



211 N. Appleton Road

Belvidere, IL 6108

815-544-3465 ext. 3

Boone County SWCD Board

Present

Bill Hall.....Chairman	Jack Ratcliffe.....Secretary/Treasurer
Mike Frank.....Vice-Chairman	Todd Aves.....Director
Aaron Brahmstedt.....Director	

Absent

Attendees

Heather VanTilburg.....SWCD	Ashley Barry.....IDOA
Josh Franks.....NRCS	Luke Trexler.....NRCS
Griffin Smith.....NRCS	Nikki Palella.....Magnolia Land Partners
Madison Koopman.....Avalon	Alexa Skirmont.....PCM

SWCD Meeting 11/06/2024

Bill Hall called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M.

Minutes

The September meeting minutes were approved by Jack Ratcliffe and seconded by Aaron Brahmstedt. There were no October minutes to approve.

Public Comment

No public comment given.

Finance Report

Heather VanTilburg gave the finance report. Current funds are \$241,704.43 in Midland checking account and \$15,112.68 in Midland savings. The Illinois Funds account is at \$251,954.04. Ms. VanTilburg made comments about a couple of financial items; BCSWCD had an outstanding invoice with the Boone County Journal for an election posting from December of last year. Ms. VanTilburg also reported that there was an error in calculating the last quarterly IDES payment, an overpayment of \$96.00 was made and will be left in the account to be used towards next quarter's filing. It was also noted that county

funding was not received in August due to a software transition, but two checks would be coming in November to close out the year's funding that was granted for 2024. In a motion made by Mike Frank and seconded by Aaron Brahmstedt the report was approved.

Timesheets

Jack Ratcliffe approved the timesheets and mileage report.

Ag Wetland Mitigation Banking Presentation

Nikki Palella gave a presentation about Wetland Mitigation banking and the benefits it can provide to producers concerning compliance. Handouts on the program were given to NRCS and SWCD staff for distribution to local producers.

Reports

Josh Franks gave the NRCS update. Mr. Franks introduced the new Soil Conservationist stationed in Boone County. He spoke about changes made to the Administrative Agreement between AISWCD and NRCS. Mr. Franks also gave an overview of the CSP work being done in the county at this time.

Heather VanTilburg gave the SWCD report. Ms. VanTilburg went over trainings completed in the last couple of months-IDOT Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop, FOIA/OMA trainings, and possibly doing some shadowing with another SWCD for soil borings and septic suitability's.

Ms. VanTilburg reported on the meetings attended in September and October: County Development, Public Works, Groundwater, Envirothon, 4-H, and a Watershed Stewardship Program led by the local U of I Extension office. Ms. VanTilburg noted that she completed 7 NRI letters and 3 SESC inspections for City of Belvidere.

Ms. VanTilburg also reported her work on the NRCS Admin Agreement, working on Annual Payment Letters and Payment Processing for CSP. 1 new conservation application was also entered for the agreement.

Ms. VanTilburg noted that trees are ordered for the 2025 tree sale, she also mentioned that a new sign will be needed for the sale. Ms. VanTilburg ended the report with tasks she'll be working on this month, which include getting sales ready to post and working on Envirothon materials as well as preparing documentation for the upcoming Board election.

FY24 AFR (Audit)

Heather VanTilburg presented the FY24' Annual Financial Review. Jack Ratcliffe made a motion to accept the audit, seconded by Todd Aves and passed unanimously.

2025 Election

There was discussion about the 2025 election. Mike Frank motioned to hold the election January 8th, seconded by Jack Ratcliffe and passed unanimously.

Winter Training

Ms. VanTilburg gave an overview of the 2024 Winter Training event to be held December 3rd and 4th in Springfield. She noted that registration would be \$25 and a 1-night stay at the host hotel would be needed to attend. A motion was made by Todd Aves to approve Ms. VanTilburg's attendance at training, seconded by Mike Frank. It was passed in a unanimous vote.

Equipment (Tech)

Ms. VanTilburg discussed with the Board that an external hard drive and extra USB flash drives are needed for district file management and organization. Ms. VanTilburg gave an overview of costs for the items. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Jack Ratcliffe, seconded by Todd Aves and passed unanimously.

December Board Meeting

The date of the next monthly Board meeting was discussed. Ms. VanTilburg noted that it falls on one of the days she will attend winter training. A motion to reschedule the meeting to December 11th was made by Todd Aves, seconded by Mike Frank and passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn made by Mike Frank and seconded by Todd Aves.