



11360 Highway 212 STE 6  
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<https://www.carvercountymn.gov/swcd>

## Minutes of the July 18, 2024, Carver SWCD Board Meeting Held in Conference Room 1 at the Public Works Facility in Cologne, MN

### Board Members Present:

Vice Chair, Mark Zabel  
Secretary/Treasurer, Jeffrey Sons  
Member, Robert Burandt  
Member, Stanley Wendland

### Board Members Absent:

Chair, Marcus Zbinden

### Other Attendees:

Farm Service Agency Director, Jennifer King

### SWCD Staff Present:

District Manager, Mike Wanous  
Administrative & Finance Specialist, Felicia Brockoff  
Landscape Restoration Specialist, Seth Ristow

### 1. Call to Order.

Vice Chair Zabel called the meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

### 2. Public Comments – None.

### 3. Agenda Review and Adoption.

Resolution 033-2024: Sons moved, Wendland seconded, to approve the July 18, 2024, Board Meeting Agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

### 4. Agency Reports

- a. Carver County report – Paul was unable to attend the meeting this morning.
- b. FSA report – Jennifer King reported that acreage certifications were completed on Monday. There are almost 3,000 acres of prevent plant, which will be discussed at the next COC meeting. She reported that the CRP batching period had been extended to July 31, 2024. She also mentioned that FSA is currently fully staffed, however one member is out on maternity leave, another employee is on intermittent medical leave. Jennifer also reported she will be on maternity leave from October through December.
- c. NRCS Report – Katie submitted a written report that Mike reviewed with the Board at this time. There are 5 CSP applications that have been accepted for Carver County. Site visits and outreach efforts are being conducted for EQIP. They have begun working on CRP status reviews, and planning documents for CRP offers.

### 5. Consent Agenda Items

Resolution 034-2024: Wendland moved, Burandt seconded to approve the following consent agenda items:

- a. Acceptance of the June 2024 Treasurer's Report
- b. Approval of the June 20, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes

Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

## 6. Regular Agenda Items

- a. Mike reported he spoke with Shelby Sovell, Carver County Operations Engineer, after the last board meeting discussion, to see if there were any used vehicles the SWCD could purchase. There were two used SUV's that were scheduled to go to auction at the end of July. The SUV with more miles did go on the auction, as well as the SWCD's 2004 Ford F250 truck. The purchase price for the 2017 Ford Explorer from Carver County is \$8,324. Mike also explained that under our District Capacity grant, we can purchase vehicles up to \$10,000 without BWSR approval, so grant funds could be used for this purchase.

Resolution 035-2024: Burandt moved, Sons seconded to approve the purchase of the 2017 Ford Explorer from Carver County for \$8,324, using funds from the FY2023 District Capacity Grant, equipment category. Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

- b. Pat Beier (Frederick N. Beier Trust) has requested cost-share assistance to install a water and sediment control basin in Camden Township. The total cost of the project is \$26,682. EQIP will be providing \$9,644 in cost-share assistance. They are requesting \$12,040 in cost-share assistance from the SWCD, which gets them to about 80% of the total cost.

Resolution 036-2024: Wendland moved, Burandt seconded to approve Pat Beier's cost-share assistance contract, to construct a water and sediment control basin totaling 487' linear feet in Camden Township, maximum payment of \$12,040, funding to be used from FY2023 State cost-share grant. Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

- c. Seth reported this is the third year the SWCD has offered cost-share assistance for the shoreline habitat program. Steve Gunther has requested cost-share assistance to convert 475 square feet of his current lawn into a shoreline habitat improvement project. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$4,597.50, cost-sharing not to exceed \$950 based on the program maximum per square foot.

Resolution 037-2024: Wendland moved, Burandt seconded to approve Steve Gunther's habitat improvement application totaling 475 square feet, maximum payment of \$950, funding to be used from FY2023 District Capacity grant. Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

- d. MASWCD award applications are being accepted through August 30. The MASWCD convention will be held December 2-4. Staff will bring a potential list of conservation farmers to the Board at the August Board meeting.

## 7. SWCD Board Committee & SWCD Staff Monthly Reports

- a. Personnel Committee (Zabel, Zbinden) – informal reviews have been conducted with the staff.
- b. Metro Conservation District's (MCD) Committee (Zbinden; Wendland alt.) – the next MCD Board meeting will be on August 28.

- c. Education & Outreach Committee (Sons, Wendland) – Sons reported he has called the Carver County weed inspector, Jacob McLain, about patches of Wild Parsnip in the County, but nothing has been done about the patches he reported. Supervisor Burandt also mentioned the numerous thistle patches in the county. Zabel suggested Mike write a letter to the weed inspectors, expressing the SWCD’s concerns with the weeds.

Felicia gave a brief update on the new website, and showed the Board a couple of screen shots on what has been done so far. She also mentioned the SWCD logo did not look good on the sample screen shots Brettworks sent, suggesting it may be time to discuss and update the logo to coincide with the new website. The Board agreed a new logo should be discussed. Staff will pull together some options for logos, and bring it back to the SWCD Board. Tyler Koepp from Brettworks should be contacting Felicia next week to set up the online store.

- d. Budget Committee (Burandt, Sons) – The budget hearing is scheduled for July 25.
- e. WMO Advisory Committee (Wendland; Zbinden alt.) – The WMO tour was held on June 25, the various tour sites were discussed at this time. The next meeting is July 30.
- f. Carver County Leaders (CCL) Committee (Burandt; Sons alt.) – Sons reported the June 25 meeting was held at Paradise Commons at Lake Waconia regional park. This is the first building that Carver County has built in 20 years. The committee talked about Coney Island, and the trail that will run east to west on the island. They are trying to keep it as natural as possible. He also mentioned Merriam Junction Regional Trail, that will connect Carver and Scott Counties across the Minnesota River, through an abandoned railway.
- g. South Fork Crow River 1W1P (Zabel; Wendland alt.) – nothing to report.
- h. The SWCD staff monthly progress report was presented and discussed. Zabel discussed the resolutions that were presented at the Area IV meeting. Mike explained that staff has been working at the Wahibo Marsh on County Road 10, just northwest of the City of Waconia. The outlet structure has been getting blocked, and staff have been doing cleanouts at the site. BWSR and NRCS staff had an onsite meeting at the Marsh yesterday to discuss repair options.

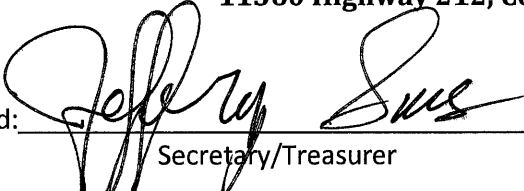
**8. Board of Supervisors Announcements**

- a. Upcoming meetings/events:
  - August 15 – SWCD Board meeting

**9. Adjourn**

Resolution 038-2024: Burandt moved, Sons seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 a.m. Roll call vote: Burandt-aye; Sons-aye; Wendland-aye; Zabel-aye; Zbinden-absent. Motion carried.

**Next Board Meeting:** Thursday, July 18, 2024, at 8:00 AM  
**Location:** Public Works Headquarters, Conference Room 1  
11360 Highway 212, Cologne, MN 55322

Approved:  \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: August 15, 2024  
Secretary/Treasurer