



# Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

## Call to order

A meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Center for Agriculture in Sycamore Illinois on January 8, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Begun at 12:30 p.m.

## Attendees

Attendees included: Directors, John Begun, Paul Kuhn, and Lynn Martz

Associate Directors: Jim Arndt, Gordon Kohn, Janeen Vogeler, Anita Zurbrugg and Byron Cann

Staff: Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt

NRCS:

Guest:

## Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Dan Kenney and Scott Pumroy

## Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by: Director Kuhn, econded by Director Martz, approved.

## Approval of minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the December11, 2019 meeting made by: Director Martz, seconded by Director Kuhn, approved.

## Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasures Report made by: Director Martz and seconded by Director Kuhn, approved.

## Reports

**NRCS Report:** Acting District Conservationist Lori Younker provided a written update as to the activities of the NRCS in the month of December and the outlook for January. Lori noted that at this time there has been no approval to advertise for the District Conservationist's position.

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

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

**University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator:** No Report

## Correspondence

The Resource Conservationist will be working on trying to get his Conservation Planner Apprentice accreditation from NRCS. This may take most of the year to accomplish, once achieved the District could participate in the contribution agreement with NRCS if the Directors choose to move in that direction.

As of this date there is no news on when the 2020 allocation for operations and CPP will occur. Prevent plant acres that were signed up through IDOA are also still not available to be paid.

Watershed Goals Planning Workshop will be held February 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at River Heights Golf Course Clubhouse in DeKalb.

The District is beginning to see site development applications for solar projects. The District must review seeding recommendations provided by the Developers and make recommendations per the County Ordinance. We have also received copies of Ag Mitigation agreements that have been approved by the IDOA for the Solar Projects that will be built in DeKalb County.

LUC-16 will hold a Hemp Workshop on February 27, 2020 at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau from 1-3 p.m.

## Time Sheet Approval

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

## Unfinished business

None

## New business

**Envirothon Donation 2020-** Director Martz moved to pay for the award plaques and name plates for the 2020 Northeastern Illinois Envirothon. Director Kuhn seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Watershed Website and Application-** The Executive Director proposed to the board that the District take over the management of the current watershed website. The District would establish a new site along with the addition of Arc Story Maps. Story Maps will be incorporated into the site to create more of an interactive and user friendly website so as the watershed planning areas grow and implantation occurs they can be showcased at this new site. Director Kuhn moved that the District create a proposal that includes purchasing and setting up a new website, acquiring funding to purchase Arc Map Professional and financial support to manage and develop the site over the next 3 years. The request for funding will be made to the Land Use Committee of the DeKalb County Community Foundation. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

**Strategic Plan-** The Executive Director suggested that the board review the Strategic Plan that was developed in 2016. Keeping the plan up to date and making sure that the board supports the goals and actions are useful as we look ahead. We will revisit this again in the near future.

## Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn:** Director Kuhn, seconded by Director Martz, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

## Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be February 12, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.. The meeting will be held in the SWCD conference room located in the DeKalb County Farm Bureau's Center for Agriculture in Sycamore, Illinois. A light lunch will be at noon.

---

Chairman

Date