



## MASWCD South Central Area 6

Area Director: Bob Nielsen

June 25, South Central Services Cooperative, North Mankato

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*MASWCD is a nonprofit organization which exists to provide leadership, educational opportunities and a common voice for Minnesota's soil and water conservation districts.*

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### MASWCD SOUTH CENTRAL AREA 6

Blue Earth SWCD  
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Brown SWCD  
(507) 794.2553

Faribault SWCD  
(507) 526.2388

LeSueur SWCD  
(507) 419.0365

Martin SWCD  
(507) 235.6680

McLeod SWCD  
(320) 864.1214

Nicollet SWCD  
(507) 232.2550

Renville SWCD  
(320) 523.1559

Sibley SWCD  
(507) 702.7077

Waseca SWCD  
(507) 835.0603

Watonwan SWCD  
(507) 375.1225

### AGENDA

#### 8:30 Registration & Refreshments

#### 9:00 Call to Order and Welcome: Area Director

- Action on agenda, previous meeting minutes, and treasurer's report
- Area VI Budget
- Introduction of Resolutions from Area Member SWCDs
  - *Read only – action taken later in agenda*

#### 9:30 MASWCD 2026 Focus Areas – Area Director and MASWCD Staff (15 minutes)

Each year the MASWCD Board of Directors identifies focus areas which align with the mission, vision and strategic areas of the Association, take into consideration timely and relevant resolutions and legislative activity, and build off MASWCD's ongoing work plan. Details of the 2026 focus areas will be explained, and SWCDs will be asked for feedback.

#### 9:45 MASWCD Advocacy Campaign for SWCD Aid – MASWCD Staff (20 minutes)

MASWCD has launched a 2-year campaign for SWCD Aid advocacy to lay the groundwork for a 2027 legislative proposal to increase this important state funding source. In conjunction with this campaign, MASWCD formed a cohort of SWCD representatives from across the state who will be building their skills in communication and outreach with lawmakers. Information on this initiative will be shared, followed by discussions around effective advocacy in campaign season.

#### 10:05 Clean Water Council's Budget Recommendation Process for Clean Water Fund Spending in the 2028-229 biennium – MASWCD Staff and Attendees (30 minutes)

Every two years, the Clean Water Council develops recommendations to the legislature on how to appropriate Clean Water Funding. Learn about the status of the current process, how important items like Watershed Based Implementation Funding (WBIF) are being discussed. SWCDs will be asked to share information on the status of their local WBIF efforts.

#### 10:35 Break (10 min)

#### 10:45 Watonwan SWCD Presentation – Carrie Schultz (15 minutes)

#### 11:00 Soil Health Program – Jerad Bach (20 minutes)

#### 11:20 RCPP Round Robin – All area SWCD's (25 minutes)

Please review round robin discussion ideas

#### 11:45 Debate and Action on Proposed Resolutions (15 minutes)

Please review Resolution Guidelines and "Things to Consider During Resolution Debate"

#### 12:00 Lunch (30 minutes)

#### 12:30 Adjourn

## **Area VI Appointment of committees**

Chair – Robert Nielsen (Sibley)

Vice Chair – Carol Krosch (Blue Earth)

Secretary/Treasurer – Mark Koenig (Renville)

Budget and Finance Committee – Mark Koenig (Renville), John Adamek (McLeod), Paul Wiemann (Sibley), Randy Feist (Faribault) - Met on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Legislative Committee – Robert Nielsen (Sibley), Carol Krosch (Blue Earth), Bill Anderson (Faribault), Ken Mader (LeSueur) - Meetings are TBD

## **RCPP Round Robin Discussion Ideas**

1. What has been the biggest success and failure from the RCPP soil health program?
2. Was anything easier or harder than expected?
3. What has been the biggest challenge for your SWCD?
4. Did partners respond to your request timely?
5. Did districts have enough staffing capacity to manage the funds?
6. What practices were producers most interested in?"
7. How did you do outreach and was it successful?
8. Which soil health practices saw the highest implementation?
9. What technical assistance gaps were there, if any?
10. How well did collaboration work between SWCDs, NRCS, and FSA?
11. What would you change if anything about the program?
12. Did you see more new vs old adopters?

## Things to consider during resolution debate

### Relevance

- Is the proposed policy relevant to the mission, goals, and objectives of the organization?
- Does the policy address a real need?
- Is the policy consistent with the stated values of the board or program?
- Does it comply with administrative/legal requirements?

### Effectiveness

- Will the proposed policy address the problem or need?
- Is this the best approach?
- Are there alternative policies?
- What are the costs/benefits of each alternative?

### Capability

- Can the Association and/or members implement the activities suggested by the proposed policy?
- Will additional expertise be needed?

### Costs/Resources

- How much will it cost to implement?
- Can funds be found to support it?
- Will the policy require reallocation of funds?
- What are the opportunity costs of this policy?

### Ramifications

- What might be the unanticipated consequences of this policy? What might be the consequences of that choice for others? The side effects?
- How would the policy impact staff? Constituents? Funding?
- Is there community support?

### Other?

- Supposing you can't have everything, what would you choose?
- Does anyone have a different view?
- What seems to be the key point here?

**How would we know if we were successful in implementing it/what does success look like and is that vision of success articulated in the resolution?**