



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order Monthly Board Meeting

The Monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on 7/9/2025. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Dan Kenney at 7:08 p.m.

Attendees

Attendees included: Directors, Rick Bend, Anita Zurbrugg, and Dan Kenney

Associate Directors: Stan Doty, Peggy Anesi, and Gordon Kohn

Staff: Dean Johnson, Executive Director and Jeff Woodyatt, Resource Conservationist, and Grace Coveliers District Conservation Planner

NRCS: Aaron Seim District Conservationist

IDOA: Not Present

Guests:

Directors not in attendance

Members not present included: Paul Kuhn and Lynn Martz

Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the 7/9/2025 agenda made by Director Zurbrugg seconded by Director Bend. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 11, 2025 made by Director Bend and seconded by Director Zurbrugg. Motion carried.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report made by Director Zurbrugg. Director Bend seconded the motion, motion carried.

Reports

NRCS- Aaron Seim provided a written report of the activities of the NRCS office for the past month and the outlook for July.

NREC- Peggy Anesi reported that summer camps are going well. There will be an Environmental Summit at the end of September in Chicago lead by U of I Extension. The Paddle and Learn Educators training will be held the week of July 14th, approximately 15 educators have signed up to attend.

Resource Conservationist- Jeff Woodyatt gave an update on his activities for the past month and the outlook for July.

Executive Director- Dean Johnson provided a written update for the past month's activities and the outlook for July.

District Conservation Planner- Grace Coveliers provided a written report and updates on her activities for the month of June and the outlook for activities in July.

DeKalb County Watersheds Council- Next meeting will be held on August 27, 2025 at 3 p.m..

Correspondence

We have received an amendment to the FY25 IDOA Grant agreement for \$26,360.34 for Partners for Conservation (PFC) cost share dollars. It is still undetermined when the funds will arrive.

We did receive notification from the IEPA that we were not awarded a 319 grant for the Somonauk Creek Watershed to complete a Watershed-based Plan for that area. The 604B grant application is still viable for the Somonauk Creek Watershed. It is anticipated that we will receive information on whether we will be awarded that grant in the next 90 days.

Time Sheet Approval

Employee Time Sheets Reviewed By: Director Zurbrugg

Unfinished business

None

New business

Approve FY25/26 Budget- Director Zurbrugg moved to approve the FY25 budget for the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District. Director Bend seconded the motion, motion carried.

Township Letters of Financial Support to the SWCD- Director Zurbrugg suggested that the board members try to follow through with requests for financial support from the Townships throughout the county. The staff agreed to work on a template that could be used to support the endeavor.

County Road Signs- This item was tabled until the August meeting.

Support for the Watershed Stewardship for Leaders Program- Director Zurbrugg moved to use up to \$3000 of the Samardzija-Gutesha Funds to support the program which would include catering and materials. Director Bend seconded the motion, motion carried.

August Board meeting and Special Event- It was the consensus of the board that we hold a special event prior to our monthly board meeting in August. The board is invited to attend a tour at the Prairie State Winery in Genoa. The event starts at 5:00 p.m. and the tour will begin at 5:30. After the tour we will move to Russell Woods Nature Center in Genoa to enjoy a meal and then we will conclude the evening by holding our monthly meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m.. Spouses and guests are welcome to attend.

Conservation Minute- Grace Coveliers provided a short video on why conservation is important and then asked members to share their thoughts on the topic.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be August 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Russell Woods Nature Center in Genoa, Illinois.

Chairman

Date