

DEKALB COUNTY SWCD
Minutes from September 14, 2021 Board Meeting

Supervisors:

Sarah Delbecq, Chair
Jeff Conrad, Vice Chair
Judy Strock, via tele-conf

SWCD:

Nellie Peffley
Julie Knudson
Bill Ward
Cameron Bell

Absent:

Steve Provines, Supervisor
Steve Watson, Supervisor
Kate Sanders, ISDA

NRCS:

Derek Thompson

Chair Sarah Delbecq called the September 14, 2021 board meeting to order at 7:06p.m

DISTRICT BUSINESS

- **Minutes:** Chair Sarah Delbecq asked if there were any additions or corrections to the August 2021 minutes that had been provided to the board members. No additions or corrections were made. Jeff Conrad moved to approve the August 19, 2021 minutes as written. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Financial Report:** Sarah Delbecq asked for approval of claims 8521-8531 and deposit D690. The board reviewed all claims and deposit. No corrections were made. Jeff Conrad moved to approve claims 8521 through 8531 and deposit 690 as presented. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **CWI Grant:** Nellie reported the company that the District was working with to plant pollinators around solar panels has backed out. Because it was at the last minute, it was too late to try and rework the grant. Therefore a 2022 CWI grant proposal was not submitted. Nellie stated the District will submit an application for the 2023 grant cycle. She asked the board to start thinking of ideas or projects that could use CWI grant funds.
- **Drill Storage:** The District drill is currently being stored outside of the County Farm's building. Bill Ward checked out a potential storage area near the County Farm that would work. Sarah Delbecq farms the area and will get Nellie and/or Bill the property owner's contact information. Bill Ward reported the drill is in need of some major maintenance. He will get some quotes and take care of the issues.
- **Community Foundation:** Nellie reported the Foundation has agreed to leave the District account open for now and will revisit in 2022.
- **Surety Bond:** Julie Knudson reported a check for \$137.50 has been sent to our agent for Farm Bureau for a \$30,000 surety bond policy. Should receive the policy soon.
- **Audit:** Julie reported she has not heard anything from the SBOA auditor for some time now. Will keep the board updated.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Rain Barrel Workshop:** A workshop has been scheduled for October 9th at the City of Auburn Stormwater Pollution Control facility.
- **District Cost Share Program (DCSP):** Nellie reported she has had a request from the YMCA for removal of 17 pear trees. She will wait to hear if other funding comes thru.
- **Finance:** Nellie brought the following for the board's review and/or approval:
 - **Woodland Steward Newsletter:** Nellie reported she received an invoice for \$480.48 from Woodland Steward for the publication and mailing of their newsletter to DeKalb County woodland owners. The board discussed the request. Jeff Conrad made a motion to approve

payment of \$480.48 to Woodland Steward. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

- **Wood Land Lakes RC&D:** Jeff Conrad had an invoice for \$500 from Wood-Land-Lakes, RC&D. He has been representing the District at the Wood-Land-Lakes meetings. The group's main focus is putting land into conservation easements. After discussion Jeff Conrad moved to approve payment of \$500 to Wood-Land-Lakes, RC&D. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Resource Technician position:** Nellie reported an additional request was sent to the County Council for the amount needed to cover the full time position until the end of the year. The county will cover the amount then invoice the District for reimbursement.
- **Policies:** Nellie reported she is working on putting together some policies for the board to review and potentially adopt. A binder will be put together to keep them all in, which will include policies required by SBOA. The binder will then be reviewed every year for any updates and board approval.
- **HNA Management Plan/CISMA:** Nellie had a copy of the Invasive Species Management Plan for The Hague Nature Area that Dugan Julian put together. All agreed it was a little more detailed on the timing of treatments needed. She also had information on how to become a 501(C)(3) non-profit which is needed for a CISMA. Nellie asked the board about going forward. After much discussion the board decided to wait and see if there is any interest after holding a Weed Wrangle event. Nellie will keep the board updated.

OTHER UPDATES:

- **NRCS update: Derek Thompson, District Conservationist:**
 - **USDA Fiscal Year:** Derek reported their fiscal year ends at the end of September.
 - **Grassland Field Day:** Derek thanked Julie Knudson for sending out postcards promoting the field day. There were at least 10 landowners that attended the field day.
 - **Cover Crop Site:** Derek reported the plot was seeded today. They used seed left over from last year's planting. He again thanked the board for purchasing the seed.
- **ISDA update: Kate Sanders, Resource Specialist:** absent no report given

OTHER ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

- No other business was presented.

NEXT MEETING:

- Tuesday October 21 @ 7:00pm

Jeff Conrad moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy Strock seconded. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

Chairman: Sarah Delbecq _____

Judy Strock _____

Jeff Conrad _____

Steve Provines _____

Steve Watson _____

Recorder _____

Date: _____