

2023 June -McLean County SWCD Minutes
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The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on June 14, 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 Howard Heatherwick and Jeff Mathews. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. NRCS Employees present were Ben Wilson and McKinley Morris. Precision Conservation Management specialist Aidan Walton was present and Evan Kraft, Jim Rutherford Scholarship recipient, was also present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Howard motioned to approve the March minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve June checks, Howard seconded. Motion carried. Howard made a motion to approve the Financials as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff motioned to approve the Jim Rutherford Scholarships for Evan Kraft, Austin Russo, and Payton Wiltz that Howard and Mike had previously reviewed on the scholarship committee. Howard seconded. Motion carried. Evan Kraft was present to accept his scholarship award from the board of directors.

~Aidan provided an update on PCM: Provided a data summary of the PCM program from 2015 through 2022. Showcased various programs that farmers who are enrolled in PCM can qualify for to help with conservation practices on their operation.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: Rock is being trucked to Girl Scout camp for Lake Bloomington shoreline project. Installation of 830 feet is expected to start June 19. Sugar Creek Watershed Plan award notice is expected in July. Jackie brought up the need for a director to be present at the Land Use Council meeting on June 21 and the AISWCD Annual Meeting on July 18. Jeff agreed to attend the LUC 6 Meeting and Mike agreed to attend the annual meeting.

~Brett gave the District report as written: Arin Ziebarth Strip-Till and Moe Davis waterway projects are now complete. Provided ranking spreadsheets of CPP applications of unobligated FY22 funds and obligated FY22 funds to review for board approval. Howard motioned to approve all applications on the spreadsheets as written. Jeff seconded. Motion Carried.

~Ross gave the Watershed report as written: May/June E-Newsletter campaign has been distributed. Ross provided the board with a resolution for the annual meeting that adopts an online SWCD resource portal as No online resource portal exists for Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts that creates the consistency and continuity to grow through unity of branding, event promotion, and toolkits. Howard made a motion to approve the resolution. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

~Ben gave the NRCS report as written: 63 Active contracts in McLean County. There is more funding for EQIP and CSP applications through funds from the Inflation Reduction Act. Ben updated us that Adam would be on detail for 120 days and Matthew Handy will be the acting District Conservationist for our District Group.

~New Business: Jeff made a motion to donate \$1000 to Land Use Council 6 for our local Envirothon. Howard seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve the AISWCD dues of \$4,097.93. Howard seconded. Motion carried.

The next Board Meeting was set for July 12th at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.