

**2026 January
-McLean County SWCD Minutes**

The Board of Directors of the McLean County SWCD had their regular board meeting on January 14, 2026, at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Kelley at 7:39 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.

~Financials/Minutes:

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

~Allan gave an update on the NRCS: EQIP and CSP application deadlines for 2026 funding is tomorrow (1/15). Payment scenarios have changed significantly compared to prior years, separate funding pool for new Regenerative Ag program.

~Jackie gave the Watershed report as written: Still waiting on comments from IEPA on draft report that was submitted on July 15. Kris Davis has retired from IEPA Requested update on funding decision timeline for 604b grant for Sugar Creek. Submitted invoice to Purdue for cover crop cost-share program. 2025 NACD TA grant funding has not been received, funding announcement expected in March.

~Brett gave the District report as written: PFC cover crop contracts for Patrick Killian 24006 (\$661.88), Eric Wahls 24008 (\$3213.78), and Alan Batterton 24009 (\$1575.00) are now complete. Garrett motioned to pay cost share for these contracts. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. CPRG applicants have been notified by IDOA regarding application status. Approved applications will be assigned to SWCDs once applications are finalized. Brought up the 2026 Local Work Group meeting needing to be completed by May 15, 2026. Jeff motioned to have the 2026 Local Work Group meeting on March 11 at 7:30am. Irvin seconded. Motion carried.

~Ross gave the Watershed report as written: January E-news created and distributed. District Newsletter is nearly complete with early February planned for distribution. 21 sponsors so far for 2026 e-news/Newsletters. Field Day being prepared for ISA grant at Davis Lodge April 7 or 9.

~Old Business:

~New Business: The next Board meeting was set for February 11 at 7:30 AM at the USDA Service Center in Normal. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 am.