Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
805 N. Hwy. 44/76, Suite 1
Caledonia, MN 55921
(507) 724-5261 ext. 3
https://www.co.houston.mn.us/departments/soil-and-water/

MISSION STATEMENT

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District's mission is to provide assistance to cooperators in managing the natural resources on their land. In addition, the district will continue to educate people on local conservation issues and concerns, in order to fortify and perpetuate the conservation movement.

Agenda

January 8, 2026 1:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Ag Service Center, Caledonia, MN

2025 Officers

Ken Anderson	Chair	**Finance Committee:** Driscoll & Welke	**Mississippi River – Winona/**
Matt Feldmeier	Vice-Chair	**Personnel Committee:** Feldmeier & Kruse	**La Crescent 1W1P:** Welke
Joe Driscoll	Secretary	**TSA7 Committee [JPB]:** Welke	***Alternate*** *- Driscoll*
Jerry Welke	Treasurer	**Root River One Watershed, One Plan:** Kruse	
Glenn Kruse	Reporter	***Alternate*** **-** *Feldmeier*	

1:00 P.M. Call meeting to order.

Flag Pledge

Officers & Appointments

Election of Officers for 2026

Chair

Vice – Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Reporter

Committee Appointments for 2026

Finance Committee:

Personnel Committee:

TSA7 Committee:

Root River One Watershed, One Plan *and Alternate:*

Mississippi River – Winona/La Crescent 1W1P *and Alternate:*

Meeting Date & Time: Hold monthly Root River SWCD board meetings on the second Thursday of the month at10:00 a.m. May – October and 1:00 p.m. November – April at the Ag Service Center in Caledonia, Minnesota – *Action requested*

Minutes

Chair call for additions or corrections to the December 11, 2025 board meeting minutes.

Employee Time Records: Chair call for a motion to approve Employee Time Records.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer recommend the December 2025 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

AGENCY REPORTS

Zack Glaunert, Quail Forever & Pheasants Forever Report

Jeremy Burt, Houston County Environmental Services Report

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Report

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

PROGRAM REPORT

- WCA – *Update*
- Buffer Law – *Update*

PROGRAM REPORT – Bob Scanlan, MDA

- MDA Spring Grove Twp. Walkover - *Update*

MASWCD & MACDE

WATERSHED UPDATES

Crooked Creek – Update

Root River 1W1P - Update

Winnebago - Update

WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent) 1W1P - Update

PROGRAM & STAFF REPORTS

Jean Meiners, Technician

- MDA Private Well Mitigation (RO Systems) – *Update*
- MDH Safe Drinking Water Tap-In – *Update*
- MDH Well Inventory Grant – *Update*
- BMP Projects – *Update*

Dan Wermager, Technician

- Alliance Grant – *Update*
- I-90 Soil Health Tour – *Update*

Janice Messner, Administrative Assistant

- Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network – *Update*
- Trees – *Update*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: *Update*

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: *Update*

TSA7 *(Joint Powers)* COMMITTEE: *Update*

- Meeting January 28, 2026

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

1. WinLaC Sub-Agreement Amendments – *Approval requested*
   - *Winona County*
   - *Southeast Minnesota Technical Support Joint Powers Board*

2. Supervisor Per Diem - $125/meeting – *Approval requested*

3. MASWCD FY26 Dues - $7,654.59 – *Approval requested*

4. 2025 Year-End Financial Audit Bid - $ for District and $ for WinLaC 1W1P – *Approval requested to accept the bid*

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$20,247.59**

FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share Payment Request

Name	Project/Contract #	Total Cost Estimate	Actual Project Cost	Request
Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC	24FY24RR1W1P Grassed Waterway	$32,898.00	$27,775.25	$27,775.25 @ 90% = $24,997.73 EQIP = $19,625.60 Crooked Creek Watershed District = $3,500.00 Cost Share Allocated to project = $5,879.20 **Payment Amount Approved = $1,872.13** *Slippage for reallocation = $4,007.07*

FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share – Remaining balance $24,254.66

ARPA – *(Spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$ 10,688.59**

Conservation Contracts *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY26 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$21,720.80**
FY27 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$23,690.00**

MDH TAP-IN COST SHARE FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding at 50% or 100% of cost estimate)*
MDH Tap- In Cost Share Grant *(Grant expiration 4/1/2027) Funds Available*

WINLAC 1W1P COST SHARE PROGRAM *(Funding percentage based on ranking)*
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Ag Practices Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$24,500.00**
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Non-Structural Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$7,500.00**
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Vegetative Management & Pollinator Planting Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$5,000.00**
WinLaC 1W1P CRP *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$2,000.00**

