

<b>2023 August</b> <b>-McLean County SWCD Minutes</b>
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The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on August 9, 2023, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:30 a.m. Directors present were Irvin Bane, Sally Breese and Howard Heatherwick. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. Ben Wilson of NRCS was also present.

***~Financials/Minutes:***

Irvin motioned to approve the July minutes as written. Howard seconded. Motion carried. Irvin made a motion to approve August checks, Howard seconded. Motion carried. A motion was made by Howard to approve PFC payments for Arin Ziebarth (application 22004) in the amount of \$3,200.00 and Maurice Davis (application 22005) in the amount of \$2,383.50. Irvin seconded. Motion carried. Irvin made a motion to approve the financials as written. Sally seconded. Motion carried.

***~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written:*** Lake Bloomington/Lake Evergreen, Clinton Lake, and Sugar Creek plans are all at IEPA office. Applied for NACD Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant for Ross's position. Award notice expected by October. Presented Sally's award from summer conference for 25 years of service on the district board.

***~Brett gave the District report as written:*** 2 summer construction PFC waterway projects for Enid Schlipf and Frank Grusy have pre-construction conferences completed. Went over Jack Pitts Waterway construction project and decided to move that project back to spring of 2024 if he doesn't meet the fall seeding deadline. FY23 CRP re-enrolls are completed from producers who wished to move forward. Brought up the lack of sufficient internet and a new plan offered by Verizon that has a new router (\$129.99) and a 100-gigabyte internet plan (\$90.00 per month). Irvin motioned to approve the purchase of the router and the monthly plan. Sally seconded. Motion carried.

***~Ross gave the Watershed report as written:*** August E-Newsletter campaign has been distributed. Jim Rutherford Scholarship Golf Outing had 9 teams with 3 people donating \$500 each for future scholarships. A Pollinator/Habitat workshop is planned at LeRoy Sportsman Club on August 24. Cover Crop Aerial Demonstration is planned at Pontiac Flying Service Cooksville location on September 6. Created Public Works presentation on habitat conversions, invasive species awareness at Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake

***~Ben gave the NRCS report as written:*** 48 active contracts in McLean County for CSP, EQIP and RCPP. CSP had 33 applications in McLean and EQIP had 25 applications. CRP released acres in McLean and Livingston County for Emergency Haying & Grazing. This was Ben's last day at the McLean office as he is transferring to an NRCS office in Tennessee. He enjoyed his time here working with the district and the Board.

***~New Business:*** The next Board Meeting was set for September 13th at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The Board went into a closed session at 8:22 a.m. The Board returned from closed session at 8:40 and conducted employee evaluations. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 following the employee evaluations.