ISANTI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Supervisors Meeting
May 20, 2026 Start: 9:00 A.M

Mission: To provide guidance; to inspire action; and to bring innovative resources to our communities so that people can become leaders in keeping land and water healthy for future generations.

SUPERVISORS MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Isanti SWCD
110 Buchanan St. N
Cambridge, MN 55008

Board members not present: F. Curtis.
Present: Medvecky, T. Anderson, Todd Kulaf, Bill Berg

Call meeting to order, Pledge of Allegiance
Time: 9:00 AM

1) **Approve Agenda***
   a) **Amendment to 5e to include reimbursement of $20,000.00 to Hiller from FY26 and FY 27 Conservation Contracts**
   Motion: Medvecky moved to approve agenda
   Affirmative: Medvecky, T. Anderson, V. Anderson
   Motion: Motion carried

2) **Public Comment/Correspondence**
   None

3) **Consent Agenda**
   a) **Treasurers Report**
   b) **Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

   Motion/seconded: No motion needed

4) **County Commissioner Report**

Berg reported that boat monitoring for aquatic invasive species is underway in partnership with local law enforcement, utilizing state funding to support the protection of lakes and waterways. Kulaf noted the Braham School Board will approve the flood storage wetland project with work anticipated to begin in mid-June for the 2027 season.

Berg emphasized that addressing drainage issues and protecting lakes and rivers remains a top priority, along with continued education efforts for the public.

5) **New Business Items**

a) **District Manager to approve FY25 RRWP WBIF urban and shoreline projects***
Kulaf explained that the purpose of this approval is to allow certain projects to be expedited with District Manager authorization.
Motion: V. Anderson made a motion to approve
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

b) **Consider contributing $100 to East Metro Water Resource Education Partnerships (EMWREP) for 20th anniversary event.***
Motion: T. Anderson made motion that we contribute $100, seconded by v. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

c) **Consider selling 1979 15ft Lund***
Kulaf explained the options for selling the Lund boat, including listing it on Facebook Marketplace or posting it on the state auction website.
V. Anderson moved for state auction.

Motion: T. Anderson motioned to sell boat by easiest means possible using state auction, seconded by V. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

d) **Anez Contract for engineering for $10,000**
The board discussed engineering costs. V. Anderson asked why the district was not working with Ross. Kulaf explained that Ross typically handles smaller projects and is better suited for the types of projects the district is currently undertaking. He noted that the district generally receives about four projects per year out of the $10,000 engineering allocation and that monthly updates are provided.

Motion: V. Anderson made motion to approve, seconded by T. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

e) **Contract 2025-18, Hiller Water and Sediment Control Basins-Maintenance funds approval of $1000 and approval of $20,000 reimbursement from FY26 & 27 Conservation Contracts**
Remer reported that additional funds were needed to address issues on the Hiller project. The project had been started earlier but was paused due to rainfall. Upon resuming work, the engineer determined that sediment had shifted, resulting in the need for corrective work. Remer noted that the fix would need to be contracted out and would be costly. He stated that $1,000 in available funding could be used toward contractor expenses pending approval at today's meeting. Remer also requested approval for a $20,000 reimbursement related to the project.

Kulaf reported that he is working with the landowner's daughter on the project design. Berg commented that the project provides strong public relations value for the district and that final design work is nearing completion, with construction expected to follow in October, and weather dependent.

Kulaf provided background on previous projects in the area and emphasized that the benefits of this project are significant and far-reaching.

Motion: T. Anderson made motion to accept contract Seconded by V. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimously approved
Result: Motion Carried

7) Old Business Items

a) Payments*:

i) Fy23 RRWP WBIF: Contract 2025-15, wetland restoration, partial payment for $5,606.76.

Kulaf explained the change order needed for maintenance on the berm along the ditch. When the winter ice melted, it created voids that require repair. Once the area is fixed, it will be seeded and blanketed. V. Anderson asked whether soil on site would be used for the repair, and Kulaf confirmed that it would. DW will be contracted to complete the work.

Motion: V. Anderson made motion for partial payment seconded by T. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Motion: Motion carried

8) Approve Payment of Bills*

Lacey Johnson went over bills to be paid and provided explanation on expenses.

Motion: T. Anderson moved to approve bills seconded by V. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Motion: Motion carried

9) Reports & Updates

a) Staff

Kulaf:

Kulaf reported that the tree sale went well and that the Fosters project has been wrapped up. He noted that work is beginning on the cattle crossing project. Larson has obtained the necessary permissions and approvals, and the project is ready to proceed.

Kulaf also attended a meeting with the Braham School District regarding landscape design. He provided updates on the Skoglund and Skogman Lake projects and summarized his overall project progress for the board.

Remer:

The board discussed the need to amend the agenda to include approval of a $20,000 reimbursement for the Hiller project. Remer provided an overview of the project using aerial images, answered questions regarding the project layout and construction, and shared

positive feedback from the landowner. He noted that the district's relationship with the Hiller landowner continues to strengthen and will be beneficial for future projects and outreach efforts.

Remer also reported that all RCPP funds allocated for this project have been fully expended.

