

Peoria County Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting

February Minutes

Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Ted Gilles called the February meeting of the Peoria County SWCD to order at 8:25 a.m. on February 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	A	Ron Gilles	A
Josh Joseph	P	Ted Gilles	P	Anita Lorange	P
Karla Smith	P	Chuck Schafer	A	Marty Behrends	P
Dan Sahn	P	Troy Wagenbach	P	Charles Rice	P
Wilson Yingling	P	Dave Wagner	P	Arlan Janssen	P
				Betty Gorman	A
				Derek Menold	P

Approval of Agenda

The Board reviewed the agenda for the February meeting, Dave Wagner moved to approve the agenda, Troy Wagenbach seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the January meeting. Troy Wagenbach moved to approve the minutes. Dave Wagner seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of the Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial reports for January. Dave Wagner made the motion to approve the financial reports from January. Ted Gilles 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, there have been many CSP payments and EQIP payments. She aids with the IDOA by administering their funds for training and streambank funds when needed. She finished up the 1099's and submitted them to the IRS. She attended meetings for the Joint Review Committee for the city of Peoria. Karla has been spending time getting ready for the annual meeting on Saturday. Josh has started contacting our FY '23 landowners about getting work done during this calendar year. He had a field visit to look at some erosion in a field. He has been working on seed calculations to place the seed order and have the seed come in by mid-March. He finished his January AITC classes and is preparing for the February visits with a sheep. He was sick for a week and listened to the Conservation Cropping Seminar. He also spent time preparing for the annual meeting. Jeremy Reported on EQIP contracts, ACT Now contracts. He discussed that the 2023 CSP payments were almost completed for our District Group. There are 5 new applications being assessed. He explained how CRP would be different this year. There are currently

interviews going on for a SCT in Edwards, and a Pathway Intern. Dan has been working on 3 EQIP-IRA Applications for Contracts. He has been designing waterways, and has a big job in Woodford Co. Wilson has been obtaining signatures for CSP payments and helping to process them. He has also been working on EQIP IRA applications to get them moving forward.

Conservation Application

EQIP, CSP, CRP, CREP: 3 new EQIP IRA applications have been picked up. CSP is starting renewals and has 5 new applications.

Update Watersheds Watershed Survey:

Partners for conservation

Project Update:

Payment Approval:

Project Approval:

Cost Share Prioritization:

New Business

Annual Meeting: February 17 at 8 am.

Finalizing the Details: Be at the Legion between 7:15 and 7:30 to help set up.

Lobby Day: March 6 in Springfield, coinciding with Soil Health Week

Advocacy and Action Day: March 7, a time for SWCD employees to talk with legislators.

Burn Clinic: March 23rd 8:00 am

Sales Updates:

Custom Seeding: Seed mixes are done, getting ready to place the orders.

Trees: There are about \$1180 in sales

Fish: There are about \$1530 in sales

Miscellaneous: Envirothon Donation: Dave Wagner made a motion to donate \$50 to the Illinois Envirothon. Troy Wagenbach seconded. Motion passed. **Statement of Economic Interest:** Please fill out by May 1, 2024.

Old Business.

Miscellaneous:

Building

Lease: Lease was sent back to the USDA contact. They have received it, but no further word on it.

Generator: Installation was finished on Friday.

Miscellaneous:

Operations

Time sheets and mileage reports: Signed by the Chairman.

Correspondence:

Legislative Updates

State and Federal:

Communications

AISWCD:

NACD:

BLWR: The January February Report is in the board packets

Strategic Planning

Client Service Plan update: none

Volunteer Hours:

Next Meeting –The next meeting is planned for Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 8:30 AM

Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m. by Dave Wagner. Seconded by Ted Gilles. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karla Smith

Approved By:

Chuck Schafer, Secretary PCSWCD