District is Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room, Lac qui Parle County Courthouse, Madison, MN 56256.