



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order

The monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on 2/12/2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Kuhn at 12:30 p.m.

Attendees

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

Associate Directors: Jim Arndt, Peggy Anesi, Rick Bend.

Staff: Dean Johnson

NRCS: Aaron Seim

IDOA:

Guests:

Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Anita Zurbrugg and Dan Kenney

Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by: Director Martz and Director Begun, approved.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the January 8, 2025 meetings made by: Director Martz, seconded by Director Begun, approved.

Approval of Treasurers Report

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

Reports

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Aaron Seim provided a written report on the activities of the NRCS office for the month of January and the outlook for February. Aaron reported that many changes are occurring regarding freezing of funds and staff terminations. No staff in DeKalb have been affected as of this date.

SWCD Resource Conservationist: Jeff Woodyatt is on parental leave.

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

University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator: Peggy Anesi reported that Johnna Jennings will be retiring at the end of April. Boone County is undertaking an analysis of their groundwater with the Illinois Geological Survey, a demonstration will be held in early March at the Poplar Airport from 10-2. Peggy is working with the local NPR station to provide 90 second segments on water quality.

IDOA: No Report

Correspondence

No news on IEPA watershed Planning Grants

The DeKalb County SWCD will host a local work group meeting on March 4 from 10-noon at the Farm Bureau.

The election of Directors will take place on February 12, 2025

There are some new bills being introduced into the state legislature to provide funding for districts, a campaign is underway to leverage support.

The new Department of Agriculture I-Cover program is accepting applications. This is a 3-year commitment for the farmer to grow cover crops on an identified field.

Time Sheet Approval

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

Unfinished business

New business

PFC Ranking of projects- Director Begun moved to approve the 3 projects that were ranked for the FY25 signup. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

PFC Contract Approvals- Director Martz moved to approve contracts for Paul Idlas (grassed waterway) \$3646.28, Dawn Ness (grassed waterway) \$9583.81 and Austin Sanderson (grassed waterway) \$5000.25. Director Begun seconded the motion, motion carried.

DeKalb County Community Foundation Proposals- Director Martz moved to approve the acceptance of the Samardzija- Gutesha Educational Seminars fund for \$6000.00 and the Watershed Initiative funding for \$60,000.00, payments will be made to the SWCD annually for 3 years. Director Begun seconded the motion, motion carried.

Northeastern Illinois Envirothon Support- Director Martz moved to donate \$200.00 to the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon. Director Begun seconded the motion, motion carried.

Transfer of Funds- It was the consensus of the board to transfer \$20,000.00 from the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Foundation to the local checking account.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Begun and seconded by Director Martz, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be March 12, 2025 at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, 1350 West Prairie Dr. in Sycamore, IL

Chairman

Date