*****Accounts Payable:*****
Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5115	Ron Carlsen – Rent – January	$ 1,287.00
5116	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	$
5117	VISA –	$
5118	Hoscheit Dairy Farms LLC - #24FY24RR1W1P – Grassed Waterway	$ 1,872.13
5119	Iowa DNR State Forest Nursery - Trees	$ 265.00
5120	MN Counties Intergovernmental Trust – Liability Ins = $3,878.00 Worker's Compensation = $3,599.00	$ 7,477.00
5121	MASWCD – FY26 Dues	$ 7,654.59
5122	Quill LLC - Office Supplies	$
5123	Petty Cash – Meals = $0.23; Education = $0.16	$ 0.39
		$
		$
		$
	Total	***$***
	Transfer of Funds from Cash General Fund to Bear Creek Watershed Investment Acct. 10033399	$ 1,000.00
	Transfer of Funds from Cash General Fund to Winnebago Watershed Investment Acct. 10033340	$ 1,000.00

***** WinLaC 1W1P Accounts Payable *****
Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable and transfer of funds

Voucher #	Item	Amount
55	Fillmore SWCD – FY25 Technical 4th Qtr. 2025	$ 1,731.60
	Root River SWCD – FY23 Technical 4th Qtr. 2025 = $359.52; FY25 Admin 4th Qtr. 2025 = $181.31; CRP Admin 4th Qtr 2025 = $16.48	$ 557.31
		$
	Total	***$***
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 8115 (FY23) to Cash General Fund	$
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 9623 (FY25) to Cash General Fund	$

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, February 12, 2026, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center

Root River Soil and Water Conservation District

Agricultural Service Center
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MISSION STATEMENT

The Root River Soil and Water Conservation District's mission is to provide assistance to cooperators in managing the natural resources on their land. In addition, the district will continue to educate people on local conservation issues and concerns, in order to fortify and perpetuate the conservation movement.

Agenda

February 12, 2026 1:00 p.m. Regular Meeting
Ag Service Center, Caledonia, MN

2026 Officers

Ken Anderson	Chair	**Finance Committee:** Driscoll & Welke	**Mississippi River – Winona/ La Crescent 1W1P:** Welke
Matt Feldmeier	Vice-Chair	**Personnel Committee:** Feldmeier & Kruse	***Alternate*** *- Driscoll*
Joe Driscoll	Secretary	**TSA7 Committee [JPB]:** Welke	
Jerry Welke	Treasurer	**Root River One Watershed, One Plan:** Kruse	
Glenn Kruse	Reporter	***Alternate*** *- Feldmeier*	

1:00 P.M. Call meeting to order.

Flag Pledge

Minutes
Chair call for additions or corrections to the January 8, 2026 board meeting minutes.

Employee Time Records: Chair call for a motion to approve Employee Time Records.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer recommend the January 2025 Treasurer's Report be placed on file for audit.

AGENCY REPORTS

Dave Copeland, Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR)

Zack Glaunert, Quail Forever & Pheasants Forever Report

Jeremy Burt, Houston County Environmental Services Report

Ryan Hytry, NRCS Report

Dave Walter, District Manager Report

PROGRAM REPORT

- WCA – *Update*

- Buffer Law – *Update*

PROGRAM REPORT – Bob Scanlan, MDA

- MDA Spring Grove Twp. Walkover - *Update*

MASWCD & MACDE

- MASWCD Legislative Briefing, March 17, 2026, Radisson Hotel Downtown St. Paul. *Registration Deadline March 6, 2026.*
  MASWCD's 2026 legislative priorities include:
  - *State funding for district through SWCD Aid.*
  - *Capital investment/bonding dollars for RIM easements, including funding for asset preservation for existing wetland easements.*

  SWCD Day At The Capitol, March 18, 2026.

- SE MACDE Spring Meeting, Tuesday, March 24, 2026 Goodhue County

WATERSHED UPDATES

Crooked Creek – Update

Root River 1W1P **-** Update

Winnebago **-** Update

WinLaC (Mississippi River Winona/La Crescent) 1W1P **-** Update

PROGRAM & STAFF REPORTS

Jean Meiners, Technician

- MDA Private Well Mitigation (RO Systems) – *Update*

- MDH Safe Drinking Water Tap-In – *Update*

- MDH Well Inventory Grant – *Update*

- BMP Projects – *Update*

Dan Wermager, Technician

- Alliance Grant – *Update*

- I-90 Soil Health Tour – *Update*

Janice Messner, Administrative Assistant

- Volunteer Nitrate Monitoring Network – *Update*
- Trees – *Update*
- Rain Gauge Monitoring - *Update*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE: *Update*

