Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
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https://builder1.revize.com/revize/houstoncountymn/

MISSION STATEMENT

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District's mission is to provide assistance to cooperators in managing the natural resources on their land. In addition, the district will continue to educate people on local conservation issues and concerns, in order to fortify and perpetuate the conservation movement.

Agenda

October 8, 2026 10:00 a.m. Regular Meeting
Ag Service Center, Caledonia, MN

2026 Officers	2026 Committee Appointees	2026 Committee Appointees
Ken Anderson, Chair	**Finance Committee:** Driscoll & Welke	**Mississippi River – Winona/**
Matt Feldmeier, Vice-Chair	**Personnel Committee:** Feldmeier & Kruse	**La Crescent 1W1P:** Welke
Joe Driscoll, Secretary	**TSA7 Committee [JPB]:** Welke	***Alternate*** *- Driscoll*
Jerry Welke, Treasurer	**Root River One Watershed, One Plan:** Kruse	
Glenn Kruse, Reporter	***Alternate*** *- Feldmeier*	

10:00 A.M. Call meeting to order.

Flag Pledge

Minutes: Chair call for additions or corrections to the September 10, 2026 board meeting minutes.

Employee Time Records: Vice Chair call for a motion to approve Employee Time Records.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer recommend the September 2026 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

AGENCY REPORTS

Dave Copeland, BWSR Report

Zack Glaunert, Quail Forever & Pheasants Forever Report

Jeremy Burt, Houston County Environmental Services Report

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Report

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

- Southeast Minnesota Nitrate Reduction & Water Protection Program

PROGRAM REPORT

- WCA – *Update*

PROGRAM REPORT – Bob Scanlan, MDA

- MDA Spring Grove Twp. Walkover - *Update*

MASWCD & MACDE

- Area 7 MASWCD/MACDE Joint Fall Meeting held Wednesday, September 23, 2026 - *Update*

- MASWCD Annual Convention December 1 – 2, 2026 (Tuesday – Wednesday) DoubleTree by Hilton Bloomington – Minneapolis South - *Registration fee and related expenses approval requested*

  Registration – 2 days = $340.00, Tuesday only = $260.00, Wednesday only = $225.00
  Cancellation fee prior to Nov.13th = Registration fee less a $80.00 cancellation fee; After Nov. 13th no refunds
  Meals – Breakfast = $25/day, Tuesday & Wednesday Luncheons = $35/day
  Lodging - $115 plus tax/night

- MASWCD 2026 Resolutions - *Discussion*

WATERSHED UPDATES

Bear Creek – Update

Crooked Creek – Update

Root River 1W1P - Update

Winnebago - Update

WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent) 1W1P - Update

PROGRAM & STAFF REPORTS

Jean Meiners, Technician

- MDH Safe Drinking Water Tap-In – *Update*

- MDH Well Inventory Grant – *Update*

- BMP Projects – *Update*

Dan Wermager, Technician

- Soil Health Delivery Grant – *Update*

Janice Messner, Administrative Assistant

- Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network – *Update*

- Tree Program - *Update*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: *Update*

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: *Update*

- Continued discussion from the meeting held August 27, 2026

TSA7 *(Joint Powers)* COMMITTEE: *Update*

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

1. Regional Groundwater Protection & Soil Health Initiative Sub-Agreement ($240,000 Cost Share & $15,300 Technical) Grant Expiration Date: December 31, 2029 – *approval requested*

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$ 1,650.22**
FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$ 204,805.38**

FY24 Root River 1W1P Amendment Requests

- Contract #06FY24RR1W1P Diersen, John is requesting to amend the completion date from 10/15/2026 to 9/15/2027. This is due to scheduling availability to coordinate the project work.

- Contract #38FY214RR1W1P Heintz Badger Valley Farms, LLC is requesting to amend the cost sharable amount of $73,044.31 to $77,727.62 an increase of $4,683.31. This is due to increased fuel and material costs after cost estimates were put together. (Fund sources: FY24 Root River 1W1P $1,650.22 & FY26 Root River 1W1P $3,033.09)
  FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance $0.00
  FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance $201,772.29

SE MN NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE (*Funding 75% of cost estimate up to $131,500.00)*
SE MN Nutrient Management Initiative Cost Share Payment Request *(Funding 75% of cost estimate up to $131,500.00)*

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Partial Project Cost	Request
Heintz Badger Valley Farms, LLC	#01FY26SEMNN MI Waste Storage Facility	$227,271.45	$232,475.14	$232,475.14 @ 75% = $174,356.36 Cost Share Allocated to project = $131,500.00 **Payment Amount Approved = $131,500.00**

ARPA – *(Spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$ 9,769.39**

Funding Source Changes

- Contract #38FY24RR1W1P Heintz Badger Valley Farms, LLC moving $3,033.09 from FY26 Root River 1W1P and $6,736.30 from FY24 Root River 1W1P to ARPA.
  FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance $1,650.22
  FY24 Root River 1W1P Feedlot Cost Share – Remaining balance $5,086.08
  FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance $204,805.38
  ARPA Cost Share – Remaining balance $0.00

