

Peoria County Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting

August Minutes

Call to Order

Chairman Jerry Wyatt called the August meeting of the Peoria County SWCD to order at 8:35 a.m. on August 13, 2024. The meeting was held at the USDA Service Center Conference Room.

Attendance (P=Present, A=Absent)

<u>STAFF</u>		<u>DIRECTORS</u>		<u>ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS</u>	
Jeremy Beck	P	Jerry Wyatt	P	Ron Gilles	A
Josh Joseph	P	Ted Gilles	P	Anita Lorance	A
Karla Smith	P	Chuck Schafer	P	Marty Behrends	P
Dan Sahn	P	Troy Wagenbach	A	Charles Rice	P
Wilson Yingling	P	Dave Wagner	A	Arlan Janssen	P
Vicki Morrival	A			Betty Gorman	A
				Derek Menold	P
				Dennis Herrmann	P

Approval of Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda for the August meeting, Ted Gilles moved to approve the agenda, Chuck Schafer seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the July meeting. Chuck Schafer moved to approve the minutes. Ted Gilles seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of the Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial reports for June and July. Ted Gilles made the motion to approve the financial reports from June and July. Chuck Schafer seconded. Motion passed.

Staff Reports

Karla reported that she takes care of the monthly bills, taxes, payroll, reconciling the bank statements. She provides admin assistance for NRCS Staff and turned in papers for Admin agreement. She aids with the IDOA by administering their funds for training and streambank funds when needed. The website is updated, she has been working on Recons. Karla attended meetings with the Employee Association, our District Group, and a couple of other meetings talked about later in the minutes. Her computer has been fixed. A RAM card had to be replaced. The auditor was here to gather information. She judged Food Preservation at the McLean Co 4-H Fair. Josh met with Marty after the last meeting for a CPP audit. He did a field visit for Rice Centennial Farm. He has worked on CRP plan's and completed the CPO's for general sign-up. Josh is getting ready to put out the Fall paper to advertise for the fish sale. He judged at the Peoria County 4-H Fair. Attended meetings for the Career Sparks, Summer Conference, Tazewell Planning and Zoning. He completed the Sam's registration and Karla finished the GATA compliance, we are current to receive our funding. He completed 6 CREP monitoring site visits.

And attended an AITC luncheon. There has been a breaker issue with one of the AC units that Josh helped to resolve and worked with the landscapers on bush trimming to make visible from the security camera vantage point. Jeremy talked about CSP obligations becoming contracts. He is currently overseeing 30-35 CSP renewals. And 5 new EQIP Contracts. He and the staff have also been preparing and going through the Quality Assurance Reviews (QAR) with the Area Staff. Jeremy also reported that Mia and Gaby, the summer interns, had finished their internship last Thursday, August 8. Dan reported that he had made a field visit with the forester to Shirley Johnson's farm. He and Mia have also visited an EQIP project in Woodford, a Dairy in Tazewell, he has been working on pipeline designs and continuous sign-up for CRP. Wilson has been working on continuous CRP sign-up and training.

Conservation Application

EQIP, CSP, CRP, CREP: CREP Monitoring is done for the year.

Update Watersheds Watershed Survey:

Partners for conservation

Project Update:

Payment Approval:

Cost Share Prioritization: Josh made a field visit to Rice Centennial Farm for a CPP project. Chuck Schafer moved to add Rice to the end of our CPP list. Ted Gilles seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

QuickBooks: Karla was looking for a resolution when she was having computer problems, she is still looking into the best options for the SWCD

Annual Meeting: We need to start planning the annual meeting. Consensus was to go back to Brimfield American Legion on February 15, 2025.

Tri-County Control Ordinance Agreement: Al, Josh and Karla met with Jackie from the Tazewell Planning and Zoning Department. Tazewell Co is trying to see if it is viable for them to have Al do the permitting under the Urban Erosion Control Ordinance. We discussed how many projects they expect to have in a year and charge accordingly. We gave her the price of \$2000 per year. She is taking this offer back to the Tazewell County Board for approval. This contract would start at the beginning of the calendar year, January 1, 2025. Al has never had a raise since he has been here for 8 years. This discussion was tabled to see what Tazewell County decides to do.

Miscellaneous: Associate Director: Dennis Herrmann has approached the board about being an associate director. Ted Gilles made to motion to approve Dennis as an associate director. Chuck Schafer seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business.

Summer Conference: Chuck and Suanne Schafer, along with Josh and Karla attended Summer Conference. There is a petition to reinstate the SWCD funding for FY 25. Petitions were handed out to board members to get signatures.

Budget: The final numbers from 2024 are in and entered to compare our budget and actual. These packets are found in the folders.

Miscellaneous: Arlan Janssen gave an update on the Saunders/Adamidis complaint.

Building

Lease: We have been given a name from Jodi Thompson to contact about the lease papers and increase in rent payment.

Miscellaneous:

Operations

Time sheets and mileage reports: signed by the Chairman.

Correspondence:

Legislative Updates

State and Federal:

Communications

AISWCD:

NACD:

BLWR:

Strategic Planning

Client Service Plan update: none

Volunteer Hours:

Next Meeting –The next meeting is planned for Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 8:30 AM.

Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m. by Ted Gilles. Seconded by Chuck Schafer. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karla Smith

Approved By:

Chuck Schafer, Secretary PCSWCD