



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

Dan Kane.....BC Water Resource Specialist

Madison Koopman.....Avalon

SWCD Meeting 09/04/2024

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

Minutes

The August meeting minutes were approved by Jack Ratcliffe and seconded by Todd Aves.

Public Comment

No public comment given.

Timesheets

Jack Ratcliffe approved the timesheets.

Groundwater Project Presentation

Dan Kane gave the Boone County Groundwater Project presentation. He went over the 3D geological mapping that the county recently decided on. He discussed why the project was vital to Boone County (and surrounding communities) as far as planning and development, and for effective water preservation and recharge. He also explained that this was to be a group effort with local, state and possibly federal agencies (NRCS) to provide technical guidance in the adoption and use of the data collected from this survey.

Reports

Josh Franks gave NRCS report. The Rockford office will be filling the Pheasants Forever Biologist position, start date is set for September 30th. There is a tentative candidate for the Belvidere Soil Conservationist position, no official start date was given as a final offer has not been accepted yet but mid October would be likely if all goes well with hiring.

No update on the farm bill yet.

2 Boone County EQIP applications were picked up later in the funding cycle, one for compost/no-till practices and the other is an Organic Transition application (OTI). USDA decided to increase the minimum payment for CSP to \$4k. CRP plans (continuous sign up) are due this Friday 9/6, Boone has 4 to get finalized. He also mentioned that there will be a native plant and wetland identification training in Kingston in a couple of weeks. Most of the NRCS activity this month will be end of fiscal year reporting.

Heather VanTilburg gave SWCD report.

Ms. VanTilburg discussed trainings completed and upcoming, FOIA/OMA and SESC in the next couple of weeks. A brief overview of committee meetings was given for Envirothon, Boone County Development Team and Ag Preservation committee. Ms. VanTilburg went over the PFC program stating BCSWCD has \$457.49 to spend in cost share by the end of this December and \$16,862.00 to spend by next December. There are two pollinator projects currently in the works. She reported that a check for \$22,160.19 was written to DeKalb SWCD as a transfer of Boone SWCD's unspent cost share dollars.

Ms. VanTilburg discussed current soil erosion and sediment control inspection sites, there are 3. MRS Belvidere and Belvidere Retail were both inspected last week and an inspection for Project Yukon will be set up in the coming weeks. She discussed that Belvidere Retail has some concerns involving sediment leaving their site. Reports are being made and will get sent out as soon as possible.

Ms. VanTilburg wrapped up her report with a discussion on NRIs, there were two letter requests. No comment letters were drafted and given to the City of Belvidere. She also mentioned that the audit materials were collected, and she is waiting on word back from the accountant. AISWCD yearly dues came totaling \$552.58 and were paid last week.

Finance Report

Heather VanTilburg gave the finance report. Current funds are \$278,371.93 in Midland checking account and \$15,108.13 in Midland savings. The Illinois Funds account is at \$249,824.69. In a motion made by Jack Ratcliffe and seconded by Todd Aves the report was approved.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn made by Aaron Brahmstedt and seconded by Todd Aves.