



Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District

7775A Route 47, Yorkville, Illinois 60560 • (630)553-5821 extension 3

Board Meeting
Monday November 18, 2024, 5:00pm
USDA Service Center, Yorkville, IL



www.kendallswcd.org

Present:	Absent:
Kerri Horton, Chairwoman Scott Kaufmann, Treasurer Deanna Bazan, Secretary (virtual) Nancy Cinatl, Associate Director Alyse Olson, Resource Conservationist Ariel Beauchamp, Education Coordinator (virtual) Nicole Schneider, Administrative Coordinator Megan Andrews, Soil Conservationist Seth Wormley, Kendall County Board Liaison	Rita Feltes, Vice Chairwoman Zach Bachmann, Kendall County Board Liaison Erika Luft, Acting District Conservationist Shelly Ray, IDOA Regional Representative

5:04 pm: **Call to Order**
 Meeting was called to order by Kerri Horton, Chairwoman.
 Horton called for additions to the agenda. The following action was taken:
Motion to approve the agenda by: Deanna Bazan; 2nd by Scott Kaufmann - Motion Carried.

5:05 pm: **Minutes for Approval**

- Horton called for the approval of the October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes.
 The following action was taken:
Motion to approve the October 2024 Board Meeting Minutes by: Scott Kaufmann; 2nd by Deanna Bazan; – Motion Carried.
- Horton called for the approval of the Education Committee Meeting Minutes 10-1-2024.
 The following action was taken:
Motion to approve the Education Committee Meeting Minutes 10-1-2024 by: Scott Kaufmann 2nd by Deanna Bazan – Motion Carried.

5:05 pm: **Financial Reports**
 Schneider highlighted the payments of Pig lesson resources, transfer of FY23 CPP Funds to Dekalb County, FY23 PFC William Johnson, FY23 PFC Kerri Horton and the insurance for AC, EC & RC. She also highlighted the deposit of the IAA Foundation – IAITC 2024-2025 Grant.
 The following action was taken: **Motion to approve the October Treasurer’s Report by: Scott Kaufmann; 2nd by Deanna Bazan – Motion Carried.**

5:10 pm: **Reports**

- Committees: Personnel/Finance, Policy, Education, Strategic Planning:** No committee report at this time.
- NRCS:** Written report not provided or included in packet. Andrews gave verbal highlights on the following:
 - The new District Conservationist started, Erez. He is working out of the Ottawa office.
 - CSP program payments, working on these for Lasalle.
 - There is a short-term spending bill.
- SWCD:**
 - EC- Ariel Beauchamp:** Report provided as written with a few highlights on the following:
 - 940 students in October were reached with agriculture education materials
 - Summer Ag Institute workshop – low enrollment. SAI is trying to gain insight on how to increase interest and participation.

- Education assistant is going great
 - Interest in the Water Cycle lessons.
 - Summer Ag Institute will be in June 2025.
 - **RC- Alyse Olson:** Report provided in board packet as written with highlights on the following:
 - No new updates on PFC's.
 - Worked on 2nd quarterly report for IL Urban Manual
 - Attended a Fox River Study Group meeting.
 - **AC- Nicole Schneider:** Report provided in Board Packet with highlights on the following:
 - Attended the Livingston Ag Expo in Pontiac, IL on 10/2.
 - Sent out newsletter sponsor packets.
 - Resubmitted AFR
 - Worked on opening up the savings account
 - CD Research
4. **Kendall County Board:** We received confirmation on our full requested budget amount.
 5. **IDOA:** See BLWR report in partner updates.
 6. **AISWCD:** Verbal updates given by Schneider.
 7. **LUC 3:** No report at this time.
 8. **ISWCDEA / Insurance Committee:** Verbal updates given by Schneider. Highlights include:
 - November health insurance invoices have been received and paid for RC, EC & AC.
 - Winter Training will be held December 4th-5th. The RC and AC are registered.

5:50 pm:

Old Business:

1. **Timesheets Review & Approval:** Staff October timesheets were presented for review and approval. The following action was taken:
Motion to approve October timesheets by: Scott Kaufmann; 2nd by Deanna Bazan – Motion Carried.
2. **Director Vacancy:** Schneider shared the post that was shared on the website and social media platforms reaching out to potential Associate Directors. Schneider confirmed an email will be sent out tomorrow, November 19th.

5:55 pm:

New Business

1. **2025 Winter Soil Health Workshop:** Discussion about details of the event perused. Nothing finalized- RC will investigate event locations.
2. **Partners for Conservation (PFC) Sign:** Olson presented the PFC Sign to the directors.
3. **Investment & Savings Opportunities – CD:** discussion ensued about the purchase of a CD. The board agreed a 9-month CD would be best. The following action was taken:
Motion to approve the purchase of a Certificate of Deposit (CD) at Old Second Bank for the purpose of gaining a guaranteed rate of return on our reserve by: Scott Kaufmann; 2nd by Deanna Bazan – Motion Carried.

4. **Petition for Holding a General Election:** The board was presented the petition for a general election for signature. Schneider will submit it to IDOA.
5. **2025 Tree Planting Initiative:** This is an event the board and staff would like to do again. Tabled until next board meeting to have more discussion.
6. **Holiday Leave:** The board agreed to close the office for Kendall County Soil and Water staff members from Christmas Day to New Year's Day. The office will remain open while the NRCS Partner will be working. The Kendall County Soil and Water staff will return to work on January 2nd, 2025.
7. **Employee Bonuses:** Schneider reminded the board that 4% salary bonuses were budget for staff this fiscal year. The following action was taken:
Motion to approve Employee Bonuses by: Scott Kaufmann; 2nd by Deanna Bazan – Motion Carried.

6:35 pm: **Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Nancy Cinatl; 2nd by Seth Wormley – Motion Carried.**

Our next regular board meeting is scheduled for December 9th, 2024, 5:00pm at the Yorkville USDA Service Center.

Minutes Submitted by: Nicole Schneider