

EXHIBIT A: Meeting Minutes



KANABEC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Kanabec SWCD Board Room
2008 Mahogany Street, Suite 3
Mora, MN 55051
(320) 679-1391

Purpose Statement: *This Board of Supervisors meets regularly, utilizing civic standards to organize ourselves and build capacity and infrastructure as needed to support our goals of achieving better soil and water quality outcomes throughout Kanabec County.*

The public is welcome to attend monthly Board meetings in person at the Kanabec SWCD office (address listed above).

Note: Meeting material, including agendas and minutes, is posted on the District website at www.kanabecswcd.org.

Remote Google Meet joining info:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/wqm-npaf-xnc>

Or dial: (US) +1 636-498-4352 PIN: 977 678 251#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/wqm-npaf-xnc?pin=6649306027834>

March 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order** **1:00 PM**
 - A. **Attendance:**
 - I. **Chair:** Norma Heggernes; **Vice Chair:** Kevin Belkholm; **Treasurer:** Kim Johnson; Jon Sanford, Marv Stutz
Supervisors absent:

Others Present: Jaren Peplinski, Jerah Mattson, Stephanie Paulsen, Melissa McCann, Nick Foss

***Remote attendee**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Review and Approval of Agenda (Action Item)**
 - A. Motion by Belkholm to approve the agenda as amended.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Sanford, Johnson, Stutz, Belkholm
Opposed:
Motion carried.

4. **Review and Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**

- A. *Regular Board Meeting Minutes 02/18/2026*. Motion by Sanford to approve the meeting minutes.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Sanford, Johnson, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

- B. *Special Board Meeting Minutes 03/04/2026*. Motion by Sanford to approve the meeting minutes.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Sanford, Johnson, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

5. **Reports of Partners**

- A. NRCS (Stephanie Paulsen, Melissa McCann) – A verbal report was provided.
B. BWSR (Zach Guttormson) – No report was provided.
C. Kanabec County (Peter Ripka) – No report was provided.

6. **Public Comment** - No public comment was made.

7. **Financial Report (Action Item)**

- A. *02/28/2026 Year-to-Date Financial Report (Financial Report)*. The Financial Report was detailed by Jerah Mattson and reviewed by the board. Motion by Sanford to accept the February 2026 financial report.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

- B. *February 2026 Treasurer's Report*. Motion by Sanford to accept the February 2026 Treasurer's Report.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

8. **Action Items**

- A. *Authorize SWCD officers and subcommittees*. Motion by Belkholm to approve the subcommittee officers and subcommittee assignments.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

- B. *Authorize LCCMR forestry subagreement*. Motion by Sanford to authorize the District Manager to enter into a forestry subagreement with Mille Lacs SWCD in the amount of \$2,000.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Stutz, Belkholm

Opposed:

Motion carried.

- C. *Authorize TNC forestry grant agreement*. Motion by Johnson to authorize the Board Chair to sign the forestry grant agreement with TNC.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Stutz, Belkholm
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- D. *Authorize Waterfront Restorations agreement.* Motion by Johnson to authorize the District Manager to sign the Waterfront Restorations agreement.

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- E. *June board meeting schedule.* Rescheduled to June 24th.
- F. *Field equipment storage container purchase.* Motion by Stutz to authorize a staff to purchase a container for field equipment not to exceed \$5000, subject to the property owner's permission and township approval.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- G. *Environmental education watershed model purchase.* Motion by Heggernes to authorize staff to purchase an environmental education watershed model not to exceed \$1200.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- H. *Moment of Silence - Former Supervisor Gene Carda.*
- I. *Non-Structural Policy.* Motion by Belkholm to adopt the amended non-structural policy guidelines.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- J. *Terrestrial Invasive Species Study - Letter of support.* Motion by Belkholm to provide a letter of support for UMN research project proposal to investigate contingent behavior in the Rum and Snake River Watersheds around terrestrial invasive species management, co-benefits of natural resources stewardship, and program goals.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- K. *Agricultural Technician Position.* Discussion.
- L. *Emerald Ash Borer Workshop Event.* Motion by Sanford to authorize Nick to pursue Freddie's as a meeting location, with the refreshments cost not to exceed \$9 per person.

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz
Opposed:

Motion carried.

- M. *Farm & Home Publishers.* The item was tabled until the next meeting.

9. Other Reports/Discussion

- A. *Subcommittee reports.*

Personnel Committee.

Finance Committee.

Kanabec Coalition of Lake Associations.

Kettle/Upper St. Croix Watershed Partnership.

Rum River Watershed Partnership.

Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership.

Area III Forestry Association.

TSA Area III Board.

District Land.

Liaison to the County.

B. *Meeting and Event Announcements*

C. *Funding Opportunities*

10. Consent Agenda

A. Accounts receivable detail

B. District riprap policy review

C. USDA-NRCS Unfunded Cooperative Agreement (UCA). Motion by Johnson to approve the UCA as presented, with the addition of one cell phone

Affirmative: Heggernes, Johnson, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz

Opposed:

Motion carried.

Adjournment. Motion by Sanford to adjourn the meeting.

3:42 PM

Affirmative: Johnson, Heggernes, Sanford, Belkholm, Stutz

Opposed:

Motion carried.

Submitted by: Jerah Mattson