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: *Update*

TSA7 *(Joint Powers)* COMMITTEE:

- Meeting January 28, 2026 - *Update*

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS & ACTION ITEMS

1. 2026 Envirothon Dues - $175.00 – *Approval requested*
2. FY25 Conservation Investment National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) – *Discussion*
   Member = $1 - $774 *Gold = $775 - $1,775* *Diamond = $1,776 - $3,000* *Platinum = $3,001 +*
3. SE SWCD Technical Support JPB 2026 Annual Membership Dues - $4,000.00 – *Approval requested*
4. SWCD Personnel Policy – *Approval requested*
5. WinLaC 1W1P 2026 RAQ Webapp hosting contract, fee $125.00 – *Approval requested*

COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1W1P ROOT RIVER WATERSHED-BASE IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY24 Root River 1W1P Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$ 24,254.66**

ARPA – *(Spending expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$ 6,469.39**

Conservation Contracts *(Funding up to 90% of cost estimate with or without other non-state funding source)*
FY26 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$21,720.80**
FY27 Conservation Contracts *(Grant expiration 12/31/2028) Available Funds* **$23,690.00**

MDH TAP-IN COST SHARE FUNDING PROGRAM *(Funding at 50% or 100% of cost estimate)*
MDH Tap- In Cost Share Grant *(Grant expiration 4/1/2027) Funds Available*

WINLAC 1W1P COST SHARE PROGRAM *(Funding percentage based on ranking)*
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Ag Practices Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$24,500.00**
FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Non-Structural Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$7,500.00**

FY25 WinLaC 1W1P Vegetative Management & Pollinator Planting Cost Share *(Grant expiration 12/31/2027) Available Funds* **$5,000.00**

WinLaC 1W1P CRP *(Grant expiration 12/31/2026) Available Funds* **$2,000.00**

****Accounts Payable:*****

Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
5127	Ron Carlsen – Rent – February	$ 1,287.00
5128	Kwik Trip – Fuel – SWCD Trucks	$ 79.10
5129	VISA – Annual Fee = $25.00; Postage = $186.61; MDH Well Index Postage = $310.39; Root River 1W1P Civic Engagement Expenses = $386.31	$ 908.31
5130	Goodhue SWCD – Envirothon Dues	$ 175.00
5131	Houston County Treasurer – License Plate Renewal 2017 GMC	$ 21.25
5132	SE SWCD Technical Support JPB – 2026 Annual Membership Dues	$ 4,000.00
5133	Houston County Recorder – Recording fee	$ 46.00
5134	Quill LLC – Office Supplies	$ 139.97
		$
	Total	***$ 6,656.63***

***** WinLaC 1W1P Accounts Payable *****

Chair call for a motion to approve accounts payable and transfer of funds.

Voucher #	Item	Amount
57	TSA7 – FY25 Technical 4th Qtr. 2025	$ 17,689.15
58	Wabasha SWCD – FY25 Technical 3rd & 4th Qtrs 2025 = $5,646.92; FY25 Proj Dev 3rd & 4th Qtrs 2025 = $1,051.61; FY25 Projects Non-Structual Walkes, Roger = $5,143.00; FY25 Projects Non-Structual Walkes, Rachel = $1,655.83; FY25 Projects Ag Practices Partial Payment Reiter $1,857.59; FY23 Projects Non-Structual Walkes, Roger = $857.00; FY25 WinLaC CRP Contracts 2025WinLaC-Wab-CRP1 – 2025WinLaC-Wab-CRP9 = $1,00/each = $9,000.00	$ 25,211.95
59	Olmsted SWCD – FY25 Projects Well Decommissioning – Contract #25WinLaC-Olm-01 = $2,686.88; Contract #25WinLaC-Olm-02 = $3,000.00	$ 5,686.88
60	Wabasha Forestry Committee – FY25 Education – Wabasha Forestry Day sponsorship 2/13/26	$ 500.00
61	Brinks Wetland Services LLC – FY25 Project Development - WinLaC RAQ webapp 2026	$ 125.00
	Total	***$ 49,212.98***
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 8115 (FY23) to Cash General Fund	$ 1,857.59
	Transfer of funds from Eitzen State Bank Acct # 9623 (FY25) to Cash General Fund	$ 37,498.39

Adjournment

NEXT MEETING -- Regular Meeting, March 12, 2026, 1:00 p.m. Ag Service Center