



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order

The monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on February 8, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Begun at 12:30 p.m.

Attendees

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

Associate Directors: Paul Dreska, Rick Bend, Byron Cann

Staff: Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt

NRCS: Arron Seim

Guest: Paul Idlas

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 January 11, 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: District Conservationist Arron Seim provided a report on the activities of the NRCS for the month of January and the outlook for February.

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

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

University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator: Peggy Doty provided an update the activities occurring at the Middle School in Sycamore and Russell Forrest Preserve District.

Correspondence

The DeKalb County SWCD is still waiting on the grant agreement from IEPA for the watershed planning area for the Central South Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed.

Envirothon will be held in Naperville at the DuPage County Forrest Preserve District Danada House on March 14, 2023.

Farm Advisors Conservation Meeting March 1st 9-11:00 a.m. at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau.

Next Board Meeting will be held on March 15th at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Building Conference Center at 12:30 p.m.

Time Sheet Approval

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

Unfinished business

Establish a Savings Account- Director Martz moved to move the restricted PFC funds from Old National Bank to the Waterman Bank. Recommendation was to open an FDIC Money Market Account. Under the Treasurers discretion additional funds may also be included if it does not impact operations. Motion seconded by Director Zurbrugg, motion carried.

New business

HB4412 Impact to the SWCD's- Executive Director Dean Johnson lead a discussion on the impacts of House Bill 4412. The bill sets standards for Solar and Wind Energy commercial development projects. Impacts could include loss of the Natural Resource Information Reports and oversight on landscape and ground cover maintenance plans by the DeKalb County SWCD. The new law will be in place in 120 days from its passage and counties will need to change existing ordinances to comply with State regulations by the 120-day deadline.

Marketing and Outreach- Director's Zurbrugg and Kenney will meet with SWCD staff and formulate a plan to help market the DeKalb County SWCD, through outreach and grant programs. The Committee will report back to the board at the March meeting with updates.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Martz, seconded by Director Zurbrugg, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be March 15, 2023 at 12:30 p.m.. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau's Center for Agriculture in Sycamore.

Chairman

Date