



North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District  
505 3<sup>rd</sup> St N, Ste A  
Virginia MN 55792

Regular Meeting Minutes  
June 10, 2026

*The meeting was held in person at the District office. A virtual link was available.*

**Supervisors Present at Roll Call:** Chuck Bainter, Jerry Hovi, Frank Modich, Peggy Pearson, and Mark Peterson were present in person.

**Staff Present In Person:** Anita Provinzino, District Administrator; Corey Denning; Resource Conservationist; and Miranda Frenning, Accounting & Human Resources Specialist.

**Staff Present Online:** Tristan Nelson, Supervisory Regional Farm Bill Forester; Rachel Poppe, District Forester; Jon Utecht, AIS Program Coordinator; and Kaela Veihman, SLR Watershed Conservationist.

**Others Present:** Melanie Bomier, BWSR was present online. Blake Bartz, NRCS was present in person.

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m. by Chair, Peggy Pearson.

1. **Agenda** - Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – Moved by Jerry Hovi/Frank Modich to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **Financial Reports & Program Summary** – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Mark Peterson to accept the financial reports and program summary. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **Accounts Receivable and Payable** – Moved by Jerry Hovi/Chuck Bainter to approve the accounts payable and accounts receivable as updated 6/10/26. Motion carried unanimously.
5. **Guest Introductions and Comments** - Melanie Bomier indicated that BWSR anticipates sending grant agreements in July for the next round of Lake Superior Capacity funding.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

6. **BWSR Application to Managing Invasives for a Resilient Landscape Program & Board Resolution 2026-10** – Moved by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve Board Resolution 2026-10 authorizing an application up to \$30,000, with a 10% match, for removing invasive species. Motion carried unanimously.
7. **Financial - 4M Fund Joint Powers Agreement & Board Resolution 2026-11** – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to approve membership in the Minnesota Municipal Money Market (4M) Fund. Motion carried unanimously.
8. **MPCA 75% Cost Share Contract #05-26-01 for 20-acre woodland stewardship plan in the amount of \$375.00 utilizing 22 MPCA 319 funds** – Moved by Frank Modich/Jerry Hovi to approve contract #05-26-01 paying up to 75% of the DNR plan rate for a 20-acre woodland stewardship plan or \$375.00, whichever is less. Motion carried unanimously.
9. **Policies**
  - a. **Artificial Intelligence Use** – Moved by Frank Modich/Mark Peterson to approve this policy on artificial intelligence usage that was reviewed by the county attorney. Motion carried unanimously.
  - b. **Limited English Proficiency** – Moved by Jerry Hovi/Chuck Bainter to approve this policy on serving people with limited English proficiency that was reviewed by the county attorney. Motion carried unanimously.
10. **Upcoming Supervisor Meetings and/or Trainings**
  - a. Technical Service Area III – June 24
  - b. Little Fork Policy Committee – June 25 – Chuck informed the board of this meeting.

11. **Other** – No other business.

**REPORTS:**

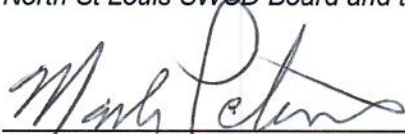
12. **Surface Water Assessment Grants (SWAG)** – Corey Denning, Resource Conservationist – Corey showed a presentation on MPCA SWAG work that he and others in the District have been working on. The grant allows for lake and stream water samples in the Rainy Headwaters, Vermilion and Cloquet watersheds. Before and after photos of a shoreline restoration project on Sand Lake in the Little Fork watershed were also shown. The project has generated a lot of interest from neighbors.
13. **Monthly Progress Report** – See report on file
14. **Natural Resources Conservation Service Report** – Blake Bartz reported that an ASUS forester will start in June. While EQIP/CSP funding was down for the Arrowhead region, NRCS staff are processing the contracts that have been awarded.
15. **Supervisor & Committee Reports**
  - a. **Area 3 Spring Meeting – June 5** – Peggy and Anita reported on the BWSR and NRCS reports given at the meeting and that the TSA funding resolution passed but the prescribed fire one did not. Handouts were emailed previously.
  - b. **Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development – May 18** – Peggy was unable to login due to issues had by many.
  - c. **MN SWCD Forestry Association – May 21** – Mark reported on the speakers: Kelly Jorgenson – Forest Carbon Works ([forestcarbonworks.org](http://forestcarbonworks.org)) and Kevin Flowers - Prescribed burning, Sustainable Farming Association ([sfa-mn.org](http://sfa-mn.org)). He also indicated they brainstormed topics and presenters for future meetings. Draft minutes were emailed previously.
  - d. **Personnel Committee – June 10** – Chuck reported that the committee met with Anita this morning to review the District Administrator job description as follow up from the strategic plan.
  - e. **RHV Policy Committee – June 1** – Chuck and Anita reported the committee approved a revision to the budget that allows funding transfers between partners so that Cook County will be able to complete 1-2 culvert replacements this summer that are negatively impacting water quality.
  - f. **Other** – Chuck and Peggy reported that Tristan ran the Local Work Group meeting efficiently. There were about 20 people who attended and set priorities for the upcoming year including forestry and agriculture.

