



STEPHENSON COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 19, 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, April 19, 2023, 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 employees Aaron Dinderman (Resource Conservationist), Trina Orr (Administrative Coordinator); NRCS employee Abby Mielke (Soil Conservationist); Stephenson County board member Steve Fricke (Board Member); Stephenson County Farm Bureau employee Debbie Steinbach (Ag in the Classroom Agriculture Literacy Coordinator); and City of Freeport employee Lorraina Lopez (Planner).

Not in attendance: Mark Binger

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Review, discuss, and possible action of the minutes from the March 15, 2023, Stephenson Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting. Schlachter moved to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2023, Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District Board of Directors meeting, Wenzel 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 March 2023.

Wenzel moved to pay the bills as listed on the monthly budget sheet for March 2023, Schlachter 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 6 and Pay Period 7, employee timesheets for Aaron Dinderman and Trina Orr. Klinger moved to approve the Pay Period 6 and Pay Period 7, 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 (Steve Fricke)

- The nursing home's Administrator has resigned.
- 6 other nursing home facilities are only 50% full.
- 52 solar facilities are being approved, and 7 are currently under construction.



STEPHENSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU – AG IN THE CLASSROOM REPORT (Debbie Steinbach)

- 28 classrooms are participating in chick hatching.
- Students will learn about corn during the month of April, and pollinators during May.
- Over 325 white pine trees were delivered to Stephenson County 3rd graders.

FREEPORT CITY COUNCIL REPORT (Lorraina Lopez)

- 8 to 10 new vehicles for Transit will be received in 2024.
- East Side project has sent 62 applications and 31 have been received back.
- Transit will be temporarily cancelling routes to perform vehicle maintenance.

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.

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 Schlachter seconded the motion. There being no further discussion – Voting aye: All. Motion passed.

HIGHWAY CLEAN-UP: Review, discuss, and possible action to set a date for highway clean-up

A date has not yet been determined.

DISCONNECT AERO INTERNET AND CONNECT FRONTIER:



Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District has disconnected internet service through AERO and connected Frontier internet service.

EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION (Jim Hutchison)

Stephenson County Soil & Water Conservation District entered into an Executive Closed Session at 9:18 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT – Having no other business, Chairperson Hutchison adjourned the meeting.

Notes recorded by Trina Orr