

2025 March -McLean County SWCD Minutes

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on March 12, 2025, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:34 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 also present.

~Financials/Minutes:

Jeff motioned to approve the February minutes as written. Garrett seconded. Motion carried. Garrett made a motion to approve the March checks for payment. Collin seconded. Motion carried. Jackie gave an update on the 2 Certificates of Deposit at Commerce Bank. A new rate was set at .015 % for renewal of the CDs. Contacted Commerce Bank and got the new rates set to 3.581% for 11 months. Mike is heading to Commerce Bank to sign for the CD extension following the meeting. Jeff made a motion to approve the financials as written. Garrett seconded. Motion carried.

~Allan gave an update on the NRCS: Things are changing week to week and the state and national level. Phase 1 Reduction in Force plan is due to OPM on March 13. Business as usual for now at the field office level until official correspondence is received from the state office on new changes.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: No funding decision for Sugar Creek 604b grant yet. Application was submitted in November of 2023. Rain Garden still needs to be constructed this spring. ISA Field Day scheduled for April 3rd in Lexington and Lake Bloomington. Waiting on MOA for NACD TA grant. Brought up the State Envirothon and if the board wanted to donate \$100 as was done last year. Jeff Motioned to donate \$100 to the State Envirothon. Collin seconded. Motion carried.

~Brett gave the District report as written: Doug Hoerbert WASCOB scheduled for Spring 2025 completion. 4 applications were received for PFC funding during the sign-up period totaling \$16,239.70 in cost share. Garrett motioned to preapprove these applications for funding. Collin seconded. Motion carried. This results in \$8,839.10 left in unobligated FY24 cost share funds to be spent by December. Gave an update on Tree and Fish sales. Working on burn plan for First Baptist Church to submit to IEPA and meeting with First Presbyterian for a similar project next week. Received FY25 Grant Agreement from IDOA. Collin motioned to approve the agreement. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

~Ross gave the Watershed report as written: March E-news created and distributed. Pond Management Clinic with Herman Brothers Fisheries at Davis Lodge scheduled for March 12 at 6:30 PM. Updated website for Contractors, Tree and Fish Sales, and publications. Helping ISA with Field Day Planning for April 3rd.

~Old Business:

~New Business: The Board conducted the 2025 Organization of the Board. Mike Kelley is Chairman, Jeff Mathews is Vice Chairman, Garrett Conaty is Treasurer, and Collin Loeffler is Secretary. The next Board meeting was set for April 2 at 7:30 AM at the USDA Service Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:23 AM.