**CLOSING:**

16. **Confirm Next Meeting** – July 8, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.
17. **Adjourn** – Moved by Chuck Bainter/Frank Modich to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m. Motion carried unanimously.

*Certification of Recording Officer*

*I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the meeting minutes approved by the North St Louis SWCD Board and that I am duly authorized to make this certification.*



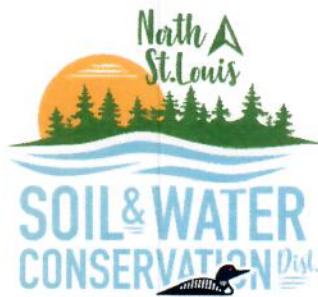
Mark Peterson, Secretary  
July 8, 2026

| North St Louis SWCD Accounts Receivable |                                  |                    |                                           |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 6/4/2026                                |                                  |                    |                                           |
| Date                                    | Receivable From:                 | Amount:            | Notes:                                    |
| 5/31/2026                               | St. Louis County                 | \$33,008.26        | May Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention   |
| 5/8/2026                                | St. Louis County                 | \$9,038.84         | April Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention |
| 6/2/2026                                | From Savings to Checking         | \$10,714.56        | 25 BWSR Conservation Contracts            |
| 5/31/2026                               | Vermilion Lake Association       | \$1,587.83         | Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention       |
|                                         | Checking Account Receivable      | <b>\$54,349.49</b> |                                           |
|                                         | Flex Account Receivable          | \$427.16           | Employee withholding reimbursements       |
|                                         | RHV 1W1P Receivable              | \$0.00             |                                           |
|                                         | RHV CD Receivable                | \$0.00             |                                           |
|                                         | Savings Account Receivable       | \$0.00             |                                           |
|                                         | <b>Total Accounts Receivable</b> | <b>\$54,776.65</b> |                                           |

| North St Louis SWCD Accounts Payable |                                                 |                    |                                             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 6/4/2026                             |                                                 |                    |                                             |
| Date                                 | Payable To:                                     | Amount:            | Notes:                                      |
| 5/31/2026                            | Always There Staffing                           | \$34,666.63        | watercraft inspector training               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Birch Forest Lodge                              | \$261.00           | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Cardmember Service 1                            | \$1,925.75         | see attached                                |
| 5/31/2026                            | Cardmember Service 2                            | \$45.15            | see attached                                |
| 5/31/2026                            | Fortune Bay Resort Casino                       | \$27.00            | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Glenmore Resort                                 | \$162.00           | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Grubens                                         | \$90.00            | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Head-O-Lake Resort                              | \$540.00           | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Innovo Benefits Administration                  | \$1,217.94         | employee elected benefit                    |
| 6/11/2026                            | <i>Internal Revenue Service</i>                 | <i>\$8,868.08</i>  | <i>withholding</i>                          |
| 6/25/2026                            | Internal Revenue Service                        | <b>\$8,450.00</b>  | withholding                                 |
| 5/31/2026                            | Island View Resort                              | \$27.00            | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Jake Bendel                                     | \$147.80           | mileage and boat rental                     |
| 5/31/2026                            | JDAP Holdings LLC                               | \$1,781.74         | rent                                        |
| 6/10/2026                            | Kaela Veihman                                   | \$46.40            | mileage                                     |
| 5/31/2026                            | Matthew Gardner                                 | \$21,526.39        | forestry practices 75% cost share payment   |
| 5/31/2026                            | MN Dept of Natural Resources                    | \$5,052.00         | tree stock and shipping                     |
| 6/11/2026                            | <i>MN Dept of Revenue</i>                       | <i>\$1,605.00</i>  | <i>withholding</i>                          |
| 6/25/2026                            | MN Dept of Revenue                              | <b>\$1,535.00</b>  | withholding                                 |
| 6/11/2026                            | <i>MN State Retirement System</i>               | <i>\$1,480.00</i>  | <i>Deferred Compensation</i>                |
| 6/25/2026                            | <i>MN State Retirement System</i>               | <i>\$1,480.00</i>  | <i>Deferred Compensation</i>                |
| 5/31/2026                            | Pace Analytical                                 | \$467.00           | SWAG sampling                               |
| 6/11/2026                            | PERA                                            | \$4,063.27         | Retirement                                  |
| 6/25/2026                            | PERA                                            | <b>\$3,833.00</b>  | Retirement                                  |
| 5/31/2026                            | Prairie Restorations                            | \$22,705.00        | brush saw release 5 sites - DNR CPL Snow    |
| 6/10/2026                            | <i>Prairie Restorations</i>                     | <i>\$2,232.00</i>  | <i>site prep for DNR CPL Trezona</i>        |
| 5/31/2026                            | QuickBooks Payroll Service                      | \$32.00            | monthly fee                                 |
| 6/11/2026                            | <i>QuickBooks Payroll Service</i>               | <i>\$24,419.59</i> | <i>payroll</i>                              |
| 6/25/2026                            | QuickBooks Payroll Service                      | <b>\$21,850.00</b> | payroll                                     |
| 6/10/2026                            | Rachel Poppe                                    | \$219.24           | mileage                                     |
| 5/31/2026                            | Retreat Lodge                                   | \$486.00           | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | Ron Bushbaum                                    | \$750.00           | well sealing 50% cost share payment         |
| 5/31/2026                            | Shangri-La Resort                               | \$63.00            | surveys @ \$9                               |
| 5/31/2026                            | St. Louis County Public Works - Cook            | \$65.43            | April fuel                                  |
| 5/31/2026                            | <i>St. Louis County Public Works - Virginia</i> | <i>\$1,167.48</i>  | <i>May fuel</i>                             |
| 5/31/2026                            | Steven Cerkvenik                                | \$2,126.25         | shoreline restoration 75% cost sharepayment |
| 5/31/2026                            | Trudy Hendricks                                 | \$12.00            | partial refund, tree sale                   |
| 5/31/2026                            | Tusker Co (formerly Citon Computer)             | \$459.21           | M365 on autopay                             |
| 5/31/2026                            | U of M Regents                                  | \$125.00           | Membership Sustainable Forest Education     |
| 5/31/2026                            | Vermilion Houseboats                            | \$54.00            | surveys @ \$9                               |

