2025 June -McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on June 11, 2025, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:29 a.m. Directors present were Irvin Bane, Jeff Mathews, and Garrett Conaty. 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:

Irvin motioned to approve the April minutes as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve the June checks for payment. Irvin seconded. Motion carried. Jeff made a motion to approve the financials as written. Garrett seconded. Motion carried. Irvin made a motion to approve CPP Payments for Eric Wahls, John Burkhart, Arin Ziebarth, and David Kennedy for Strip-Till. Garrett seconded. Motion carried.

~Aidan gave an update on PCM: Handed out PCM insert that will be showcased in the June Prairie Farmer Magazine. Gave updates on tillage data for high PI ground and the differences in data sets for the last 10 years. Aidan noted that income from certain practices did include incentives for certain cost share programs.

~Allan gave the NRCS report as written: EQIP funding decisions have been completed, and it was competitive across the state. 44 applications were submitted in McLean County and only 4 were picked up for funding. All 2025 CRP expiring CRP status reviews are complete. Have a working plan to complete CRP conservation plans in a timely matter.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: Lake Evergreen Shoreline Project starting June 23rd. Staging Area is complete and crane company is moving barges from girl scout camp to Lake Evergreen. Dalton Getty completed raingarden construction. All BMPs have been completed with a draft report due to IEPA in July. No funding decision yet for Sugar Creek Watershed Plan. Currently in Washington DC waiting for approval.

~Brett gave the District report as written: Update on Current PFC projects. All Strip Till projects were completed this spring. Doug Hoerbert WASCOB was not completed by the spring seeding deadline. Garrett Motioned to give an extension for project to be completed by the fall seeding deadline (August 1 – Sept 10) Irvin seconded. Motion carried. Provided update on Spring tree, fish, and seed sales for 2025. CREP application status for Jon Thompson waiting on Tax Lein correction.

Ross gave the Watershed report as written: May and June E-news created and distributed. SWCD Foundation website is live and includes a new independent logo. Two teams have signed up so far for the Jim Rutherford Scholarship golf outing. Working with First Baptist church to host a family twilight pollinator event at the end of July or early August. August 14th will be a drone demo day hosted with Birkeys from 9-11:30am at the Mini Expo at the McLean County Fairgrounds.

~Old Business:

New Business: The next Board meeting was set for July 9 at 7:30 AM at the USDA Service Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:41 AM.