

Board of Supervisors:

2 – Norma Heggernes, Chair
(Term. 12.2026)

1 – Kevin Belkholm,
Vice-Chair (Term. 12.2028)

5 – Kim Johnson, Treasurer
(Term. 12.2028)

3 – Marv Stutz
(Term. 12.2028)

4 – Jon Sanford
(Term. 12.2026)

Staff:

Jaren Peplinski
District Manager
(502) 517-SWCD

Jerah Mattson
Administrative Assistant
(320) 679-1391

Mary Poelman
Watershed Coordinator

Emily Larsen
Conservation Technician

Nick Foss
Conservation Forester

Mallory Kaiser
Conservation Technician

Cooperators:

NRCS - USDA
Stephanie Paulsen,
Acting District Conservationist
(320) 674-3005

Kanabec County Environmental
Services
Ryan Carda,
Environmental Services
Supervisor
(320) 679-6456

Minnesota DNR - Hydrology
Craig Wills,
Area Hydrologist
(763) 689-7100 ext. 225

Minnesota DNR - Forestry
David Fraundorf, Forester
(320) 679-3683

Kanabec SWCD
2008 Mahogany Street, Ste. 3
Mora, MN 55051
Office: (320) 679-1391



**KANABEC SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING**

Kanabec SWCD Board Room
2008 Mahogany Street, Suite 3
Mora, MN 55051

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>

October 28, 2026

Draft Regular Meeting Agenda

- 1. Call to Order** **1:00 PM**
 - a. Roll call: Norma Heggernes, Kevin Belkholm, Jon Sanford, Kim Johnson, Marv Stutz
 - b. Others Present: Jaren Peplinski, Jerah Mattson, Stephanie Paulsen

**Remote attendee. One or more members may attend remotely pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.02 as amended.*
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
- 3. Review and Approval of Agenda (Action Item)**
- 4. Review and Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**
 - a. [Regular Board Meeting Minutes](#) – 9/16/2026 **[Exhibit A]**
- 5. Reports of Partners**
 - a. NRCS (*Stephanie Paulsen*)
- 6. Public Comment**
- 7. Financial Report**
 - a. September 2026 [Treasurer's Report and Financial Report](#) **[Exhibit B]**
- 8. Action Items [Exhibit C]**
 - a. *District Manager Authority to Execute Board-Approved Actions.* Consider establishing standing authority for the District Manager to implement Board-approved actions and sign related agreements, statements of work, grant documents, and other documents within the scope, funding, and conditions approved by the Board.
 - b. *Acceptance of 2025 Financial Audit.* Consider acceptance of the 2025 financial audit, as recommended by the Finance Committee.
 - c. *Kettle & Upper St. Croix Partnership Woodland Stewardship Plan Statement of Work.* Consider approval of a \$6,000.00 Statement of Work using FY25 planning and assessment funds for a Woodland Stewardship Plan covering a 280-acre priority forestry property in Kanabec County, with flexibility to pursue additional local stewardship plans. Project ID: KUSCP Woodland Stewardship Plan Cost-Share Funds.

- d. *Pine and Kanabec SWCDs Reforestation Grant MOU*. Consider approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between Pine and Kanabec SWCDs for implementation of The Nature Conservancy reforestation grant.
- e. *Operational Handbook Additional Invoice*. Consider authorization of an additional \$2,009.00 payment to Ratwik, Roszak & Maloney, PA, for Operational Handbook activities completed between August 20 and August 26, 2026.
- f. *Ford Township Woodland Stewardship Plan Cost-Share Contract*. Consider authorization of Contract #SRWPP-KSWCD-FY26-WSP-05 for \$1,950.00 in cost-share assistance for a Woodland Stewardship Plan covering 165 acres in Ford Township.
- g. *Retroactive Approval of Septic Replacement Cost-Share Contract*. Consider retroactive approval of Contract #SR-FY24WBIF-36-KSWCD-2026 for reimbursement not to exceed \$21,179.14 for a septic replacement near the Whited/Pomroy township boundary benefiting Mud Creek and Quamba Lake.
- h. *Knife Lake Shoreline Restoration Cost-Share Contract*. Consider authorization of Contract #SR-FY24WBIF-34-KSWCD-2026 for reimbursement not to exceed \$18,511.02 (75%), with at least \$6,170.34 (25%) in landowner non-state match.
- i. *2027 No-Till Seed Drill Rental Rates*. Consider increasing the no-till seed drill rental rate from \$14.00 to \$25.00 per acre for 2027, with a \$250.00 minimum rental charge and no change to the deposit.
- j. *MASWCD 2026 Resolutions and Balloting*. Review the proposed resolutions, record supervisor votes, and determine whether designated staff will submit ballots on supervisors' behalf or supervisors will submit their ballots individually.
- k. *MASWCD Annual Convention Attendance*. Consider authorization of attendance at the November 30-December 2, 2026, MASWCD annual convention and associated expenses.
- l. *Whited Township Well Sealing Statement of Work*. Consider approval of the Statement of Work for Contract #KSWCD_Well Sealing_WhitedSec14_FY26WBIF_2026, providing \$656.25 in cost-share assistance (75%).

