

2023 January -McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on January 11, 2023, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:31 a.m. Directors present were Sally Breese, Jeff Mathews and Howard Heatherwick. District employees present were Brett Irwin and Jackie Kraft. NRCS District Conservationist Adam Wyant was also present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Howard motioned to approve the December minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve January checks, Sally seconded. Motion carried. Howard made a motion to approve the Financials as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

~Adam gave the NRCS Report as written: 18 payments remain for CSP for FY22 activities in Mclean. 88 EQIP applications are scheduled to be ranked by March 3rd deadline (30 in Livingston, 58 in McLean). The State Conservationist position is advertised on USAJobs as Ivan Dozier is retiring at the end of January. Sangamon County SWCD has the new IDOA Job postings on its website. Adam has a statewide DC meeting and will ask questions regarding new IDOA hires as positions are posted for McLean and Livingston counties.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: Still waiting on IEPA comments for Watershed Plan 319 Grant. 519 Acres were signed up for the Lake Bloomington & Evergreen Lake Watershed Cover Crop Program. \$28,000 was offered for this year for funding while 60,000 will be offered for next year. The Jim Rutherford Conservation Scholarship has been sent out to local schools and is offering 1 \$1000 scholarship this year. Scholarship information will also be posted in the spring newsletter. A grant with Brodie Eddington has been submitted for \$3800 at T3 at lake Evergreen for native habitat restoration.

~Brett gave the District report as written: All CPP fall projects are complete. Waiting on IDOA approval for Arin Ziebarth Strip Till, Johnson Jacobs Farms cover crops, and Funk Farms Trust cover crops. We received \$3,695.86 in additional FY21 funds from Sangamon and Montgomery counties to cost share Reid Miller and Dale Kauffmans cover crop projects from last fall. Working on FY23 and FY24 CRP re-enroll EcoCATs and CPA-52s.

~Ross submitted the Watershed report as written: January E-Newsletter campaign distributed. Updated website sponsorship page & contractor services list. Spring Newsletter final draft completed.

~New Business:

The next Board Meeting was set for February 8th at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m. The 2023 Annual Meeting followed at 9:00 a.m.