

**2025 December  
-McLean County SWCD Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on December 10, 2025, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 10:03 a.m. Directors present were Irvin Bane, Jeff Mathews, Garrett Conaty, and Collin Loeffler. District employees present were Brett Irwin, Ross Fogle and Jackie Kraft. Allan Hertzberger of NRCS was present.

***~Financials/Minutes:***

Irvin motioned to approve the November minutes as written. Garrett seconded. Motion carried. Collin motioned to approve December checks as written. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Garrett made a motion to approve the financials as written. Irvin seconded. Motion carried.

***~Allan gave an update on the NRCS:*** NRCS has released 2026 application deadlines (January 15 for CSP & EQIP, March 6 for RCPP). Currently completing priority CSP payments for calendar year 2025 payment.

***~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written:*** Still waiting on comments from IEPA on draft report that was submitted on July 15. Requested update on funding decision timeline for 604b grant for Sugar Creek. \$12,000 payment for ISA grant work from last year has been received. Applying for new NACD TA grant funding for 2026, application due January 8. Applied for AISWCD Tree Planting Project at Lake Bloomington to plant an additional 25 Oak trees in cooperation with McLean County Extension and a 4-H club.

***~Brett gave the District report as written:*** Craig Thompson and Sam Deal PFC cover crop contracts have been sent to IDOA for payment authorization (\$2,196.56 and \$7425.00) and will zero remaining FY24 PFC cost share balance. Garrett motioned to pay these contracts once we receive payment authorization from IDOA. Collin seconded. Motion carried. Suggested sending a certified letter with a notice of contract completion for Doug Hoerbert PFC WASCObS. The board agreed and a draft will be sent to the board later this week. Distributed the new Illinois Healthy Soils Initiative County Assessment guide. New assessment guide to be completed by September 30, 2026.

***~Ross gave the Watershed report as written:*** December E-news created and distributed. Completed a presentation and burn demo at Pontiac High School. Reviewing and collecting bills and seed tags for ISA cover crop grant. Sent letters for 2026 website/newsletter sponsorships with 13 sponsorships received so far.

***~Old Business:***

***~New Business:*** The 2026 McLean County SWCD Annual Meeting was set for January 14 at 7:30 am at the USDA Service Center. The next Board meeting was set for January 14 at 7:45 AM at the USDA Service Center following the Annual Meeting. The Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.