Updated 06/10/26

| Date             | Payable To:                        | Amount:             | Notes:                                         |
|------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 5/31/2026        | Virginia Public Utilities          | \$92.14             | utilities                                      |
| 5/31/2026        | Whispering Winds Resort            | \$162.00            | surveys @ \$9                                  |
|                  |                                    | <b>\$176,318.49</b> |                                                |
| <b>TRANSFERS</b> |                                    |                     |                                                |
| 6/11/2026        | From Checking to Flex Plan Account | \$213.58            | payroll deduction for employee elected benefit |
| 6/25/2026        | From Checking to Flex Plan Account | \$213.58            | payroll deduction for employee elected benefit |
|                  |                                    | <b>\$427.16</b>     |                                                |
| 6/15/2026        | From RHV 1W1P to Checking          | \$21,526.39         | Landowner Payment - June                       |
| 6/15/2026        | From RHV 1W1P to Checking          | \$12,000.00         | Last month's expenses                          |
|                  | <b>From RHV 1W1P to Checking</b>   | <b>\$33,526.39</b>  |                                                |
|                  | From Checking to Savings           |                     |                                                |
|                  | <b>TOTAL Savings Receivable</b>    | <b>\$0.00</b>       |                                                |
| 6/15/2026        | From Savings to Checking           | \$2,876.25          | 26 BWSR Conservation Contracts payments        |
| 6/2/2026         | From Savings to Checking           | \$10,714.56         | 25 BWSR Conservation Contracts (closeout)      |
|                  | <b>TOTAL Checking Receivable</b>   | <b>\$13,590.81</b>  |                                                |
|                  | <b>Total Accounts Payable</b>      | <b>\$223,862.85</b> |                                                |



## Resolution 2026-10

### North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District

505 3<sup>rd</sup> St N, Ste A  
Virginia MN 55792  
(218) 288-6144  
[www.nslswcd.org](http://www.nslswcd.org)

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has an open Request for Proposal for Managing Invasives for a Resilient Landscape (MIRL), and

**WHEREAS**, this BWSR program provides funding to support collaborative efforts that manage terrestrial invasive plant species and reestablish resilient native vegetation; and

**WHEREAS**, the District staff have discussed a joint program with St. Louis County and intend to develop and submit a proposal that would support the restoration of native plant communities in areas impacted by terrestrial invasive or noxious weeds; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal would be for up to \$30,000 invasive species work and the partnership with St Louis County would provide the required 10% match; and

**WHEREAS**, the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District desires to accept this funding, if awarded.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the North St Louis Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors authorizes the staff to apply for and the District Administrator or Board Chair to secure and sign all documents related to any such award.

