



STEPHENSON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District Chairperson Jim Hutchison called the meeting to order at 8:01 a. m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2022, in the Blackhawk room, Stephenson County Farm Bureau in Freeport, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: Present at the time the meeting was called to order: Board members Jim Hutchison (Chairperson), Barb Klinger (Secretary/Treasurer), Seth Wenzel (Vice Chairperson), and Matt Schlachter (Board Director); District employee Trina Orr (Administrative Coordinator); NRCS employee Abby Mielke (Soil Conservationist); City of Freeport employee Lorraina Lopez (Planner); and Stephenson County Board member Scott Helms (Chairperson).
Not in attendance: Mark Binger

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Review, discuss, and possible action of the minutes from the December 21, 2022, Stephenson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting.

Wenzel moved to approve the minutes from the December 21, 2022, Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting, Schlachter seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye: All. Motion passed.

TREASURERS REPORT AND BUDGET: Review, discuss, and possible action to pay the bills as listed on the monthly budget sheet for December 2022.
Schlachter moved to pay the bills as listed on the monthly budget sheet for December 2022, Hutchison seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye: All. Motion passed.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEE TIMESHEETS: Review, discuss, and possible action of Pay Period December 4, 2022, and December 18, 2022 employee timesheets for Aaron Dinderman and Trina Orr.
Hutchison moved to approve the Pay Period December 4, 2022, and December 18, 2022, employee timesheets for Aaron Dinderman and Trina Orr; Schlachter seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye: All. Motion passed.

REPORTS

STEPHENSON COUNTY BOARD REPORT (Scott Helms)

- Ride the Rail plans have started to add a route from Rockford to Dubuque.
- Water Sewer project will be completed by the end of the year.



STEPHENSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – AG IN THE CLASSROOM REPORT
(Debbie Steinbach)
Nothing to report

FREEPORT CITY COUNCIL REPORT (Lorraina Lopez)

- RFP for Grant Administration for CBG grant was sent.
- 13 properties have completely closed with the Buyout project.
- 7 properties are currently waiting for the state's approval.

PHEASANTS FOREVER (Jared Trickey)
Nothing to report.

SWCD RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST REPORT (Aaron Dinderman)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

NRCS – EQIP REPORT (Abby Mielke)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

NRCS – CSP (Abby Mielke)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

NRCS – Compliance Reviews (Abby Mielke)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

NRCS – SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN REPORT (Luke Tweeten)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

NRCS – SOIL CONSERVATIONIST REPORT (Hannah McWhirter)
Report in Board Meeting packet.

Review, discuss, and possible action of Stephenson County Farm Bureau Report, SWCD Resource Conservationist Report, NRCS-CRP/Conservation Plan/CPO's Report, NRCS-Contribution Agreement Report, and NRCS-EQIP/CSP Update Reports as e-mailed in the Board of Directors packet.

Klinger moved to approve the reports as e-mailed in the Board of Directors packet
Hutchison seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye:
All. Motion passed.

HIGHLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE DONATION: Review, discuss, and possible action to approve bat house and bluebird house donation to Highland Community College silent auction at Legacy Gala, April 29, 2023. (Trina Orr)



Wenzel moved to approve bat house and bluebird house donation to Highland Community College silent auction at Legacy Gala, April 29, 2023, Klinger seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye: All. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Jim Hutchison)

No executive session needed.

ADJOURNMENT – Having no other business, Chairperson Hutchison adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a. m.

Notes recorded by Trina Orr