



Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District

916 2nd Street SE

Dodge Center, Minnesota 55927

Phone: 507-374-6364 ext. 3

www.dodgeswcd.org

Minutes of the April 21, 2026

Dodge Soil & Water Conservation District

Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Larry Scherger, Board Chair, at 6:30 P.M.

Members Present: Larry Scherger, Chair
Rick Alberts, Vice-Chair
Glenn Hahn, Treasurer
David Livingston, Secretary
Bruce Freerksen, PR&I- arrived at 7:19 PM

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jessica Klingfus, District Manager, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District; Allison English, Administrative Professional, Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District; Nathan Bird, District Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: There were no additions to the April 21, 2026 board meeting agenda. A motion was made to approve the April 21, 2026 meeting agenda as presented.
Motion: Glenn Hahn
Seconded: David Livingston
The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes The supervisors discussed the March 17, 2026 board meeting minutes. There were a few corrections including adding an 'r' to Treasure, changing '\$39,946.49 to \$36,946.49' and changing January to February 2026, and changing Bruce Freerksen to Glenn Hahn under the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Under Glenn Hahn's supervisors report correct the spelling of Elm to Olm and changing CRP rates to cover crop rates. The last correction is under the Correspondence and Staff Report, update the word 'approved' to 'submitted'. A motion was made to approve the March 17, 2026 Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District's Regular Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes as corrected.
Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Partner Agency Reports

Natural Resource Conservation Service Report

Nathan Bird, District Conservationist, United States Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service, shared that the NRCS is going to be funding two projects this year through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). Both projects will be grassed waterways, and one will have a rock chute. One project is split between multiple landowners, with one of the landowners receiving funding through the district only. One of the projects is in Concord Township; it is about 82 acres and costs around \$17K. The other project is in Canisteo Township; it is about 53 acres for \$18K. Both should be constructed this summer. Bird shared that there may be a second batch of CRP funding, and 24 offers have already been accepted in the first round. Bird shared that the two Turkey Federation Foresters have lost their positions due to funding and loss of the national contract. This causes forest management plans to become something the department is unable to do and the NRCS is looking for a solution. Bird shared the local workgroup meeting will be coming up soon and staff are beginning to think of next year's priorities. Prescribed CREP and CRP burns are being done. Bird asked the staff to share any videos or photos of the local damage from the latest tornado, as there are possible funding options through the Farm Service Agency.

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources Report

Ann Gunness, Board Conservationist, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, was unable to attend the meeting.

Dodge County Commissioner's Report

John Allen, Dodge County District I Commissioner, was unable to attend the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Statements, Payment of New Bills

Glenn Hahn, Treasurer, presented the March 2026 Financial Report, including the Balance Sheet covering what is in checking and savings, revenues of \$26,909.81 for March, expenditures of \$34,373.24 for March, the general ledger and aging summary, with a payables total of \$4,449.04. A motion was made to approve the March 2026 Treasurer's Report, pay bills on the aging summary, for a payables total of \$4,449.04.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

David Livingston, District IV Supervisor

David Livingston, District IV Supervisor, shared he attended the Cedar River Meeting. The last of the funding for the large project has ^{not yet been} secured by the city. The funding is being provided by a Hormel grant. The multiple landowners have signed an agreement and most of the permits have been approved. There was a hearing for the two large projects with over 1 million in easement, no one from the public showed up for the meeting. The two projects were approved with a voice vote. The bids for the upcoming projects are now open until May 16, 2026. Livingston also shared two projects will be covered by the Cedar River Watershed District's MCIT insurance policy because the costs are so large. Livingston brought and shared with the other supervisors the Cedar River Watershed and Mower SWCD annual reports for 2025.

Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor

Glenn Hahn, District V Supervisor, did not provide a report.

Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor

Larry Scherger, District III Supervisor, did not provide a report.

Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor

Bruce Freerksen, District II Supervisor, did not attend the meeting.

Rick Alberts, District I Supervisor

Rick Alberts, District I Supervisor, did not provide a report.

Unfinished Business

Review Encumbered Non- Structural Projects

Jessica Klingfus, District Manager, presented to the newly encumbered Non-Structural Projects approved since the last board meeting.

