

Peoria County Soil and Water Conservation District Meeting

November Minutes

Call to Order

Chairman Jerry Wyatt called the November meeting of the Peoria County SWCD to order at 8:30 a.m. on November 5, 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	P
Josh Joseph	P	Ted Gilles	P	Anita Lorance	P
Karla Smith	P	Chuck Schafer	A	Marty Behrends	P
Dan Sahm	P	Troy Wagenbach	P	Charles Rice	P
Wilson Yingling	P	Dave Wagner	P	Arlan Janssen	P
Kane Caudle	P			Betty Gorman	P
				Derek Menold	P
				Dennis Herrmann	A

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

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

Approval of the Financial Report

The Board reviewed the financial reports for September and October. Ted Gilles made the motion to approve the financial reports from September and October. Dave Wagner 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. She sat in on a couple of QuickBooks seminars. Attended meetings for the Peoria Joint Review Committee and the Employee Board. She finished taking fish orders and worked on fish pick-up day. Helped at the Youth Farm Fall Festival. She has been trying to find a speaker on QuickBooks for Winter Training. She is taking a vacation next week to Tennessee. Josh has been working on CPP, he did a field visit to Arlan Janssen to sign up for CPP. He met with Sam Martin, David Menold and Dennis Rickey, he has the surveying, design and the Preconstruction Meeting done on those sites. Josh and Dan did a Cultural Resource on Bruce Bontz property. Josh helped with pick-up for fish. Josh continues with AITC visits, during October he talked about soybeans, November he will be discussing trees. He completed some annual trainings, went to a Hydrology

training in Springfield and worked at the Career Sparks event. He also snuck in a week's vacation in October. Jeremy introduced the new Soil Conservation Technician, Kane Caudle. Monday was his first day. The board welcomed him to Peoria County. Jeremy then talked about October being the beginning of the Fiscal Year for NRCS. He discussed the Programs and sign-up dates for those. Our district grouping has 49 contracts, 4.3 million has been spent here that includes 12,696 Acres of conservation. Currently they are working on renewing CSP contracts. He will be working with Kane helping him learn all the programs. Dan has been transferred to Tazwell County as a Soil Con 11. He explained what that meant and thanked the board for their kindness to him and the work environment here in Peoria County. Wilson has been working on CSP Renewals, NRI Training, he and Dan went to Okanes for some surveying, and he has been working on trainings that need to be done by the end of the year.

Conservation Application

EQIP, CSP, CRP, CREP: We are waiting to hear from DNR for a closing date on the Davenport Easement.

Update Watersheds Watershed Survey: There is a Kickapoo Watershed meeting next week.

Partners for conservation

Project Update: Josh handed out the current list that he is working from for FY 23 money. There was an official proposal from the floor to increase the maximum amount of money per project to \$7,500. It was stated that it would help to make more jobs accessible. Troy Wagenbach made the motion to increase the maximum amount of cost share money to \$7,500 from \$6,000. Ted Gilles Seconded. Motion passed. Dave Wagner abstained from voting.

Payment Approval: Dave Wagner made the motion to approve payment of \$850 to Bob Raglund for well sealing cost share. Troy Wagenbach seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Cost Share Prioritization:

New Business

Annual Meeting: Karla will have the official paperwork to send in at the December meeting. General Election – Ted Gilles has decided to retire from being a board member and will become an Associate Board member in March. Ticket Prices – In 2024, ticket prices were \$8, we pay the Legion \$11 per person. It was decided to keep the ticket prices the same as 2024. \$8.

Tax Levy: The board reviewed the District's ability to file a tax levy to cover liability expenses which has been authorized by the Illinois Statute. After discussion Dave Wagner made the motion to renew the filing for the tax levy. Ted Gilles second. Motion passed. Roll Call vote was taken.

NACD Dues: Dave Wagner made the motion to pay \$101 in dues to the NACD. Ted Gilles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Winter Training – December 3 – 4: Held in Springfield. Troy Wagenbach made the motion to allow Josh and Karla to attend. Dave Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

November 29, Black Friday: Troy Wagenbach made the motion for the SWCD office to be closed on November 29, 2024. Dave Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Miscellaneous: Josh asked the board for permission to order a tablecloth for displays that will be used with Woodford County SWCD. Peoria County would be responsible for half of the cost. Ted Gilles made the motion to order a tablecloth for use in displays with Woodford County pay half of the cost. Dave Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Old Business.

Tri-County Erosion Control Ordinance Agreement: Waiting for Tazewell County Board to approve and send back.

Fish Sale: We had 12 customers for pickup and 3 deliveries. Total sale was \$3300. Profit of \$738.00

Miscellaneous:

Building

Lease: We have a signed copy of the lease agreement, and the rent payment was the correct amount of \$8241.70. We also received all the back pay for the increased rent payment in October.

Miscellaneous:

Operations

Time sheets and mileage reports: signed by the Chairman.

Correspondence:

Legislative Updates

State and Federal:

Communications

AISWCD:

NACD:

BLWR: October-November packet in the board folder.

Strategic Planning

Client Service Plan update: none

Volunteer Hours:

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

Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m. by Ted Gilles. Seconded by Dave Wagner. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karla Smith

Approved By:

Chuck Schafer, Secretary PCSWCD