Other Reports

- a. *Subcommittee reports*.
 - i. Personnel Committee (*Heggernes, Belkholm*)
 - ii. Finance Committee (*Johnson, Sanford*)
 - iii. Coalition of Lake Associations (*Stutz; Sanford is alternate*)
 - iv. Kettle/Upper St. Croix Watershed Partnership (*Johnson; Stutz is alternate*)
 - v. Rum River Watershed Partnership (*Stutz; Johnson is alternate*)
 - vi. Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership (*Belkholm; Sanford is alternate*)
 - vii. Area III Forestry Association (*Sanford; Johnson is alternate*)
 - viii. District Land (*Belkholm, Stutz*)
 - ix. Liaison to the County (*Sanford; Stutz is alternate*)

	<p>x. Liaison to the Townships (<i>Johnson; Sanford is alternate</i>)</p> <p>b. <i>Meeting and Event Announcements</i>, pg. 3.</p> <p>c. <i>Funding opportunities</i>, pg. 3.</p> <p>9. Consent Agenda</p> <p>a. <i>Shoreline Project Update</i>. Conservation Technician Emily Larsen will provide an update on Contract #KSWCD_Shoreline_Aurthur33__WBIF-2025.</p> <p>b. <i>Septic System Reviews at Property Transfer</i>. Discuss the County's ability to require septic system compliance reviews for all property transfers, including properties outside shoreland areas.</p> <p>c. <i>Shoreline Restoration Cost-Share Policy and Recording Documents</i>. Receive an update on revisions following the District Manager's consultation with the County Recorder's Office regarding the proposed recording structure and process. County Attorney review of the draft recording instrument remains pending. The revised policy and standard recording agreement will return to the Board for consideration following legal review.</p> <p>d. <i>Local Conservation Art and Merchandise</i>. Receive the requested follow-up on the conservation art and merchandise concept, including feedback from Carlton SWCD's manager regarding its longstanding merchandise efforts and their value to the District.</p> <p>e. <i>District Land Agricultural Management Agreement</i>. Review the executed agricultural management agreement for District Land as an informational update.</p> <p>f. <i>MAWQCP Third-Quarter Update</i>. Receive the third-quarter Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program update.</p> <p>g. <i>TSA Third-Quarter Update</i>. Receive the third-quarter Technical Service Area update.</p> <p>Adjourn 3:30 PM</p> <p>The next Regular Monthly Meeting is Wednesday, November 18, 1:00 PM</p>
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Meeting and Event Announcements

- MASWCD 90th Annual Convention | **November 30-December 2, 2026** | Bloomington | Registration is open through November 13

Funding Opportunities

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Applications Submitted in FY26/FY27

- Keep It Clean Grant - Kanabec COLA (denied)
- 2026/2027 Conservation Delivery Grant (awarded)
- 2026/2027 Conservation Contracts Grant (awarded)
- FY 2027 Managing Invasives for a Resilient Landscape (MIRL) Grants (denied)
- Private Well Screening Grant (awarded)
- MDA Soil Health Equipment Grant (submitted)
- DNR 2026 Protect Community Forests Grant - EAB replacement project (submitted)

Annual or Ongoing Funding to Consider Applying For

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