



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 5/14/2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Paul Kuhn at 7:05 p.m.

Attendees

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

Associate Directors: Stan Doty, Byron Cann and Jim Arndt

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

NRCS: Aaron Seim District Conservationist

IDOA: Not Present

Guests: Alexa Skirmont

Directors not in attendance

Members not present 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 April 9, and the special meeting of April 21, 2025 made by Director Kenney and seconded by Director Bend. Motion carried.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasurers Report made by Director Zurbrugg. Director Kenney 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 June. Several deadlines are approaching for EQIP and CSP. Up to 64 people have left NRCS in Illinois due to government reductions several had key roles in leadership.

NREC- No Report

Resource Conservationist- Jeff Woodyatt gave an update on his activities for the past month and the outlook for May and June.

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

DeKalb County Watersheds Council- Dean Johnson gave an update on the Watersheds Council that was held on April 30. The group is organizing and identifying projects to assist in watershed implementation.

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 Summer Conference is July 20-22 at the Crown Plaza in Springfield.

Time Sheet Approval

Employee Time Sheets Reviewed By: Director Zurbrugg

Unfinished business

None

New business

NRI 744 Burr Oak Solar Project- Director Kenney moved to approve NRI 744 Burr Oak Solar with the recommendations outlined in the report. Director Zurbrugg seconded the motion, motion carried. Director Martz abstained. Vote was 4 yes and 1 abstention.

New Employee Interview Committee- Chairman Kuhn asked for volunteers to serve on the Interview committee for the new Conservation Planner Position with the DeKalb County SWCD. Director Bend

and Director Martz volunteered also serving will be the Executive Director and Resource Conservationist.

Simonson Scholarship- The Scholarship committee selected Benson Gudmunson of Somonauk as this year's recipient of the Simonson scholarship. The value of the scholarship is \$1000.00 the payout from the Community Foundation fund was \$980.00. Director Zurbrugg moved to make up the \$20 shortfall with District funds. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried. The funds will be sent to Iowa State University to be used by Mr. Gudmunson.

PFC Approval of Projects- Director Martz moved to approve \$16,478.01 of PFC cost share to Dawn Ness for a grassed waterway. Director Zurbrugg seconded the motion, motion carried.

Transect Survey- The District will try once again to complete a transect survey of the county if time permits. This is being conducted at our own discretion it is not required this year by the IDOA.

Summer Event- It was the consensus of the board that we try to have a tour of the Kishwaukee Water Reclamation District in August and then visit Hopkins Park and conduct our meeting at the Terrace room. Mr. Johnson will work on making those arrangements and report back to the board.

Seminars- The board continues to look at seminar opportunities for the next year, we will keep this item as an active task moving forward.

Memorial Flowers-Mr. Johnson informed the board that the mother of Lori Younker our area engineer located in the Sycamore Field office, had passed away. Mr. Johnson asked permission from the board to send flowers in honor of her memory. Director Martz moved to pay for flowers from the SWCD Board and the Sycamore Field Office. Director Kenney seconded the motion, motion carried.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be June 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau, 1350 West Prairie Dr. in Sycamore, IL

Chairman

Date