



Meeting Minutes

DeKalb County

Soil and Water Conservation District

Call to order

A meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD was held via Zoom on May 13, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Begun at 7:04 p.m.

Attendees

Attendees included: Directors, John Begun, Anita Zurbrugg, Dan Kenney and Lynn Martz

Associate Directors: Peggy Doty

Staff: Dean Johnson and Jeff Woodyatt

NRCS: Aaron Seim

Guest: None

Directors not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Director Kuhn

Approval of the agenda

Motion to approve agenda made by: Director Zurbrugg, seconded by Director Martz, approved.

Approval of minutes

Motion to approve minutes of the March 11, 2020 meeting made by: Director Martz, seconded by Director Zurbrugg, approved.

Approval of Treasurers Report

Motion to approve the Treasures Report made by: Director Kenney and seconded by Director Zurbrugg, approved.

Reports

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Aaron Seim introduced himself to the board and gave an update of the activities of the NRCS for the past month and the outlook for May and June. A written report was also provided.

SWCD Resource Conservationist: Jeff Woodyatt provided a written report of the activities of the Resource Conservationist for the months of March and April and the outlook for activities occurring in May and June.

SWCD Executive Director: Dean Johnson provided a written report of the activities of the Executive Director for the months of March and April and the outlook for May and June.

University of Illinois Natural Resources Educator: Peggy Doty gave us an update of her activities since we last met. The pandemic has impacted her spring and summer activities. She has been working on a cooperative agreement with Purdue University regarding water quality programs and it may be something we can incorporate into the watershed planning moving forward.

Correspondence

The District is complying with USDA and State requirements with the Stay at Home orders. We continue to work but the office is locked, and we are able to conduct business by email and phone.

The Summer Ag Institute has been cancelled due to the pandemic.

State funding for operations and programs have not arrived several Districts have received their funding as they were identified as being in critical financial stress. This is encouraging as it will probably mean that all the Districts will eventually receive their funding.

The T-Transect Survey will not be conducted this spring due to the pandemic.

The Fish Sale was held on April 25, attendance and orders were down this year. We were informed that Logan Hollow Fish Farm is going out of business and will not be servicing the SWCD's this fall. We are hoping that a new fishery will be identified that can pick up that service so we can continue to offer fish to our customers.

The Regenerative Ag workshop that is scheduled for August will more than likely be postponed to a later date due to the pandemic.

The Watershed website has been updated it is available for viewing at www.dekalbcountywatersheds-il.org

Time Sheet Approval

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

Unfinished business

None

New business

CPP Pollinator Project- Director Martz moved to approve the Pollinator Project on 2 acres for John and Melanie Diedrich for a cost share of \$555.00. Director Kenney seconded the motion, motion carried.

NRCS Contribution Agreement- Director Zurbrugg moved to have the DeKalb County SWCD participate in the NRCS Contribution Agreement as a back-up to Boone County for the rest of the contract year. The District will re-evaluate the agreement and determine if it interested in participating in the next agreement as the lead District. Director Martz seconded the motion, motion carried.

Watershed Planning- Director Kenney moved that the DeKalb County SWCD submit an application to the IEPA for a Section 319 Watershed Planning grant for the watersheds located in the South Branch of the Kishwaukee River which include the City of Genoa, Village of Kingston and the Village of Kirkland. Director Zurbrugg seconded the motion, motion carried.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Director Kenney, seconded by Director Martz, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Announcements

The next meeting of the DeKalb County SWCD will be June 10, 2020 at 7:00 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.

Chairman

Date