



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 9, 2022. 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

Associate Directors: Jim Arndt, Byron Cann, Paul Dreska, Peggy Doty and Rick Bend

Staff: Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt

NRCS: Aaron Seim

Guest: Janice Melton, City of Genoa

Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Director 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 12, 2022 meeting made by: Director Zurbrugg, seconded by Director Martz, approved.

Approval of Treasurers Report

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

Reports

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Aaron Seim provided a written report on the activities of the NRCS staff for the month of January and an outlook to the month of 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 a written document on the planning and activities of the Natural Resource Center. The University of Illinois will begin to advertise the new position to assist Peggy with natural resource education. This position will be particularly funded by SWCD contributions to the U of I Extension.

Correspondence

Illinois Department of Agriculture grants to the SWCD are being reviewed by the Departments Attorneys. They should be sent to the districts in the next few weeks.

Due to Covid restrictions in the Federal Offices Dean and Jeff have been working on alternating days to reduce staffing in the office.

Vandeburg project on the north side of Sycamore can move forward with constructing a new ditch to alleviate flooding pressure in the nearby sub-division. The Army Corp of Engineers and NRCS have no restrictions regarding the project.

McHenry /Lake SWCD will be offering a program entitled Funding and Farming Opportunities for Northern Illinois Producers on February 24th at McHenry County College.

Time Sheet Approval

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

Unfinished business

75th Anniversary- A committee has been formed to plan for a celebratory event to recognize 75 years of service to DeKalb County. Committee members include Anita Zurbrugg, Dan Kenney, Jim Arndt, Jeff Woodyatt and Dean Johnson.

2022 Fee Schedule- Director Kenney moved to approve the DeKalb County SWCD fee schedule which includes the updates to the Ground Cover and Site Stabilization review for Solar sites. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

Programs for 2022- The District staff has proposed a small group forum to be held at several locations throughout the county. Directors interested in hosting an event are to contact the Executive Director so that dates and times can be established for the end of March.

New business

Conservation Tools- Several Directors suggested that the district investigate some conservation tools such as a rotary crimper that could be purchased and made available for rent to our customers. After some discussion it was determined that more information would be needed. The Executive Director informed the group that one of the neighboring districts would be collecting information from other districts in Illinois and would be sharing it in the near future. The matter was tabled to a later date.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Kenney, seconded by Director Zurbrugg, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be March 9, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau's Center for Agriculture in Sycamore.

Chairman

Date