

**Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.**  
**Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**July 17th, 2025**  
**Boston School Forest/Online**

**Attendees:** Brent Tessmer (Taylor); Jennifer Glad (Golden Sands RC&D); Denise Hilgart (Golden Sands RC&D); Brooke Patrick (Golden Sands RC&D); Asher Maliepaard (Golden Sands RC&D); Jacob Abrahamson (Golden Sands RC&D); Kristin McAdow (Golden Sands RC&D); Natalie Grueben (Golden Sands RC&D); Gary Beastram (Member-at-Large); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D).

**CALL TO ORDER:** Tessmer called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Everyone introduced themselves.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Beastram, which was seconded by Tessmer, to approve the May 2025 minutes. Motion carried.

**STAFF & COUNTY MEMBER UPDATES:**

**Tessmer (Taylor):** Updates included wetland projects, manure storage, and wild parsnip treatments.

**Maliepaard:** He explained that there were very impactful events, such as the Bison Pasture Walk. Since most events have happened, it is now time that they focus on projects. He is also working on a new grant that was submitted two days prior to this meeting.

**Patrick:** She explained that she is currently working on grants that have a due date in September. She also talked about the various events that had taken place so far this summer such as the 'Back to Basic' farm tour.

**Grueben:** She discussed working on follow ups with farmers, working on a podcast, and working on a map to help show progress of grazing impacts.

**McAdow:** Discussed an event held by the Wisconsin Bison Producer Association in Spooner. She also brought up a survey that should be shared with anyone interested in grazing dairy cattle.

**Glad:** She spoke on Robert Bauer's behalf and updated everyone on what he has been doing. She explained that there is going to be a bigger focus in Southern Wisconsin as well as having a larger focus on outreach and education. Bauer started a podcast and will continue interviewing producers. There will also be an upcoming event discussing the economics of grazing. There was an interview held by the Portage County Business Association to interview the PCI intern, Annika Waltenberg. She also explained the importance of the PCI program and how it helps businesses employ interns.

**Abrahamson:** There has been a focus on the Mead Community Garden to make basic improvements, such as building raised beds and mulching areas around garden beds. He explained that there is a new project called “Growing The Giving Farm” which will provide a space to grow food to be donated to economically disadvantaged individuals. The Giving Farm recently held a welcome event on July 12th and there was a good turnout.

**NEW PROJECTS:** The Buffalo Lake District 9 Key Element Plan Development was presented and discussed. A motion was made by Beastram, which was seconded by Tessmer, to approve the project and send it on to the full council. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Beastram, which was seconded by Tessmer, to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Minutes by: Annika Waltenberg