



Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center

805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1

Caledonia, MN 55921

(507) 724-5261 ext. 3

<https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/>

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

April 9, 2026 1:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Ag Service Center, Caledonia, MN

2026 Officers

Ken Anderson Chair
Matt Feldmeier Vice-Chair
Joe Driscoll Secretary
Jerry Welke Treasurer
Glenn Kruse Reporter

Finance Committee: Driscoll & Welke
Personnel Committee: Feldmeier & Kruse
TSA7 Committee [JPB]: Welke
Root River One Watershed, One Plan: Kruse
Alternate - Feldmeier

**Mississippi River – Winona/
La Crescent 1W1P:** Welke
Alternate - Driscoll

1:00 P.M. Call meeting to order.

Flag Pledge

Minutes

Chair call for additions or corrections to the March 12, 2026 board meeting minutes.

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

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

AGENCY REPORTS

Dave Copeland, Board of Water and Soil Resources (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

PROGRAM REPORT

- WCA – Update
- Buffer Law – Update

PROGRAM REPORT – Bob Scanlan, MDA

- MDA Spring Grove Twp. Walkover - *Update*

MASWCD & MACDE

- SE MACDE Spring Meeting held Tuesday, March 24, 2026 - *Update*

WATERSHED UPDATES

Crooked Creek – Update

- Shared Website – *Continued discussion*

Root River IWIP - Update

- Policy Committee Meeting, February 23, 2026

Winnebago - Update

WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent) IWIP - Update

PROGRAM & STAFF REPORTS

Jean Meiners, Technician

- MDA Private Well Mitigation (RO Systems) – *Update*
- MDH Safe Drinking Water Tap-In – *Update*
- MDH Well Inventory Grant – *Update*
- BMP Projects – *Update*

Dan Wermager, Technician

- Alliance Grant – *Update*
- Soil Health Delivery Grant - *Update*

Janice Messner, Administrative Assistant

- Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network – *Update*
- Trees – *Update*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: *Update*

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: *Update*

TSA7 (Joint Powers) COMMITTEE: *Update*

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

1. Intensive Watershed Monitoring Sub-Agreement between Fillmore SWCD & Root River SWCD – *Approval requested*
2. Sub-Agreement between TSA7 & Root River SWCD - SE MN Nutrient Management Initiative – Amount \$131,500.00 – *Approval requested*
3. 2026 Administrative Conference June 17 – 18, 2026 Walker, MN – Registration \$100.00; Lodging \$179.10 (Classic) or \$206.10 (Lakeside) per night - *Approval requested*

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

FY26 SE MN Nutrient Management Initiative Cost Share (*Funding up to 75% of cost estimate not to exceed \$131,500.00*)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Heintz Badger Valley Farms LLC	01FY26SEMNNMI	\$227,271.45	\$131,500.00	313 – Waste Storage Facility	12/31/2026

FY26 SE MN Nutrient Management Initiative Cost Share – Remaining balance \$0.00

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 **\$ 24,254.66**

FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share (*Grant expiration 12/31/2028*) Available Funds **\$ 256,764.00**

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

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Mierau, Bob	38FY24RR1W1P	\$2,307.00	\$1,730.25	351 – Well Decommissioning	11/30/2026

FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance \$22,524.41

FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance \$22,524.41 was moved to FY24 Root River 1W1P Feedlot Cost Share.

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

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Heintz Badger Valley Farms LLC	39FY24RR1W1P	\$227,271.45	\$73,044.31 (FY24 RR1W1P Feedlot)	313 – Waste Storage Facility	12/31/2026

FY24 Root River 1W1P Feedlot Cost Share – Remaining balance \$0.00

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: **\$13,960.00**

FY26 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share Request (*\$40.00/acre single specie; \$50.00/acre multi specie*)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Hammel, James	04FY26SHD	55 acres @ \$40.00/acre – single specie	\$2,200.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026
Morey, Curt	05FY26SHD	121 acres @ \$40.00/acre – single specie	\$4,840.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026

FY26 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share – Remaining balance \$6,920.00

ARPA – (Spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds \$ 4,969.39

Acknowledge Cancellation - Kruckow, Fred - \$800.00 (Push-Up Pond no pipe)
ARPA Cost Share - Remaining balance \$5,769.39

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 **\$21,720.80**

FY27 Conservation Contracts (Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds **\$23,690.00**

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

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 **\$7,500.00**

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**

****Accounts Payable:****

Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5145	Ron Carlsen – Rent – April	\$ 1,287.00
5146	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$
5147	VISA – Trees Postcards	\$ 18.82
5148	Iowa DNR Nursery - Trees	\$ 140.00
5149	Quill LLC – MDH Well Inventory - Envelopes	\$ 70.52
	Total	\$

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, May 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Ag Service Center



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FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Request (*Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source*)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Becker, Pat	03FY26RR1W1P	\$18,921.00	\$2,883.90	410 – Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2026
Jore, Doug	02FY26RR1W1P	\$12,133.00	\$6,034.70	410 – Grade Stabilization Structure	12/31/2026
Eikens Family Farm LLC	03FY26RR1W1P	\$24,282.66	\$21,854.39	410 – Grade Stabilization Structure (3)	12/31/2026

FY26 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance \$225,991.01

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FY26 Conservation Contracts Cost Share Request (Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)

Name	Contract	Total Cost Estimate	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project	Completion Date
Hongerholt, Josh	02FY26CS	\$6,143.00	\$5,528.70	468 – Lined Waterway with 342 – Critical Area Planting	12/31/2026

FY26 Conservation Contract Cost Share – Remaining balance \$16,192.10

MDH TAP-IN COST SHARE FUNDING PROGRAM (Funding at 50% or 100% of cost estimate)

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5148	Iowa DNR Nursery - Trees	\$ 1,395.00
5149	Quill LLC – MDH Well Inventory - Envelopes	\$ 70.52
	Total	\$ 2,985.05

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

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
63	Winona SWCD – Forestry Practice – Inv 2024-901 Krage = \$350.00, Inv 2024-904 Cynor = \$350.00, Inv 2024-906 Erickson = \$350.00; Managed Grazing – Inv 2023-05 Wachholz = \$8,332.90; Vegetative Management & Pollinator Planting – 2024-905 McGuire = \$2,250.00, Inv 2024-903 Todd = \$900.00, Inv 2024-902 Crawford = \$1,350.00; Ag Practices – Inv 2023-901 Mundt = \$11,352.00, Inv 2023-902 Benedett = \$10,796.85, Inv 2023-903 Shea = \$12,605.00, Inv 2023-904 Evers = \$12,676.00, Inv 2024-909 Clear Crest = \$11,724.20, Inv 2025-901 Valley Acres = \$23,620.50, Inv 2025-903 McMartin = \$16,052.80 & \$3,181.10, Inv 2025-905 Storm = \$5,221.35, Inv 2025-904 Kronebusch = \$3,000.00	\$ 124,112.70
64	SE MN Technical Support JPB – TSA7 Technical 2026 Q1	\$ 5,278.55
	Total	\$ 129,391.25
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 8115 (FY23) to Cash General Fund	\$ 103,327.35
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 9623 (FY25) to Cash General Fund	\$ 16,681.00

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, May 14, 2026, 10:00 a.m. Ag Service Center