Non-Structural Contracts Encumbered Since Last Board Meeting								
Funding Source	Contract Holder	Location (if applicable)	Practice	Acres	Contract Amount	Sediment (TSS T/yr)	Nitrogen (lbs/ac/yr)	Phos (lbs/ry)
Soil Health Practices(RCPP)	20-2-4		329 - Strip Till	105.85 x 3yrs	\$9,526.50	23.32	477.00	90.10
WAGZ WBIF	Mark Vacura	Wasioja 34	351-Well Decomishioning	N/A	3,000.00	N/A	N/A	N/A

Tree Update

Allison English, Administrative Professional, shared the tree sale is going well. English presented a spreadsheet with the current update of tree sales.

New Business

Approval of Structural Cost-Share Contracts to be Encumbered

Jessica Klingfus, District Manager, presented the structural contracts that have been signed by the landowner and waiting for board approve to be encumbered.

Structural Contracts to be Encumbered										
Funding Source	Grant ID	Contract Holder	Location	Practice	Contract Exp	Contract Amount	Cost Share %	Sediment (TSS T/yr)	Nitrogen (lbs/ac/yr)	Phos (lbs/ry)
WAGZ WBIF	2026WAGZ-DC-01	Ken Wohlers	Vernon 28	Grassed Waterway	11/30/2026	\$9,016.13	75.00%	7.30	178.30	45.01
WAGZ WBIF	2026WAGZ-DC-02	Michael Madery	Carlsteo 13	Grassed Waterway	11/30/2026	\$10,257.21	31.00%	5.76	133.70	31.43
WAGZ WBIF	2026WAGZ-DC-03	Christine Rosenthal	Concord 23	Grassed Waterway	11/30/2026	\$12,369.60	75.00%	14.00	165.70	43.21
WAGZ WBIF	2026WAGZ-DC-04	Bill Smith	Concord 23	Grassed Waterway	11/30/2026	8,811.19	30.00%	7.17	84.37	22.00

A motion was made to approve the structural contracts to be encumbered at the April 21, 2026 Board Meeting, as presented.

Motion: Rick Alberts

Seconded: David Livingston

The motion carried unanimously.

Notary Stamp

Allison English, Administrative Professional, has been approved to be a legal notary in the State of Minnesota. English is asking to purchase a notary stamp, notary journal, bag, and dust cover to be able to perform notarization for the district for \$56 plus \$5.99 for shipping for a total of \$67.31. A motion was made to approve the purchase of a notary stamp and the accessories needed for a total of \$67.31.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Glenn Hahn

The motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Conference

Allison English, Administrative Professional, is requesting to attend the Administrative Conference. The conference is to be held from June 17 – 18, 2026 at the Chase on the Lake, in Walker, MN. Cost for registration is \$100, and two-night lodging at the Chase on the Lake, Walker will be needed for \$179.10 per night. A motion was made to approve Allison English, Administrative Professional to attend the Administrative Conference and pay the registration and lodging fees.

Motion: David Livingston

Seconded: Bruce Freerksen
The motion carried unanimously.

2026 NACD Dues

We are expecting the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) to send out their 2026 dues invoice soon. Similar to previous years, the dues' structure has four different tiers. The Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District paid \$300.00 in 2021, \$250.00 in 2022, \$250.00 in 2023, \$300.00 in 2024, and \$250.00 in 2025 for dues to the NACD. A motion was made to pay \$250.00 for dues to the NACD.

Motion: David Livingston
Seconded: Glenn Hahn
The motion carried unanimously.

Other New Business

There was no Other New Business

Correspondence & Staff Report

Jessica Klingfus, District Manager, shared the tree planter blew a tire. Zac Colton, Soil Health Conservation Technician, will gather quotes and will make a decision off of quality and price and it will be added to next months payables. Klingfus shared the local work group will be coming up shortly. The finance committee needs to set up a meeting in June. Klingfus will set up a meeting with the County to show the 2025 year-end review.

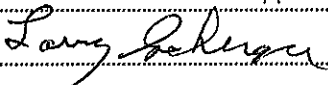
Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Dodge Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors will be held Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at 6:30 P.M. in the conference room of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Center, 916 2nd Street SE, Dodge Center, MN.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Larry Scherger, Chair, called for a motion for adjournment at 8:45 PM.

Motion: Bruce Freerksen
Seconded: David Livingston
The motion carried unanimously.

Approved:	Date:	Recorder:
	5-18-26	Allison English