

**BIG STONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**SUPERVISORS' MEETING – January 6, 2026**  
**USDA Service Center, Ortonville MN**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morrill at 1:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Supervisors present: Morrill, Dybdahl, Moen

Others present: Brett Baldwin, Tammy Neubauer, Dustin Hieserich – SWCD staff; Wade Athey - BSC Commissioner

**Election of Officers/Re-Organization of District Officers: Election of Officers** – Motion Moen, second Dybdahl, that officers remain in their position for 2025: Chairman Morrill, Vice Chairman Holker, Treasurer Moen, Board Member Reisdorph, Board Member Dybdahl, Secretary Neubauer. Passed unanimously.

**Approval of Agenda** - motion Dybdahl, second Moen, to approve the agenda, as presented. Passed unanimously.

**Secretary's Minutes** – motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to approve the minutes of December 2, 2025, meeting. Passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report** – Motion Dybdahl, second Moen, to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay all bills presented. Passed unanimously

**STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Buffer Compliance Update – Dustin Hieserich gave an update on buffer compliance. Dustin met with Laura DeBeer with BWSR, Darren Wilke with BSC Environmental Office, and Jace Jackman, the Area Hydrologist. The Public Waters Inventory has started in Minnesota. It seems that Big Stone County has been skipped until later. The reviews have been started in the south part of the state. Laura DeBeer says she is happy with the compliance of Big Stone County. There are still 2 out of compliance ditches – it was too wet to seed last year. Dustin will reach out with another letter. He has 7 or 8 more checks to do. In BuffCAT, Dustin has been updating lands that have been purchased or sold. Updates include new layers for entering info, which should be more user friendly. There has been discussion that CRP does not pay for installing buffers anymore. Dustin is looking for more incentives to plant buffers. – BWSR will be getting back to Dustin on other alternatives.
- UMRWD 1W1P – Tammy Neubauer said projects have been entered in the SharePoint document. Amber with UMR Watershed is scheduling meetings to get updates from partners, update budgets.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Approval of Dues & Subscriptions - after discussion, motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to approve the following dues and subscriptions for 2026:

NACD	\$50.00
MASWCD	\$ 6040.28
SWMACDE	\$75.00
Area II dues	\$450.00 wait for invoice to arrive
Ortonville Independent	\$ 46.00
Northern Star	\$ 46.00

Passed unanimously.

- Designation of Media and Depositories – motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to designate the Ortonville Independent, the Northern Star and KDIO Radio, as district media sources; Minnwest Bank, Ortonville, and Frandsen Bank, Clinton, as district depositories for 2026. Passed unanimously.

**Committee Assignments –**

- Personnel Committee – Morrill, Reisdorph
- Finance Committee – Dybdahl, Moen
- Pomme de Terre WD – Morrill, Reisdorph

- Bois de Sioux WD – Morrill, Moen
- Upper Minnesota River Watershed District 1W1P – Moen, Dybdahl
- Legislative – Moen
- Local Capacity – Morrill
- WCTSA Representative – Moen
- Assignment of Approval Authority for Staff: motion Moen, second Dybdahl, for the following approval authority given to the corresponding staff for 2026:
  - Walk in Access – Tammy Neubauer, Brett Baldwin, Dustin Hieserich
  - State Services Grants (Conservation Contracts, Conservation Delivery, Program Implementation) - Tammy Neubauer, Brett Baldwin, Dustin Hieserich
 Passed unanimously.
  - CRP and Non-Structural/Ecological Practices – motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to give approval authority to Tammy Neubauer, Brett Baldwin, Dustin Hieserich. Passed unanimously.
  - Designation of Responsible Authority – motion Dybdahl, second Moen, to assign Tammy Neubauer as the Designated Responsible Authority. Passed unanimously.
- Supervisor Per Diem – Board supervisor per diem will remain at \$125 per meeting/or per day.
- Logo Clothing Allowance - motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to allot \$175 for each employee and supervisor for 2026; \$300 for new employees for district logo clothing. Passed unanimously.
- Date and Time Assigned to Board Meetings – motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to set date and time for Board of Supervisors’ meetings to the first Tuesday each month, at 1:00 p.m. Pass unanimously.
- 2026 District Cost Share Policy – after discussion, motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to approve the 2026 District Cost Share Policy. Passed unanimously.
- **Payment Voucher**

The following cost share voucher is presented for approval:

Contract Number	Practice	Total Contract Amount	Percent or Flat Rate	Total Voucher for Approval	Funding Source(s)
UMR-WBIF24-25-006	WASCBs	\$172,500.00	percent	\$9737.30	UMR WBIF 24-25

Motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to approve the payment voucher presented. Passed unanimously.

- Partial Payment Voucher – Thielke Lake Shoreline Restoration – motion Moen, second Dybdahl, to give Tammy Neubauer approval authority to sign the partial payment voucher for Nanik, Inc., for Thielke Lake Shoreline Restoration, since WCTSA has not signed off on the voucher, as of the meeting time; voucher expected to be approved today sometime. Passed unanimously.

**Big Stone County Commissioners’ Report** – Wade Athey, Big Stone County Commissioner, was present to give a report. The latest Commissioner meeting discussed ditch assessments, polling place accessibility grant, 2020 Dodge Charger at auction, set salary minimums, operational guidelines.

**NRCS Report** – none

**District Technician’s Report** – Dustin Hieserich presented the District Technician’s report.

**Programs Technician Report** – Brett Baldwin presented the Programs Technician’s report.

**District Manager’s Report** – Tammy Neubauer presented the District Manager’s report.

Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Sincerely,

*Tammy Neubauer*  
District Manager