



# Meeting Minutes DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District

## Call to order Monthly Board Meeting

The Monthly Board meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held on 4/9/2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Kuhn at 7:00 p.m.

## Attendees

**Attendees included:** Directors, Paul Kuhn, Lynn Martz, Anita Zurbrugg, Dan Kenney and Rick Bend

**Associate Directors:** Stan Doty, Peggy Anesi, Byron Cann, Gordon Kohn

**Staff:** Dean Johnson, Executive Director and Jeff Woodyatt, Resource Conservationist

**NRCS:** Not Present

**IDOA:** Not Present

**Guests:**

## Directors not in attendance

**Members not in attendance included:**

## Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Director Zurbrugg seconded by Director Martz. Motion carried.

## Approval of minutes

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 12, 2025 made by Director Martz and seconded by Director Zurbrugg. Motion carried.

## Approval of Treasurers Report

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

## Reports

**NRCS-** Aaron Seim provided a written report of the activities of the NRCS office for the past month and the outlook for May.

**NREC-** Peggy Anesi provided an update of the work at the Natural Resource Center. The DeKalb School District sent 600 Kindergartners to visit Russell Woods. Project upcoming include Water education, Rainscaping, Watershed Naturalist Education this summer. Composting program in June Watershed Stewardship for Leaders starting in November. Watershed 101 course to be offered in Boone County.

**Resource Conservationist-** Jeff has been off on Paternity Leave and is looking forward to coming back soon.

**Executive Director-** Dean Johnson provided a written update for the past month's activities and the outlook for May.

**DeKalb County Watersheds Council-** Dean Johnson gave an update to the board on the newly established council. The group will meet again on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Correspondence

We are still waiting for payment on the FY25 grant agreements. There will be more added responsibilities for staff. Examples include Soil Health Training, STAR, and updated budget reporting.

The Central South Branch of the Kishwaukee River Watershed Based Plan is near completion. We are waiting on IEPA approval then printing of the document will take place. We will also need to ask for adoption of the plans by the county and local communities in the planning area.

No updates on the Somonauk Creek Watershed application.

The AISWCD is watching several bills that affect the SWCD's funding for FY26 and the opportunity for stable funding for the future. We should know by the end of May if they are successful.

## Time Sheet Approval

**Employee Time Sheets Reviewed By:** Director Martz

## Unfinished business

None

## New business

**Special Recognition-** Director John Begun was recognized for his 24 years of dedicated service to the DeKalb County SWCD. John was presented with a framed copy of the Conservation Creed by the Board of Directors.

**New Employee Discussion-** The Board is considering hiring a new employee to assist in the SWCD office. The position will be listed as the DeKalb County Conservation Planner. Mr. Johnson has indicated his desire to start to cut back on his hours allowing for this opportunity. The board agreed to hold a Special Meeting to discuss this matter further. It was the consensus of the board to meet on April 21, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in the SWCD office. No further action was taken at this time.

**Seminars-** The district has given financial resources to conduct seminars for the next few years, at least once annually there needs to be a focus on FFA chapters throughout the county. There are also opportunities to hold other seminars that reflect our mission as well. We had some discussion on ideas, but more firm plans need to emerge in the near future. No action was taken at this time.

**Donation for 4-H General Project show award-** Director Kenney moved to approve \$25 donation for a plaque for the Best Conservation Project at this year's 4-H General Project show. Director Zurbrugg seconded the motion, motion carried.

## Adjournment

**Motion to Adjourn:** Director Kenney and seconded by Director Bend, approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

## Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be May 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, 1350 West Prairie Dr. in Sycamore, IL

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Chairman

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Date