

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING AGENDA

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:30 AM

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

Secretary's Report

1. Minutes of October 21, 2024 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report

2. Approve Time and Travel
3. Approve Financial Report
4. Bill Approval

Correspondence: None

FSA Report

NRCS Report

Unfinished Business:

Partners for Conservation (PFC) Cost-Share
Grants
Education & Outreach Events
Contract Work
Sales

New Business:

Mid-Term Employee Evaluations

Reports – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

Resource Conservationist – Crystal Sauder
Administrative Coordinator – Linda Settle
Grants & Special Projects – Emilie Watkins

For the Good of the Order

Adjournment

Date and time of next Board Meeting
December 16, 2024 at 7:30 AM

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes November 18, 2024

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, November 18, 2024. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:37 AM. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Larry Kirchner, Jim Frogge Alan Wissmiller and Ed Brown, Resource Conservationist Crystal Sauder, Grants & Project Coordinator Emilie Watkins (by phone) and Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle. Absent were Associate Directors John Settle and Cody Rollins, District Conservationist Trenton Rader and Soil Conservationist Matt Raymond.

Guest in attendance was Shannon Settle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kirchner made and O'Connor seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed five to zero.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed five to zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes of October 21, 2024 Board Meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Approval of Time and Travel
Approval of Financial Report
Approval of Bills

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

PFC Cost Share – Sauder reported that the District has received additional money from IDOA for cost-share to cover applications already approved. She would like to tentatively approve the remaining applications if IDOA gives the go ahead on pre-approving. O'Connor made and Brown seconded a motion to tentatively approve Gale Jensen's application if IDOA gives the go-ahead. Motion passed five to zero.

Grants – Compeer Grant – Sauder reported that the Soil on Demand Round Table will be December 5th at 6pm at Brickstone Brewery. Dinner will be provided. Discussion will be on the Soil on Demand project, web page and cost-share. Soil on Demand participants, cost-share recipients, SWCD Directors and Compeer staff have been invited. The current Compeer grant has been extended through the end of 2025 to spend the remaining funds.

GDDF Grant - Watkins stated that the next Conservation Collaborative meeting will be December 5th at 6pm. She is sending out monthly e-newsletters and looking for new members.

Watkins stated that the GDDF midterm report has been approved. She has a phone call scheduled for December 3rd with Rebecca Judd. The grant period goes through the end of 2025.

Section 604B Rock Creek Watershed Plan – Watkins reported that Kane-DuPage SWCD did not do a no-bid contract but Champaign SWCD did. Discussion was held on the proposal, agreement and copy of the Champaign SWCD purchasing policy that was included in the PowerPoint sent to the Directors and what action steps are needed. Consensus is that there will be a stipulation that the District will hire someone specifically to work on this project. Decision was made to tell Living Waters that the District is positioning themselves to sign the contract with them, pending labor concerns and a purchasing policy.

Education & Outreach – Sauder stated that she had been contacted by Seth Love, IDNR Fish Biologist inquiring about doing a pond seminar in the spring. If one is done it would be in late February or early March.

Sales – Sauder reported the tree sale profit was very small. She is considering only having a spring tree sale as the fall sales are not very profitable. The fish sale was good.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mid-Term Employee Evaluations – Sauder stated that with the change in the date and time for the December board meeting that the mid-term employee evaluations need to be scheduled. The December board meeting was changed to December 16th at 7:30am. Decision was made to have the mid-term evaluations on December 11th at 7:30am.

REPORTS – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC Report – Sauder reported that she will be at Winter Training in Springfield on December 3rd & 4th. She will also be out on November 29th for Black Friday and December 6th for Candle Day at her secondary job.

AC Report – Settle reported that she will be having knee replacement surgery on January 2nd.

Grant Writer – Nothing additional

NRCS Report – EQIP& CSP apps are being taken.

FSA Report – No Farm Bill, no update.

Committee Reports –

Good of the Order –

The next regular District Board meeting will be held on December 16, 2024 at 7:30 AM.

Kirchner made and Frogge seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 9:02 AM.