2022 September -McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on September 14, 2022, at the USDA Field Office in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:34 a.m. Directors present were Irvin Bane, Sally Breese, and Jeff Mathews. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. NRCS District Conservationist Adam Wyant was also present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Irvin motioned to approve the August minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve September checks, Irvin seconded. Motion carried. Irvin made a motion to approve the Financials as written. Sally seconded. Motion carried. Jackie requested a new laptop for QuickBooks, and a motion was made by Irvin to approve up to \$1000 for a new laptop. Sally seconded. Motion carried.

~Adam gave the NRCS Report as written: 58 total contracts in Mclean County so far with a total obligation of \$4,214,455. Good progress on CRP with only a few stragglers left to finish up.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: IEPA will notify on 319 grant within 60 days. Watershed cover crop program is still ongoing, 1 application has been sent so far. Brought up discussion with the board over Conservationist of the Year award. Jeff made a motion to nominate Jenny and Eric Mennenga for the award. Irvin seconded. Motion carried.

"Brett gave the District report as written: Elizabeth Peacock LLC waterway is complete and they should be sending in bills soon. New cover crop applications came in for fall planting for Elton Mau (\$500 estimated), Dudley Johnson Farm (\$1200 estimated) George Benjamin (\$2500 estimated) and Funk Farms Trust (\$3200 estimated). Jeff motioned to preapprove these applications for PFC FY21 funding. Sally seconded. Motion carried.

**Ross gave the Watershed report as written: September E-Newsletter campaign distributed. Lyle Hughart suggested upping the Jim Rutherford Scholarship awards from \$500 each to \$1000 each. Quotes will be solicited to repair storage shed. A price increase will go into effect for native drills beginning in 2023. Waterways will cost \$150 per day and native seedings/food plots will be \$100 per day with the SWCD retaining \$50 per day for an administrative fee.

~New Business:

The next Board Meeting was set for November 9 at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center. The board held a closed session regarding employee evaluations at 8:45am. At 9:10am the board came out of their closed session and conducted employee evaluations. The meeting was adjourned following employee evaluations.