



Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District
1650 5th Street Road - Lincoln, IL 62656 – Phone (217) 735-5508 Ext.3

Logan County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes 3/17/2020

The December 2019 – March 2020 meeting of the Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District Board was held on March 17, 2020 in the Lincoln USDA Service Center at 1650 5th Street, Lincoln, Illinois.

Directors present: Doug Thompson-Chairman, Dean Sasse-Sec.-Treas., Kent Kleinschmidt and Dave Allspach.
Absent – Vice Chair Cheryl Baker

District staff present: Steve Bracey, RC

NRCS staff: Jamie Thompson – Soil Conservationist (SC)

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 A.M. by Chairman Thompson.

Secretary Report: Board members reviewed the minutes from the December 12, 2019 board meeting as emailed. Kent Kleinschmidt moved to approve the minutes. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: Board members reviewed the balance sheet and general ledger for December 2019 and January 2020, February 2020 and March 2020 to date. All financial statements were emailed previously. Kent Kleinschmidt moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Dave Allspach seconded. The motion was approved.

Correspondence: None

Staff reports: Jamie Thompson, SC, reviewed her written report. She has been busy with CSP annual payments, reviews and modifications. She also has been working with planning with applicants for CSP and CRP. She has attended training sessions on the Conservation Assessment and Ranking Tool (CART). She has also attended training on Conservation Desktop which is the new software program that will be used to create conservation plans of operation and contracts. She has also received webinar training on EQIP and CART. She has been involved with field work and assisting walk-ins. She reviewed some of the changes that have occurred for the building regarding the coronavirus outbreak. The building is not restricted but the public is being asked to make an appointment and be screened prior to entry. She also reviewed CSP and EQIP deadlines with the Board. A written copy of her report will be put on file.

Steve Bracey, RC, reviewed his written report with the Board. He reported that he has been working on waterway designs for CRP and state cost share. He has also been looking at potential problems related to the wind farm. The SWCD is listed as the source for an opinion in the mitigation agreement with IDOA for drainage and erosion problems related to wind farm construction. He has responded to a FOIA request, processed 1099G's for cover crop cost share recipients, attended conservation desktop training, attended the district group meeting and distributed flyers to banks and elevators for the tree sale. A copy of his written report will be put on file.

Old Business:

- A. 2020 General Election – The general election was held on February 6, 2020 in the district office.

New Business:

- a. Election of Officers – Steve opened the floor for nominations for District Chairman. Dean Sasse nominated Doug Thompson for chairman and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Chairman Thompson conducted the balance of the election and opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice-Chair. David Allspach nominated Cheryl Baker and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Dean Sasse seconded the motion and the motion was approved. Chairman Thompson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Sec.-Treasurer. Kent Kleinschmidt nominated Dean Sasse for Sec.-Treasurer and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion was approved.
- b. Finalize election documents – recently elected directors David Allspach, Kent Kleinschmidt and Doug Thompson signed acceptance of office documents and Chairman Thompson signed the election counting record document that will be sent to IDOA.
- c. Approve time sheets – Dean Sasse reviewed Steve’s time sheets. Kent Kleinschmidt moved to approve them. David Allspach seconded the motion. Motion was approved.
- d. State cost share update – Steve reviewed the cost share ledger showing approved applications and the ranked waiting list for additional funding. The wet weather last fall and this spring has prevented construction of practices. Dean Sasse moved to extend the current approved applications for another six months. David Allspach seconded the motion. Motion was approved. The FY20 allocation has not been received yet. Logan is tentatively scheduled to receive \$10,000 for cost share purposes. FY19 funds must be spent by December 31, 2020.
- e. S.T.A.R. Program – The Board reviewed recent emails from Champaign County regarding the Saving Tomorrow’s Agricultural Resources Program. The consensus of the Board was not to become a licensed provider at this time.
- f. Unfunded Cooperative Agreement Update – Steve reviewed the main concern of the agreement which pertained to the District being liable for damages to the government truck while Steve is driving it. Dean Sasse moved to approve the agreement. David Allspach seconded the motion. Motion was approved.
- g. Insurance Coverage Review – Steve provided the Board with copies of the insurance coverage and an email from Kathy Stephens from Troxell Insurance indicating that we have coverage for Steve to drive the government truck for official business.
- h. Lobbying certification – The Board reviewed this document that indicated the District would not use any federal dollars for lobbying purposes. David Allspach moved to approve the document. Dean Sasse seconded. Motion was approved.
- i. Financial Risk Questionnaire – The Board reviewed the Financial Risk questionnaire from the State Association. Dean Sasse move to approve signing the document. David Allspach seconded the motion. Motion was approved.
- j. Tree Sale deadline extended – Steve informed the Board that trees were still available and he would continue selling trees. Expected pick-up date is April 9th.

- k. Land Use Council 6 Dues - \$300 dues invoice from Council 6 for support of the Illinois Envirothon was discussed. Dean Sasse moved to approve payment of the dues. David Allspach seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- l. Economic Interest forms – Steve passed out economic interest forms to board members.
- m. Transect Survey – A transect survey is scheduled this spring. Crops, residue levels and erosion concerns will be documented on approximately 550 points or 275 miles of transect in Logan.

Adjournment: David Allspach motioned to adjourn the meeting and Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30AM by Chairman Thompson.

Minutes compiled by Steve Bracey, Resource Conservationist

Approved by Logan County SWCD 8/26/2020

Presiding Officer 

Sec.-Treasurer 