Motion Made by: *Madich*  
Seconded by: *Peterson*

Affirmative: *Bainter, Hovi, Madich, Pearson, Peterson*

Opposed: *None*

*Certification of Recording Officer*

*I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the North St Louis SWCD Board on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026 and that I am duly authorized to execute this certificate.*

Mark Peterson, Board Secretary



**North St. Louis  
Soil and Water Conservation District**  
505 3<sup>rd</sup> St N, Ste A  
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## Resolution Authorizing Membership in the 4M Fund

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statutes (the Joint Powers Act) provides that governmental units may jointly exercise any power common to the contracting parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Municipal Money Market Fund (the 4M Fund) was formed in 1987, pursuant to the Joint Powers Act and in accordance with Minnesota Investment Statutes, by the adoption of a joint powers agreement in the form of a Declaration of Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, the Declaration of Trust, which has been presented to this Board, authorizes municipalities of the State of Minnesota to become Participants of the Fund and make use from time to time including the 4M Liquid Asset Class, the 4M Plus Class, the Term Series, the 4M Limited Term Duration Fund, the Fixed Rate Programs, and other Fund services offered by the Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board deems it to be in the best interest for the District to make use of, from time to time, the approved services provided by the 4M Fund's service providers including the Investment Advisor (PMA Asset Management, LLC), the Administrator (PMA Financial Network, LLC) the Distributor (PMA Securities, LLC) or the Fixed Rate Program Providers, PMA Financial Network, LLC and PMA Securities, LLC and the Custodian, U.S. Bank National Association, ("Service Providers") and/or their successors.

**WHEREAS**, this Board deems it advisable for the District to enter into the Declaration of Trust and become a Participant of the Fund for the purpose of joint investment with other municipalities so as to enhance the investment earnings accruing to each;

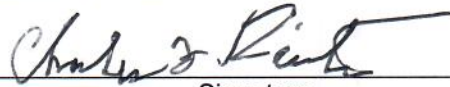
### NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

**Section 1.** The North St. Louis Soil & Water Conservation District shall become a Participant of the Fund and adopt and enter into the Declaration of Trust, a copy of which shall be filed with the minutes of this meeting. The appropriate officials are hereby authorized to execute those documents necessary to effectuate entry into the Declaration of Trust and the participation of all Fund programs.

**Section 2.** The District is authorized to invest monies from time to time and to withdraw such monies from time to time in accordance with the provisions of the Declaration of Trust. The following officers of the District or their successors are designated as "Authorized Officials" with authority to effectuate investments and withdrawals in accordance with the Declaration of Trust:

Charles Bainter, Board Treasurer

Name, Title

  
Signature

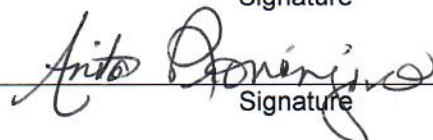
Frank Modich, Board Supervisor

Name, Title

  
Signature

Anita Provinzino, District Administrator

Name, Title

  
Signature

The District Administrator shall advise the Fund of any changes in Authorized Officials in accordance with Fund procedures.

*Our mission is to engage people in the stewardship of our natural resources*

**Section 3.** The Trustees of the Fund are designated as having official custody of those monies invested in accordance with the Declaration of Trust.

**Section 4.** That the District may open depository and other accounts, enter into wire transfer agreements, safekeeping agreements, third party surety agreements securing deposits, collateral agreements, letters of credit, lockbox agreements, or other applicable or related documents with institutions participating in Fund programs including U.S. Bank National Association, or its successor, or programs of PMA Financial Network, LLC or PMA Securities, LLC for the purpose of transaction clearing and safekeeping, or the purchase of certificates of deposit ("CDs") or other deposit products and that these institutions shall be deemed eligible depositories for the District. PMA Financial Network, LLC and PMA Securities, LLC and their successors are authorized to act on behalf of the District as its agent with respect to such accounts and agreements. Monies of the District may be deposited in such depositories, from time to time in the discretion of the Authorized Officials, pursuant to the Fund's Programs available through its Services Providers.

Motion Made by: Hovi

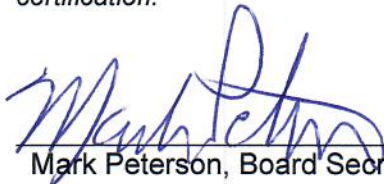
Seconded by: Peterson

Affirmative: Bainter, Hovi, Madrich, Pearson, Peterson

Opposed: none

*Certification of Recording Officer*

*I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the North St Louis SWCD Board held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026, and that I am duly authorized to execute this certification.*



Mark Peterson, Board Secretary