

JANUARY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Monday, January 9, 2023 at 7:30 AM

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

Secretary's Report

1. Minutes of December 12, 2022 Board Meeting

Treasurer's Report

2. Approve Time and Travel
3. Approve Financial Report
4. Bill Approval

Correspondence: None

FSA Report

NRCS Report

Unfinished Business:

Partners for Conservation (PFC) Cost-Share
Grants
Education & Outreach
2023 Internship
CD Rates
ARC GIS Software

New Business:

IADD Annual Conference
Watershed Conference Sponsorship

Reports – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

Resource Conservationist – Crystal Sauder
Administrative Coordinator – Linda Settle
Grants Coordinator & Special Projects – Emilie Watkins
Conservation Coordinator – Matt Raymond

Adjournment

Date and time of next Board Meeting
February 13, 2023 at 7:30 AM

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes January 9, 2023

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:47 AM. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Jim Frogge, Larry Kirchner, and Ed Brown, Resource Conservationist Crystal Sauder, Grants & Special Projects Coordinator Emilie Watkins (via Zoom), Conservation Coordinator Matt Raymond, Outreach Intern Halie Kohl, and District Conservationist Trenton Rader. Guest in attendance was Adam Wagner. Absent were Director Alan Wissmiller, Associate Director John Settle, and Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: O'Connor made and Brown seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed four to zero.

CONSENT AGENDA: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as written. Motion passed four to zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes of December 12, 2022 Board Meeting

TRERASURER'S REPORT:

Approval of Time and Travel
Approval of Financial Report
Approval of Bills

CORRESPONDENCE: none

OLD BUSINESS:

PFC Cost Share – Raymond shared the District has exhausted all FY2021 funds. There are checks that need to be signed for current approved FY21 funds. Over \$5,000 from FY2022 PFC Funds have been obligated.

Grants – Raymond promoted the upcoming ag events over the next few months. The first one being on January 26th at the Herscher Community Center. Raymond asked for the board's opinion on the date for the Conservation Bus Tour based on the legislator calendar. April 4th was the date decided would be the best fit for the event. Watkins shared that she sent Sauder, Raymond, and O'Connor the grant tasks, contacts, deliverables, budgets, and other items before she goes on maternity leave. Raymond shared four different Soil on Demand options for the upcoming year. He asked for the Board's input on what types of information they are wanting to gather this year from the sensors. Frogge and O'Connor will be coming in at a later day to discuss the different options for the sites.

Education & Outreach – Sauder shared that Kids Day at the Farm will be in-person this year on March 15th and 16th. She will be doing one activity for the event, instead of two like in years past.

2023 Intern Job Posting – Kohl introduced herself to the Board and Staff by sharing her education background and her goals for after college with her business.

CD Rates – Watkins shared the interest rate on a 12-month CD increased to 4%. Kirchner made and O'Connor seconded a motion to put \$50,000 to a 4% CD with the Bank of Bourbonnais for 12 months. Motion passed four to zero.

ArcGIS Software – Sauder shared it is tabled until the February meeting when she has more information.

NEW BUSINESS:

IADD Annual Conference – Sauder shared she was invited to the Illinois Association of Drainage Districts (IADD) Annual Conference in Bloomington on January 19th and 20th. The registration fee was waived and no hotel is needed, as the conference is close to her parents' house. Attending the conference will be a great way to prepare for the District's Drainage District meeting in March. O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion for Sauder to attend the IADD Annual Conference in Bloomington. Motion passed four to zero.

Watershed Conference – Sauder shared the option to become a Sponsor for the 2023 Kankakee River Watershed Conference. A Contributing Sponsor for \$500 covers a display table and a program notice. O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to use \$500 from grant funds to become a Contributing Sponsor for the 2023 Kankakee River Watershed Conference. Motion passed four to zero.

District Sales – Sauder said the Spring Sale dates are set. Fish pickup is at 11am on April 20th. Tree and shrub pickup is from 8am to 4pm on April 14th.

AISWCD Contact List – Sauder shared the AISWCD sent out a District Directory with contact information for each SWCD employee and Board Director. On the Directory, the Director's home addresses and emails were listed. Sauder knew in the past the Board was not open to sharing their personal information and that the District's general email and phone number would be used and then District staff will send correspondence to the needed Director. Sauder was looking for guidance on if the Board would still take this stance and she can have the AISWCD change the contact information for the Directors, or if they were okay with the how the Directory was listing them. After discussion, Sauder will reach out to the AISWCD to remove the personal contact information and have it replaced with the District's general contact information.

REPORTS – in addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC Report – Nothing additional

AC Report – Nothing additional

Grant Writer – Nothing additional

Conservation Coordinator – Nothing additional

DC Report – Rader shared the EQIP deadline was on January 6th. The RCPP enrollment has a deadline in March, with the first deadline of the year was in December. He said there are two enrollment periods each year. CRP deadline is February 6th.

FSA Report – Sauder shared she reached out to Shannon Murphy for an FSA update. She let he know that there are two ad hoc disaster programs coming up: Emergency Relief Program – Phase 2 and Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program, but no sign-up date has been announced. FSA is moving to an all-digital document system. Everything will be done digitally and then all contracts/documents will be sent to the customer via email. Prints will be only offered to individuals without an email address.

Committee Reports – Nothing additional.

The next regular District Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 7:30 AM. Brown made and O'Connor seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed four to zero. The meeting adjourned at 9:33 AM.