- Contract #29FY24RR1W1P Sheehan, Alan or Kathy moving $1,500.00 from FY24 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning to FY26 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning.
  FY24 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning Cost Share – Remaining balance $1,500.00

- Contract #10FY26RR1W1P Pearson, Nathan moving $1,500.00 from FY26 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning to FY24 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning.
  FY24 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning Cost Share – Remaining balance $0.00

FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Payment Request *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Partial Project Cost	Request
Heintz Badger Valley Farms, LLC	#38FY24RR1W1P Waste Storage Facility	$227,271.45	$232,475.14	$232,475.14 @ 90% = $209,227.62 Other State Funding = $131,500.00 ARPA Funding = $9,769.39 Cost Share Allocated to project = $77,727.62 **Payment Amount Approved = $67,958.23**

FY24 Root River 1W1P Well Decommissioning Cost Share Payment Request *(Funding up to 75% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Partial Project Cost	Request
Pearson, Nathan	#10FY26RR1W1P Well Decommissioning	$2,000.00	$2,275.00	$2,275.00 @ 75% = $1,706.25 Cost Share Allocated to project = $1,500.00 **Payment Amount Approved = $1,500.00**

CONSERVATION CONTRACTS *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY26 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$1,650.22**
FY27 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$23,690.00**

FY26 Conservation Contracts Cancellation Request

- Contract #02FY26CS Hongerholt, Josh has requested to cancel his cost share contract for a 468 – Lined Waterway in the amount of $5,528.70.
  FY26 Conservation Contracts Cost Share – Remaining balance $7,178.92

SOIL HEALTH DELIVERY GRANT *(Funding $40.00/acre single specie cover crop; $50.00/acre multi-specie cover crop)*
FY26 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds:* **$0**

FY26 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share Partial Payment Request *(Funding $40.00/acre single specie cover crop; $50.00/acre multi-specie cover crop)*

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Partial Project Cost	Request
Mierau, Robert	06FY26SHD Cover Crops	$46.133 acres @ $50.00/acre = $2,306.65	$2,306.65	$46.133 acres @ $50.00/acre = $2,306.65 Cost Share Allocated to project = $6,920.00 **Partial Payment Amount Approved = $2,306.65**

WINLAC 1W1P COST SHARE PROGRAM *(Funding percentage based on ranking)*
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Ag Practices Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$24,500.00**
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Non-Structural Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$2,500.00 & $1,450.00 contingency**
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Vegetative Management & Pollinator Planting Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$5,000.00**
WinLaC 1W1P CRP *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$2,000.00**

FY25 WinLaC Non-Structural Cost Share Request *(Flat Rate Funding not to exceed 100 acre cap)*

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Schumacher, Shane	2025WinLaC-Roo-003	$50.00/acre @ 79 acres – single specie	$3,950.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026

FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Non-Structural Cost Sharing – Remaining balance $0.00

MDH TAP-IN COST SHARE FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding at 50% or 100% of cost estimate)*
MDH Tap- In Cost Share Grant *(Grant expiration 4/1/2027) Funds Available*

****Accounts Payable:*****
Vice Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5199	Ron Carlsen – Rent – October	$ 1,287.00
5200	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	$ 401.91
5201	VISA – Education – 6th Grade Environmental Day = $155.43	$ 155.43
5202	Lind Awards & Engraving – Education Awards & Tours – Con of Year Plaque	$ 37.58
5203	Jean Meiners – Mileage	$ 22.80
5204	Mierau, Robert – Contract #06FY26SHD – Partial Payment	$ 2,306.65
5205	Petty Cash – WinLaC Smarter Together Website Domain – 1 yr.	$ 14.95

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5206	Heintz Badger Valley Farms LLC – Waste Storage Facility - #38FY24RR1W1P = $67,958.23 & #01FY26SEMNNMI = $131,500.00 & ARPA = $9,769.39	$209,277.62
5207	Frontier Precision, Inc. – IT Support Trimble	$ 972.00
5208	Pearson, Nathan – Contract #10FY26RR1W1P – Well Decommissioning	$ 1,500.00
	Total	***$216,208.36***

***** WinLaC 1W1P Accounts Payable *****

Vice Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable and transfer of funds.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
	Root River SWCD – FY23 Education – Inv 1251664115 Smarter Together Website Domain 1 yr	$ 14.95
75	City of La Crescent – FY23 Education – Inv 10022026 Adopt-A-Drain Postcard Mailing	$ 1,507.47
76	Fillmore SWCD – FY25 Technical – Inv Q3 2026 Fillmore SWCD	$ 2,426.21
77	City of Winona – FY23 Project Development – Inv 40126	$ 15,000.00
78	SE MN Technical Support JPB - FY23 Project Development – Inv. 2026-Q2Viola Twp.	$ 4,980.50
	Total	***$ 23,929.13***
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 8115 (FY23) to Cash General Fund	$ 18,502.92
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 9623 (FY25) to Cash General Fund	$ 2,426.21

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, November 12, 2026, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center