

2025 April -McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on April 2, 2025, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:32 a.m. Directors present were Jeff Mathews, Garrett Conaty and Collin Loeffler. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. Allan Hertzberger of NRCS was present. Aidan Walton of PCM was present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Collin motioned to approve the March minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve the April checks for payment. Garrett seconded. Motion carried. Garrett made a motion to approve the financials as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

~Aidan gave an update on PCM: Winding down from spring farmer meetings. Currently have 100 farmers with 120K acres across 7 counties in our region. PCM plans to expand territory for more coverage in Kentucky, Missouri, and Western IL.

~Allan gave an update on the NRCS: Currently working on EQIP rankings. Ranking deadline set for April 25. HEL Spot check letters have been sent. 2026 CSP renewal letters to be sent this week.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: Rain Garden scheduled for construction this spring. ISA Field Day includes stops at Davis Lodge, Franklin Farms, and the Bloomington Water Plant. Monitoring Equipment is scheduled to be installed the week of April 14. Submitted 2nd invoice to ISA for reimbursement of equipment expense. Waiting on MOA for NACD TA grant.

~Brett gave the District report as written: Doug Hoerbert WASCOB construction started on March 26. Gave an update on Tree and Fish sales. Burn Permit is approved by IEPA for First Baptist Church. Planning a burn in Late Summer/ Fall Timeframe. Jon Thompson is considering getting out of CREP application. Tax Lien on property is holding up the enrollment process.

~Ross gave the Watershed report as written: April E-news created and will be distributed this week. Pond Management clinic had 35 attendees. Pond audits were a big success from the clinic. Received 2 applications for the Jim Rutherford Conservation Scholarship. The Board reviewed the scholarship applications of Chase Boester and Chase Ragar. After reviewing the applications, the Board thought both applicants were deserving of the \$1000 scholarship. Collin motioned to approve both applicants for a \$1000 Scholarship. Garrett seconded. Motion carried. The board discussed potential parameters that hold back additional applicants such as the Illinois School requirement and is considering removing that requirement for 2026.

~Old Business:

~New Business: The next Board meeting was set for June 11 at 7:30 AM at the USDA Service Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 AM.