

Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.
Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
November 20th, 2025
Golden Sands RC&D Office/Online

Attendees: Bob Walker (Member-at-Large); Al Drabek (Marathon); Bill Leichtnam (Wood); Gary Beastrom (Member-at-Large); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Claire Harwood (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jenna Tuma (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Bill Clendenning (Wood); Katherine Jaeger (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Todd Morris (Green Lake); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Shane Wucherpfennig (Wood); Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Nancy Eggleston (Portage); Ben Babcock (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Amanda Gurklis (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Robert Bauer (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Jared Mader (Marathon); Steve Hubbard (Wisconsin Forestry Center).

CALL TO ORDER: President Wucherpfennig called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS: Everyone introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to approve the minutes from the September 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hilgart presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made by Eggleston, which was seconded by Walker, to accept the report and place it on file. Motion carried.

WI RC&D ASSOCIATION: Glad reported that the other RC&Ds are open to opportunities to collaborate. Clendenning encouraged RC&D representation at the Wisconsin Counties Association and Wisconsin Townships Association annual meetings.

FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS: Glad discussed impacts of the recent federal government shutdown. There was an impact on staffing and projects, along with slow reimbursements that adversely affected cash flow. Potential sources of revenue outside of federal contracts are being explored to reduce dependence on federal funding.

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Glad reported that three counties have not yet paid 2025 dues, and efforts are being made to seek at least partial payment. Invoices for 2026 dues will be sent out soon.

FORM 990: Thorstenson reviewed highlights of the document.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Each of the four standing committees reviewed its actions from meetings held just before the full board meeting.

MEETING DATES FOR 2026: A motion was made by Walker, which was seconded by Drabek, to set the meeting dates for 2026. Motion carried. The 2026 meeting dates are January 15th, March 19th, May 21st, July 16th, September 17th, and November 19th.

ALLIANCE FOR GREAT LAKES AND CLEAN WISCONSIN: Leichtnam led a discussion of the nitrate-related aspects of a report and a letter to state legislators that was developed by the Central Sands Groundwater County Collaborative, which represents four central Wisconsin counties. A motion was made by Leichtnam, which was seconded by Clendenning, to create a letter on behalf of Golden Sands RC&D modeled after Central Sands Groundwater County Collaboration recommendations. A sub-committee, coordinated by Glad, will create the letter. Motion carried.

NEW PROJECTS: None.

STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES: Glad reminded attendees that staff activity reports were included with information sent out prior to the meeting.

AGENCY/PARTNER REPORTS: Steve Hubbard, Director of Wisconsin Forestry Center, talked about the organization and opportunities to work collaboratively with Golden Sands RC&D, such as on a project being developed in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

OTHER REPORTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Wucherpfennig, which was seconded by Drabek, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary