

**Golden Sands Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc.**  
**Regular Business/Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 15th, 2026**  
**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); 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); Joe Tomandl (Taylor); Jacob Fluor (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Tracy Arnold (Portage); Bo Hendrickson (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Annika Waltenberg (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Gabby Buckholt (Golden Sands RC&D Staff); Angel Rakow (Golden Sands RC&D Staff).

**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 November 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

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

**WI RC&D ASSOCIATION:** Glad reported that there has been ongoing communication with other RC&Ds, and that the state association will be represented at an upcoming event.

**FEDERAL FUNDING STATUS:** Glad reported that the federal funding for existing contracts is catching up and stabilizing, following disruptions in 2025 caused by the government shutdown. Potential sources of revenue outside of federal contracts are being explored to reduce dependence on federal funding.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** Glad reported that invoices for 2026 dues were sent out.

**ALLIANCE FOR GREAT LAKES AND CLEAN WISCONSIN:** Leichtnam shared the letter that was sent by Golden Sands RC&D to state officials and organizations regarding our position on nitrate legislation and regulations. Our position aligns with most of the specific recommendations developed by the Alliance for the Great Lakes and Clean Wisconsin report of September 2025.

**2026 OVERHEAD/ADMIN BUDGET:** Glad presented a draft of the 2026 admin/overhead budget, which calls for a 2% wage increase for most employees. A motion was made by Eggleston, which was seconded by Tomandl, to approve the budget as presented. Motion carried.

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

**NEW PROJECTS:** None.

**STAFF/PROJECT UPDATES:** Glad reminded attendees that staff activity reports were included with information sent out prior to the meeting. She also asked board members to help get the word out about summer LTE opportunities.

**OTHER REPORTS:** The board reviewed the 2025 highlights video production.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Clendenning, which was seconded by Drabek, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Minutes by: Bob Walker, Secretary