



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order Annual Meeting

The monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on 3/12/2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Kuhn at 12:30 p.m.

Attendees

Attendees included: Directors, Paul Kuhn, Lynn Martz, Anita Zurbrugg, and Rick Bend

Associate Directors: Peggy Anesi, and Byron Cann

Staff: Dean Johnson

NRCS: Aaron Seim

IDOA: Shelly Steging Regional Representative

Guests: Alexa Skirmont PCM

Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Dan Kenney

Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by: Director Zurbrugg and Director Martz, approved.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the February 12, 2025 meetings made by: Director Martz, seconded by Director Bend, approved.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasures Report made by: Director Bend and seconded by Director Zurbrugg, approved.

Reports

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Aaron Seim provided a written report on the activities of the NRCS office for the month of February and the outlook for March. Aaron reported that many changes are occurring regarding freezing of funds and staff terminations. NRCS continues to work with clients and are doing the best they can with the information they have. Aaron is now assisting in Lee County as well.

SWCD Resource Conservationist: Jeff Woodyatt is on parental leave.

SWCD Executive Director: Dean Johnson provided a written report on the activities of the Executive Director for the month of February and the outlook for March.

University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator: Peggy Anesi reported on the flight demonstration in Boone County. Lidar radar will be used to collect data on the aquifers and geology below the earth's surface. Approximately 200 were in attendance for the event.

IDOA: Shelly Steging provided updates from the IDOA. Grant Payments should be made by May. PFC payments will be made later, smaller allocations are expected as a large portion of the PFC allocation went to the "I Cover" program. New Soil Health training will be coming this year. Regional meetings will take place in June.

Correspondence

No news on IEPA watershed Planning Grants

Congratulations to Rick Bend being elected as our newest Director and Lynn Martz on her re-election to the SWCD board.

IDOA Operations Grant Agreements have arrived, the DeKalb SWCD will receive \$42,990 for operations in FY25. PFC cost share agreements will be forthcoming this spring.

Potential government shutdown could occur on March 14, 2025.

The final plan of the Central South Branch of the Kishwaukee River WBP has been submitted to the IEPA for review. Most of the documents have been submitted, there are still financial reports due and the publishing of the Plan and Executive Reports for distribution.

The new DeKalb County Watersheds Council will meet for the first time on March 26, 2025.

Time Sheet Approval

Employee time sheets were reviewed and approved by: Director Martz.

Unfinished business

New business

Election of Officers- Director Martz moved to maintain the current set of officers for 2025. Director Zurbrugg seconded the motion, and the motion carried 4 yes and 0 nays. Chairman- Paul Kuhn, Vice-Chairman Dan Kenney, Secretary Anita Zurbrugg and Treasurer Lynn Martz.

Special Recognition- postponed

NRI 743 Aspasia Solar Project for the Town of Cortland- Director Zurbrugg moved to approve the NRI 743 report for Aspasia Solar Project within the Town of Cortland. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

FY25 PFC Practice Component list- Director Bend moved to approve the FY25 practice component list for the PFC program. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

Authority to Sign Grant Agreements with IDOA- Director Zurbrugg moved to authorize Dean Johnson or Jeffery Woodyatt to sign IDOA grant agreements if the Board Chairman is unavailable. Director Martz seconded, and the motion carried.

Local Work Group Summation - The Directors reflected on the discussions at the local work group meeting. Several noted that the input from the event could be useful for guiding conservation planning within the county.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Martz and seconded by Director Bend, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be April 9, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, 1350 West Prairie Dr. in Sycamore, IL

Chairman

Date