



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order

The monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on April 12, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Begun at 7:00 p.m.

Attendees

Attendees included: Directors, John Begun, Lynn Martz, Anita Zurbrugg and Dan Kenney

Associate Directors: Peggy Doty, Gordon Kohn

Staff: Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt

NRCS:

Guest: Paul Koeppen

Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Paul Kuhn

Approval of the agenda

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

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the March 15, 2023 meetings made by: Director Zurbrugg, seconded by Director Martz, approved.

Approval of Treasurers Report

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

Reports

NRCS Report: No Report

SWCD Resource Conservationist: Jeff Woodyatt provided a written report of the activities of the Resource Conservationist for the month of March and the outlook for activities occurring in April.

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

University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator: Peggy Doty provided an update to the activities occurring, she has had a good response for visits from Genoa, Kingston and Kirkland. Planning is underway for summer camps as well.

Correspondence

The Illinois EPA has submitted the Watershed Grant Agreement through the GATA portal. We are anticipating grant agreements to come in May.

Cecily Cunz our consultant with the last planning project has been hired by Baxter Woodman Engineering as their Environmental Consultant and they have agreed to work with the District with the same agreement that we had with RES Cecily's former employer. RES is no longer doing watershed planning so there is no conflict and no agreement or contact had been made between the DeKalb County SWCD and RES.

We have no grant agreement with IDOA for FY23, grant agreements have to be implemented before the District can receive its FY23 funding.

SAMS and GATA the federal and state oversight information for grants have been updated.

Staff attended the Public Hearing on the updates to the new Solar and Wind ordinances as a result of the new legislation that passed around the first of the year. Items of interest to the DeKalb SWCD include that NRI's are required to be completed by the District as part of the zoning change. The District will still be involved in the oversight of ground cover and maintenance plans for solar projects. The County Board will need to approve the updated ordinance.

The District had no applications for the Simonson Scholarship for 2023.

Time Sheet Approval

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

Unfinished business

None

New business

Strategic Plan Review- The Executive Director provided an extensive review of the Districts financial history from 2014 to current. The board then reviewed the last strategic plan which was developed in 2016. The historical background, values, vision, and mission of the District remain constant, but it was the consensus of the board to take a look at the Strategic issues and Goals before the next meeting. Each Director was given the task to come up with a new goal for discussion.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Zurbrugg, seconded by Director Kenney, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be May 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau's Center for Agriculture in Sycamore.

Chairman

Date