

2024 July
-McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on July 10, 2024, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:26 a.m. Directors present were Sally Breese, Jeff Mathews, Howard Heatherwick and Associate Director Garrett Conaty. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. Aidan Walton of PCM was present. NRCS District Conservationist Adam Wyant was also present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Howard motioned to approve the June minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Sally made a motion to approve the July checks for payment, Howard seconded. Motion carried. Howard made a motion to approve the financials as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

~Aidan provided updates from PCM: 2023 PCM Data Summary is complete and was distributed in the Prairie Farmer Magazine. Enrollment is open for many cost share programs through PCM.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: No comments yet from IEPA on Watershed Plan Update 319 grant. Shoreline construction and Saturated Buffer construction are completed for 319 Implementation Grant. Wetland construction is set to begin July 17 and Rain Garden will be completed by late summer. Met with BNWRD on Intergovernmental Agreement. BNWRD has agreed to provide \$25,000 towards agreement. The board discussed their support to keep funding levels the same. Howard made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement as currently funded. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to pay Jarrod Boyle \$198,977.32 for shoreline construction once money is received from City of Bloomington. Sally seconded. Motion carried.

~Brett gave the District report as written: Received bills for PFC contract 23-002 (Alyssa Coffin) for \$850.00 in cost share. Howard Motioned to approve PFC cost share payment. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Dave Duzan sent a PFC application for cover crops scheduled for this fall for \$1,520.00. Jeff motioned to preapprove the application. Howard seconded. Motion carried. Current FY23 CPP balance stands at \$12,407.13 (\$5,479.19 unobligated). Contacting landowners for FY24 CRP re-enroll contracts. Spoke with Brian Hastings regarding Pollinator Habitat Outreach Event at First Baptist Church. Planning on a date in late August, updated website to reflect partnership with SWCD on Prairie Restoration project.

~Ross gave the Watershed report as written: July E-Newsletter campaign has been developed and distributed. Golf outing planned for July 22nd. 5 teams have registered so far along with 3 scholarships underwritten. New and Beginning Farmer Meeting scheduled for July 18 at Davis Lodge. Promoted through FOIA beginning farmer list along with local lenders and farm managers. Met with Scott Hall from IDOT about revamping I-55 Pollinator Project. New broadcast seeder purchased through Pheasants Forever equipment grant is ready for delivery.

~Adam gave the NRCS report as written: CSP obligation deadline is set for July 26. There are 15 pre-approved applications in McLean with a \$1,442,742 obligation amount. AFT hosting a Field Day at Nutrien in Fairbury. CRP re-enrolls for FY24 need to be completed by 9/6/24.

~New Business: The next Board Meeting was set for August 14 at 7:30 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Normal. Annual employee reviews will be conducted following the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 a.m.