



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

Josh Franks.....NRCS

### **SWCD Meeting 08/13/2025**

Bill Hall called the meeting to order at 8:04 A.M.

#### **Minutes**

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

#### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

#### **Finance Report**

Heather VanTilburg gave the finance report. Current funds are \$259,191.61 in Midland checking account and \$15,070.04 in Midland savings. The Illinois Funds account is \$260,604.34. There was a motion made by Todd Aves, seconded by Aaron Brahmstedt to approve the finance report. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Timesheets**

Jack Ratcliffe approved the timesheets.

## **Reports**

Josh Franks gave the NRCS report. Mr. Franks discussed staffing updates for the agency, as well as the local field offices. He also gave an update on agreement extensions; a one year no-cost extension was approved. Mr. Franks said the district group is working on CRP for the upcoming September 19<sup>th</sup> deadline and RCPP contracts that are due this Friday. He concluded with a report from an IL Forage Council meeting in Davis that NRCS attended, and a reminder of the cover crop workshop hosted by Winnebago SWCD coming up.

Heather VanTilburg gave the SWCD report. Ms. VanTilburg went over training from the previous month—soil health, CRP and required IL trainings. She discussed administrative work completed on grant portal renewal and finance updates, including association dues totaling \$1999.48. Ms. VanTilburg gave a brief overview of committees and meetings attended.

Ms. VanTilburg reported on PFC, stating that transfers of unallocated FY24 funds were ready to go upon approval. She concluded her PFC report with current project updates and potential projects for the next set of cost share funds after a general sign-up is held in fall.

Ms. VanTilburg gave updates on the NRCS administrative agreement, payments for January through March have been received and now just waiting on April through July. She stated much of July and August will be working on RCPP, EQIP and CSP for the agreement.

Ms. VanTilburg concluded her report with updates on active erosion and sediment control projects and NRIs completed for the month.

### **NRI 1790**

Ms. VanTilburg presented NRI 1790, a proposed 40-acre solar field currently zoned A-1. Ms. VanTilburg reviewed the location and soils data, Aaron Brahmstedt asked if the parcel(s) were located in an Agricultural Preservation Area. Ms. VanTilburg indicated no, but that there were parcels within the preservation area just to the west on Kelly Rd. She presented the photos taken from the onsite review. Ms. VanTilburg reported that there were mapped wetlands on the parcel as well as some possible building limitations based on soil types. Ms. VanTilburg gave the LE score as 82. Todd Aves motioned to vote unfavorably due to the displacement of prime farmland and the LE score being above the minimum threshold score of 69, Mike Frank seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **NRI 1798**

Ms. VanTilburg presented NRI 1798, a proposed Planned Unit Development (PUD) and detention pond on parcels currently zoned GB and Ag in Poplar Grove. Ms. VanTilburg showed the parcels, explaining that parcel 05-01-100-011 has agricultural activities currently but is zoned General Business, which is where a majority of the development is proposed. Ms. VanTilburg discussed that parcel 05-01-200-017 is currently zoned for Agriculture, and that the proposed detention pond would be located on that parcel. She went over a few hydric soils located on the site and comments regarding a focus on utilizing as much quality native vegetation for the detention pond as possible due to its location and to help ensure protection of soil and water quality from runoff associated with the nearby housing development(s). Jack Ratcliffe motioned to vote favorably on the NRI due to the minimal amount of acreage proposed to be converted, with conditions that comments regarding the use of native

vegetation be considered by the applicant. Aaron Brahmstedt seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **APO/Budget**

Ms. VanTilburg presented edits made to the budget. There was a motion made by Mike Frank and seconded by Jack Ratcliffe to approve the drafts. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Employee Reviews**

Bill Hall moved to go into executive session at 9:06 A.M for the purpose of employee reviews. The motion passed unanimously.

Jack Ratcliffe motioned to come out of executive session at 9:20 A.M. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Adjournment**

Jack Ratcliffe made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Todd Aves. Motion carried.