



Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order Annual Meeting

The Monthly Board Meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on July 8, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Kuhn at 7:08 p.m.

Attendees

Directors: Rick Bend, Dan Kenney, Paul Kuhn and Lynn Martz.

Associate Directors: Jim Arndt, Stan Doty and Paul Koeppen.

Staff: Grace Coveliers, Resource Conservationist; Dean Johnson, Executive Director; and Brooke Watson, Administrative Coordinator.

NRCS: Not Present

IDOA: Not Present

Directors not present included: Anita Zurbrugg

Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the July 8, 2026 agenda made by Director Bend, seconded by Director Kenney. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of June 10, 2026 made by Director Martz and seconded by Director Bend. Motion carried.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report made by Director Kenney. Director Bend seconded the motion, motion carried.

Reports

NRCS- Aaron Seim provided a written report on his activities for the month of June and the outlook for July.

NREC- Peggy Anesi provided a written report on his activities for the month of June and the outlook for July.

Reports (continued)

Administrative Coordinator- Brooke Watson provided a written report on her activities for the month of June and the outlook for July.

Resource Conservationist- Grace Coveliers provided a written report on her activities for the month of June and the outlook for July.

Executive Director- Dean Johnson provided a written report on his activities for the month of June and the outlook for July.

DeKalb County Watersheds Council: Dean Johnson shared the next DeKalb County Watersheds Council meeting is Wednesday, July 29 at 3 p.m. in the auditorium at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau.

Correspondence

The Illinois Department of Agriculture had notified DeKalb County SWCD that 2026 funding would not be received by the end of FY26. We will work with Foster's Tax and Accounting to allocate it correctly upon receipt.

The DeKalb County Farm Bureau will be closed on Friday, July 17 to accommodate an electrical upgrade, which will require power to be shut off intermittently throughout the day. DeKalb County SWCD will work remotely from home.

Following discussion at the Strategic Plan meeting about increasing collaboration with the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Manager Greg Millburg will discuss opportunities with his Board. December was mentioned as a potential meeting time option.

University of Illinois Extension reminded DeKalb County SWCD of the outstanding \$15,000 invoice due June 30, 2026, which provides funding support for the Natural Resources Extension Coordinator position.

AI SWCD Annual Conference is July 20-22 at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria. Representing DeKalb County SWCD will be Grace Coveliers, Dean Johnson, Paul Kuhn, Brooke Watson and Anita Zurbrugg. Paul Kuhn will serve as the voting delegate at the Annual Meeting.

DeKalb County Pheasants Forever is hosting an "Evening on the Prairie," Wednesday, July 15 at 6 p.m. All are invited to attend and view a prairie restoration project at the Diedrich Farm in Sycamore, hosted by John and Melanie Diedrich. Dean seeded this site and project five year ago.

Time Sheet Approval

Employee Time Sheets Reviewed and Approved By: Director Martz

Unfinished business

None

New business

FY 27 Budget- Director Kenney moved to approve the FY 27 Budget. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

FY 27 University of Illinois Extension Cooperative Agreement - Director Martz moved to approve the FY 27 University of Illinois Extension Cooperative Agreement. Director Kenney seconded the motion, motion carried.

2026-31 Strategic Plan-Director Bend made a motion to approve the 2026-31 Strategic Plan. Director Kenney seconded the motion, motion carried.

Illinois ePAY Updates- Director Martz made a motion to update the contacts for the State of Illinois ePAY system. The contacts will be changed from Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt to Brooke Watson and Grace Coveliers. Director Bend seconded the motion, motion carried.

AISWCD Summer Conference Resolutions-Discussion took place about the resolutions.

August Meeting - Summer Outing - Stan Doty will host the summer outing and provide dinner, starting at 5 p.m. on August 12. The August Board of Directors meeting will start at 7 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Martz moved to adjourn the meeting, and it was seconded by Director Bend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be on August 12, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Stan Doty's residence, located at 14280 Crego Rd., DeKalb, IL 60115.

Chairman

Date