

**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 – Jon Sanford  
(Term. 12.2028)  
# 4 – Gene Carda  
(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  
Forester

**Cooperators:**

NRCS - USDA  
Shannon Bodle  
District Conservationist  
(320) 674-3012

Kanabec County Environmental Services  
Ryan Carda  
Supervisor – Wetlands, Septic,  
Shoreland  
(320) 679-6456

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

Minnesota DNR - Forestry  
Tony Miller  
Area 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/qaj-aafx-ruq>**

**Or dial: (US) +1 505-738-3067 PIN: 922 739 424#**

**More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/qaj-aafx-ruq?pin=6566792966442>**

**April 16, 2025**

**Draft Meeting Agenda**

1. **Call to Order** **9:30AM**
  - a. Roll call: Norma Heggernes, Kevin Belkholm, Jon Sanford, Kim Johnson
  - b. Others Present: Jaren Peplinski, Jerah Mattson, Mary Poelman, Emily Larsen, Nick Foss, Shannon Bodle  
\*Remote attendee
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](#) – 3/12/2025 [Exhibit A]
5. **Reports of Partners**
  - a. NRCS (Brian Steffen or Shannon Bodle)
  - b. BWSR (Zach Guttormson)
  - c. Kanabec County (Ryan Carda)
6. **Public Comment** (None scheduled)
7. **Financial Report (Action Item)**
  - a. March 2025 [Treasurer's Report and Financial Report](#) [Exhibit B]
8. **Action Items [Exhibit C]**
  - a. Resolution: Update to Billable Rates
  - b. Resolution: Re-Evaluation Timeline for Remote Work Agreements
  - c. Approval of Proposed Changes to Non-Structural Practice and Flat-Rate Cost Share Payments Policy
9. **Other Reports**
  - a. Subcommittee reports
    - i. Personnel Committee (Belkholm, Johnson)
    - ii. Finance Committee (Belkholm, Johnson)
    - iii. Coalition of Lake Associations (Sanford)
    - iv. Kettle/Upper St. Croix Watershed Partnership (Johnson)
    - v. Rum River Watershed Partnership (Johnson)
    - vi. Snake River Watershed Plan Partnership (Belkholm)
    - vii. Area III Forestry Association (Sanford)
    - viii. TSA Area III Board (Heggernes)
    - ix. District Land (Heggernes, Sanford)
    - x. MASWCD Area III Annual Meetings Committee (Heggernes, Johnson)
  - b. Meeting and Event Announcements, pg. 2 (Peplinski)
  - c. Funding opportunities, pg. 2 (Peplinski)
10. **Other Business and Possible Action Items [Exhibit D]**
  - a. Discussion: Employee Handbook Update (Peplinski)
  - b. Discussion: Staff Report Discussion (Staff)
  - c. Discussion: Art Contest Update (Larsen)
  - d. Discussion: RIM Conservation Easements (Mattson)
  - e. Discussion: Update on Status/Stipulations on 2025 County Funding (Peplinski)
  - f. Discussion: MASWCD Resolution Idea #1 - Support for Sanitation at Water Access Sites (Sanford)
  - g. Discussion: MASWCD Resolution Idea #2 - Support for Innovative Lake Treatments

	<p>(Sanford)</p> <p>h. Discussion: MASWCD SFIA Resolution from Koochiching and Aitkin SWCDs (Peplinski)</p> <p>i. Discussion: Subcommittees Discussion (Johnson)</p> <p>11. <b>Consent Agenda Items [Exhibit E]</b></p> <p><b>Adjourn</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>12:00PM</b></span></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The next Regular Monthly Meeting is Wednesday, May 21, 2:00 PM</p>
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### Meeting and Event Announcements

- **Nitrate Clinic - April 21-25, 2025**
  - Pending functioning equipment. Mille Lacs SWCD is working on seeing if they can get it repaired in time. We will refer folks to Isanti, Benton, and Sherburne SWCDs in the event we cannot get Mille Lacs equipment functioning or borrow equipment from these other SWCDs during the scheduled week in Kanabec.
- **MASWCD Resolutions Meeting - June 6, 2025**  
\* = tabling / promotional opportunity

### Funding Opportunities

State Funding Sources (outdated list)

- **MN Pollution Control Agency:** Planning Grants or Implementation Grants for Stormwater, Wastewater or Community Resilience, Local Climate Action Grants, Small Business Assistance Grants and Loans
- **Public Facilities Authority:** Clean Water Revolving Fund, Point Source Implementation Grants, Water Infrastructure Fund, Small Community Wastewater Treatment Program
- **MN Department of Natural Resources:** Preparing for EAB, Shade Tree Bonding, Protect Community Forest, Forest Health and Resilience, Sustainable Urban Forest Resilience ReLeaf, Tribal Community Forestry, Centering Communities in Canopy Solutions
- **MN Department of Public Safety – Homeland Security Emergency Management:** Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance
- **MN Housing Finance Agency:** Publicly Owned Housing Program, Local Housing Trust Fund Grants, Manufactured Home Community Redevelopment Program, Greater Minnesota Housing Infrastructure Grants
- **MN Department of Commerce:** Solar on Public Buildings, State Competitiveness Fund, Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority, Electric Grid Resilience Grants
- **MN Department of Transportation:** National Electric Vehicle Formula Funds, Safe Routes to School, Transportation Alternatives
- **MN Department of Agriculture:** Agricultural Growth, Research, and Innovation (AGRI) Program including the new Prepare Grants

Federal, regional, or philanthropic funding or assistance for local resilience and climate adaptation planning and/or implementation (outdated list):

- **Federal agencies:** Bipartisan Infrastructure Law including EPA Community Change Grants Program, NOAA Coastal Resilience Grant Program, USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program, EPA Region 5 Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC)

- **Regional governmental and non-governmental organizations:** Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Metropolitan Council Municipal Inflow & Infiltration Grant Program, Regional Development Organizations services, League of MN Cities Grant Navigator funding
- **Philanthropic:** Blandin Foundation Small Community and Rural Placemaking Grants, McKnight Foundation Midwest Climate & Energy Grant Program, Bush Foundation Community Innovation Program

### **Applications Submitted in FY24/FY25**

- **UMN Water Resources 2025 Soil Health Days Funding Mini-Grant**
  - **Funding for Farmers to Attend Soil Health Peer and Professional Learning Events**
    - **November 8, 2024** – The University of Minnesota Water Resources Center has awarded a \$1,500 Soil Health funding grant to Kanabec Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to support local farmers’ participation in soil health-focused learning opportunities. The funds will cover direct expenses such as registration fees and travel costs for attending events like the Emerging Farmers Conference, SHC Premier Soil Health Event, U of M Soil Management Summit, or SFA Midwest Soil Health Summit. Selected events must focus on soil health practices such as cover crops and reduced tillage. Attendees will be reimbursed for actual costs based on pre-approved cost estimates and must submit receipts for reimbursement. In accordance with reporting requirements in the funding agreement, Kanabec SWCD will track key learning or networking outcomes - participants receiving funding will be asked to provide feedback on what they learned and how they plan to apply it to their farming practices. The funding must be used by September 30, 2025.
    - **Funding is still available! We sent 3 farmers to the Midwest Soil Health and Grazing Summit.**

### **Annual or Ongoing Funding to Consider Applying For**

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