



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

March 12, 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 February 12, 2026 board meeting minutes.

Employee Time Records: Chair call for a motion to approve Employee Time Records and Supervisor Per Diems.

Supervisor Per Diems

Anderson, Ken – 1 st Qtr. 2 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 250.00
Driscoll, Joe – 1 st Qtr. 5 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 625.00
Feldmeier, Matt – 1 st Qtr. 5 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 625.00
Kruse, Glenn – 1 st Qtr. 5 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 625.00
Welke, Jerry – 1 st Qtr. 6 mtgs. @ \$125.00/each	\$ 750.00

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

AGENCY REPORTS

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

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, Tuesday, March 24, 2026 Red Wing, MN

WATERSHED UPDATES

Crooked Creek – Update

- Shared Website - *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. SE MACDE Spring Meeting Registration Fee - \$20.00/staff – *Approval requested*
- 2. SE MACDE 2026 Membership Dues - \$10.00/staff – *Approval requested*

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

ARPA – (Spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds \$ 6,469.39

NO ACTION NEEDED - ARPA Push Up Pond & Pond Clean Out Designation (Flat rate incentive amount)

Name	Cost Share Amount Requested	Project
Wilkes, Ron	\$1,500.00	Push Up Pond w/pipe

ARPA Cost Share – Remaining balance \$4,969.39

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: \$20,000.00

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
Onsgard, Sean	01FY26SHD	50 acres @ \$40.00/acre – single specie	\$2,000.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026
Klinski, Jason	02FY26SHD	65 acres @ \$40.00/acre – single specie	\$2,600.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026
Von Arx, Clint	03FY26SHD	36 acres @ \$40.00/acre – Single specie	\$1,440.00	340 – Cover Crop	11/1/2026

FY26 Soil Health Delivery Cost Share – Remaining balance \$13,960.00

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

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 and transfer of funds.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5135	Ron Carlsen – Rent – March	\$ 1,287.00
5136	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	\$ 135.48
5137	VISA – Vehicle Maintenance Wiper Blades Dodge = \$50.00; Wiper fluid = \$8.53; MDH Well Inventory Postage = \$205.92; Postage = \$106.08	\$ 370.53
5138	Talcott Resolution Life & Annuity Ins. Co. – Life Insurance – Policy #LU1188704 Dave Walter	\$ 90.00
5139	Anderson, Ken – Mileage – 1st Qtr.	\$ 34.80
5140	Driscoll, Joe – Mileage – 1st Qtr.	\$ 86.27
5141	Feldmeier, Matt – Mileage – 1st Qtr.	\$ 130.50
5142	Kruse, Glenn – Mileage – 1st Qtr.	\$ 126.15
5143	Welke, Jerry – Mileage – 1st Qtr.	\$ 124.70
5144	SE MACDE – 2026 Dues = \$40.00; Spring Mtg Registration = \$60.00	\$ 100.00
	Total	\$ 2,485.43
	Transfer of funds from Cash General Fund to Eitzen State Bank Acct #10033563 Capital Equipment	\$ 14,000.00

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

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

Voucher #	Item	Amount
62	Goodhue SWCD – FY25 Education – 2025 Fall Media Campaign w/Zumbro Watershed - KTTC	\$ 2,500.00
	Total	\$ 2,500.00
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 9623 (FY25) to Cash General Fund	\$ 2,500.00

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, April 9, 2026, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center