



Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District

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Logan County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes 3/8/2024

The January-February meeting of the Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District Board was held on March 8, 2024, at 7:30am in the district office at 1650 5th Street, Lincoln, Illinois.

Directors present: David Allspach-Chairman, Sec.-Treasurer Dean Sasse, Cheryl Baker and Doug Thompson.
Absent – Vice Chairman – Kent Kleinschmidt

District staff present: Steve Bracey, RC

NRCS staff: Jamie Thompson – Soil Conservationist (SC), Andrew Fulton- District Conservationist

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 A.M. by Chairman Allspach.

Secretary Report: Board members reviewed the minutes from the December 7, 2023 board meeting. Cheryl Baker moved to approve the minutes. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board members reviewed the balance sheet and general ledger for December, January, February and March to date. All financial statements were emailed previously. Dean Sasse moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Doug Thompson seconded. The motion was approved.

Staff reports:

Jamie Thompson, NRCS Soil Conservationist (SC) – She informed the board that she has been busy with preparing annual payments for the Conservation Stewardship Program. She has also spent time planning, assessing and ranking applicants for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Ranking deadline for EQIP is March 22, 2024. The programs are competitive with applications ranked statewide.

She has been assisting FSA and clients with CRP as needed.

She has provided training to IDOA Planners for CSP planning..

She has attended several training sessions for ArcGIS Pro.

She has assisted the District Group of Logan, Menard and Sangamon Counties with workload and training new hires as assigned.

A copy of Jamie's report will be on file in the office.

Andrew Fulton -NRCS District Conservationist

Andrew reported that his activities mirrored many of the things in Jamie's report.

He provided the board with additional information concerning the above programs. He informed the board that a Soil Conservationist position for Logan County has been posted. A Soil Conservationist was recently hired in Menard County and the Menard County SWCD has hired a full time Resource Conservationist.

Steve Bracey, RC, reviewed his written report with the board. He reported that he has been working on waterway designs for CRP and state cost share projects. He has also completed 4 construction checks for practices. He has completed survey work on all CRP re-enroll waterways that expire in 2024.

Tree sale is underway.

The new Great Plains drill has been delivered and recently went out to the first customer.

He developed the position description for the technical assistance grant and advertised it through the ISU Ag board, AISWCD website. FSA newsletter and the SWCD website. He also had a zoom meeting with AISWCD Executive Director, Michael Woods, regarding funding for the position.

He developed the Annual Report that IDOA requires each year.

1099 forms for state cost share recipients have been sent out.

Steve provided the board with a list of workload activities that have been performed for the NRCS contribution agreement.

A copy of his written report will be put on file.

Correspondence: Steve presented a request for a donation to the Envirothon competition that will take place this spring. Doug Thompson moved to donate \$100 to the Envirothon. Cheryl Baker seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Old Business:

- a. 2024 General Election – Election was held at the district office on February 1, 2024.

New Business:

- a. Election of Officers – Chairman Allspach turned the meeting over to Steve to run the election. Steve opened the floor for nominations for Chairman. Doug Thompson nominated David Allspach for Chairman. Cheryl Baker moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion passed. Steve then opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman. David Allspach nominated Kent Kleinschmidt for Vice Chairman. Dean Sasse moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Doug Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Steve asked for nominations for Sec-Treasurer. David Allspach nominated Dean Sasse. Cheryl Baker moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- b. Finalize election documents – Chairman Allspach signed the election counting record. Doug Thompson and David Allspach signed acceptance of office forms.
- c. Approve time sheets – Doug Thompson moved to approve Steve’s time sheets that were checked by Cheryl. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- d. CRP contracts – There were no CRP contracts that needed approval but Steve did have a conservation plan for Alan Moldenhauer that needed approval. Dean Sasse moved to approve the conservation plan. Doug Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- e. FY23 Grant Agreement – Annual Report. Dean Sasse moved to accept the Annual Report as written. Doug Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chairman Allspach signed the report.
- f. FY22 & FY23 State Cost Share Program – Steve reviewed the ledgers for both years. FY22 work has been completed. There have been a few cancellations on the FY23 ledger.
- g. Economic Interest Forms – Steve passed out the Economic Interest Statement forms. All the directors have filled out a form previously through other board affiliations.
- h. CREP Program Update – Steve reported that Logan only has one CREP application and it is being revised due to a death of one of the owners. IDNR has extended their 18 month deadline for executing the easement due to those circumstances.
- i. Tree Sale – Trees delivery is expected the 1st week of April.
- j. NACD Technical Assistance Grant MOA – Steve reported that we only had two phone inquiries for the position. The board discussed options including commitment of additional funds to support the position. Dean Sasse moved to use \$6760 of district funds to increase the base salary to \$22 per hour. Doug Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- k. Drill – Great Plains – Discussion followed on the new drill. Doug Thompson provided Steve with some places that make tarps for drills. Having the drill covered or housed is part of the grant agreement. The drill will rent for \$3 per acre.

Adjournment: Dean Sasse moved to adjourn the meeting. Doug Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 AM by Chairman Allspach.

Minutes compiled by Steve Bracey, Resource Conservationist

Approved by Logan County SWCD 6-26-2024

Presiding Officer 

Sec.-Treasurer 