Zoe Olson:

Olson provided an update on outreach activities. She reported on current outreach hours and noted that an email summarizing accomplishments for members not participating in the RUM program has been prepared.

Olson shared that promotions for the well-screening clinic are underway; flyers have been printed and distributed both within the district and in surrounding areas, and the clinic information has been posted on social media. The clinic will be held at the SpringVale Township Hall.

Olson served as a judge at the Envirothon and has continued posting educational and outreach content on social media, including Earth Day messaging and buckthorn removal information. She noted that outreach engagement has increased, with three site visits resulting from recent workshop promotions.

The Ag Lunch and Learn event had 19 new attendees, and participants expressed that many prefer receiving information through online communication.

Olson also discussed rebranding and logo updates. While a full rebranding will be considered at a later time, she is working on cleaning up the current logo for website use and is meeting with Barbara regarding website development.

She reported efforts to recruit additional volunteers to read lake gauges, with the goal of getting volunteers out this month or next.

The quarterly newsletter was distributed this month. Olson expressed interest in transitioning the newsletter to Canva to create an easier template and a more modern format. She noted that link engagement statistics were up. Medvecky pointed out a labeling error in the newsletter where Mathew was misidentified in a photo, and the correction will be made.

Doug Page:

Page reported that four easements have been recorded so far this year. Two new easements have entered into agreement since the last update, and two additional easements already under agreement are progressing and expected to wrap up soon. Three applications are currently in progress, with additional landowner interest emerging.

Page provided an update on his easement projects, noting that two have been reported and one requires a boundary adjustment. He explained that typical title-related delays are occurring, but overall, easements are being completed within approximately one year or less.

Motion: V. Anderson made motions to transfer funds out of account and pay contractor $1000 and to pay reimbursement of $20,000 for contract 2025-18. Seconded by T. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: motion carried

f) **New Soil Health Mentor***
Remer provided an update on the mentor program in surrounding areas and noted that Chris Beach of Beach Family Farms is interested in mentoring. Mathew reported that he sent the contract to Chris Beach on May 19, 2026.

Motion: V. Anderson made motion to hire Chris Beach for the farmer mentor seconded by T. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

6) **Contracts*:**

a) **Skogman Lake Improvement District 2026 Monitoring Agreement**

The district provides monitoring services, sample processing, and an annual report for the project. Approximately $2,500 is required each year to cover the fees associated with completing this work.

Motion: T. Anderson made motion to sign agreement with Skogman seconded by V. Anderson and Medvecky.
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

b) **Contract 2026-2, Skogland Raingarden and infiltration for $6,831.82**
Kulaf explained the proposal to install rain filters/garden to help prevent stormwater runoff from entering the lake and to provide pollution reduction benefits. He noted that the LID would cover the cost with a 25% match.

Berg further explained that the ditch functions as a natural lake and that the project benefits the lake more than the individual landowner. He noted that the area experiences significant runoff and erosion, and this project would help address those issues. The primary purpose of the project is to collect runoff, reduce phosphorus entering the lake, and protect overall water quality. The landowner will be responsible for ongoing maintenance pending further decision.

Motion: V. Anderson made a motion to approve, seconded by T. Anderson
Affirmative: Unanimous
Result: Motion carried

c) **Contract 2026-3, Cartwright Wetland Restoration Phase 3 for $124,601**

V. Anderson asked why the district was covering the project at 100%. Kulaf explained that the district can fully fund the project due to available funds. He noted that construction is anticipated to begin in October, weather permitting.

Tree sale:
- Robo call reminders were effective in encouraging customers to pick up their orders, with only one individual failing to pick up. This method was cost effective and is expected to benefit organization and outreach efforts in future years.
- The district plans to transition to a single mailer for direct ordering.
- DNR shortages in red and white pines were noted, though no customer issues or discrepancies resulted.
- Staff discussed the meet and greet space, additional items available for sale, and leftover trees.
- This was the first year electronic payment was offered, which contributed to selling all remaining seed mixes, most flags, and leftover trees.

b) NRCS District Conservationist

John provided an update on EQIP projects, reporting that six additional projects have been funded, bringing the total to nine. He noted that both CSP applications submitted this cycle have also been funded.

For RCPP, two irrigation applications were submitted; however, neither received funding. John outlined current project priorities, including nutrient management, forestry, improved grazing practices, and the adoption of more advanced technology. He noted that the new Farm Bill places increased emphasis on these practices and includes additional funding opportunities that will benefit districts.

Committee Reports:

None

10) Board Training: Project Tracking Database

None

11) Approve SWCD meetings & Events

Meeting/Event	Approved	Date/time
Treasures Report and Bank Reconciliation Review	T. Anderson	**Monthly**
RRWP IPC meeting (board liaison)	Medvecky	**May 11th, 12-2:30 @ Mille Lacs Courthouse**
MASWCD Area 4 Summer Meeting	All	**June 4th, 9AM @ Cambridge Library**
Well Screening Clinic	All	**May 29th, Springvale Twp hall**

12) Adjourn: Medvecky to adjourn meeting at 11:14 AM

6.17.26