



Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District

1650 5th Street - Lincoln, IL 62656 - Phone (217) 735-5508 Ext. 3

Logan County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes 3/17/2022

The January - March 2022 meeting of the Logan County Soil and Water Conservation District Board was held on March 17, 2022 in the Lincoln USDA Service Center at 1650 5th Street, Lincoln, Illinois.

Directors present: Doug Thompson-Chairman, Vice Chair Cheryl Baker, Secretary – Tres. Dean Sasse, David Allspach and Kent Kleinschmidt.

District staff present: Steve Bracey, RC

NRCS staff: Jamie Thompson – Soil Conservationist (SC)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 A.M. by Chairman Thompson.

Secretary Report: Board members reviewed the minutes from the December 9, 2021 board meeting. Cheryl Baker 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 2021, January 2022, February 2022 and March to date. All financial statements were emailed previously. Dean Sasse moved to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded. The motion was approved.

Staff reports:

Jamie Thompson, NRCS SC, reviewed her report. She has processed the remaining 2021 annual CSP payments in CY2022. She has completed the 2022 annual contract reviews and has spent time assessing and ranking two EQIP applications. She continues to work on CRP status reviews and will be working on planning, assessing and ranking of 6 CSP Classic offers. She also will be working on 4 EQIP contracts that require practice completion by April 20th.

She also noted that Acting DC, Tony Hammond, will complete his duties for the District group on April 8th. No word yet on a replacement. There has been a job posting for a Soil Conservationist position in Logan County. It is open to recent college graduates.

Avalon is the replacement contractor for LUSA and is in the process of hiring a new employee that will be stationed in the Lincoln field office. The employee will work on scanning HEL/WC determinations and logging the sites in GIS. A copy of Jamie's 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 and structure designs along with construction checks for CRP, EQIP and state cost share projects. His activities included a fish sale, drill repair, contribution agreement designs and certifications and quarterly reports. 1099G forms were prepared and mailed to state cost share recipients.

He has also been working on field inspection reports on CREP easements. He has completed 16 reports and has 24 left to complete. A copy of his written report will be put on file.

Correspondence: There was none to review.

Old Business:

- a. 2022 General Election – The Board reviewed the results of the recent general election.

New Business:

- a. Election of Officers – Steve conducted the election for the office of Chairman. David Allspach nominated Doug Thompson and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chairman Thompson conducted the balance of the election and opened the floor for nominations of Vice Chairperson. Dean Sasse nominated Cheryl Baker and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chairman Thompson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Sec- Treasurer. Cheryl Baker nominated Dean Sasse and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- b. Finalize documents for the 2022 General Election – Doug, Cheryl and David completed and signed the acceptance of offer forms. The Board reviewed the voter registration list and Doug signed the election counting record.
- c. Approve time sheets – David Allspach moved to approve Steve’s time sheets that were checked by Cheryl. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- d. Approve CRP contracts- Cheryl Baker moved to approve the 3 CRP contracts from FSA for JohnTurner (2) and Allison Trust. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- e. FY22 Grant Agreement – Annual Report – The Board reviewed the amounts from the FY 22 Grant Agreement which contains \$81,958.76 for operations and \$24,877.27 for cost share purposes. No allocation has been received to date. The Board reviewed the Annual Report. Dean Sasse moved to approve the Annual Report. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- f. State Cost Share Program update – Steve presented to the Board one new FY21 application for a grade control structure for Linda Cooper Trust Tract 99. This project will take the maximum \$4000 cost share payment. Cheryl Baker moved to approve the Cooper application. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The Board reviewed the FY21 ledger and we still have \$3000 of uncommitted funds.
- g. Approve Practice Component List FY22 – The Board reviewed the practice component list for FY22. Steve noted that as per the FY22 grant agreement, no-till corn and cover crops must be offered for cost share. IDOA is encouraging everyone to adopt a cost share rate of 75% for practices with the hope of getting more participation in the program. Dean Sasse moved to adopt the practice component list. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Board discussed maximum caps for cover crops, no-till and structural practices. Cheryl Baker moved to adopt the 75% cost share rate for all practices with an \$800 maximum cap for cover crops applicants and a maximum of \$8000 of the total allocation to be used for cover crops. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion was approved. Kent Kleinschmidt moved to adopt a maximum cap of \$1600 per no-till applicant and a

maximum of \$5000 of the total allocation to be used for No-till. David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion was approved. David Allspach moved to adopt a maximum cap of \$4000 per applicant for structural practices. Dean Sasse seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

- h. CREP Program Update – Steve noted that the CREP program is not yet open but indications are that it may be available by late summer. One provision of the new program requires every applicant to enter into some type of extended easement with the State.
- i. S.T.A.R Program – Steve received an email from Bruce Henrickson from Champaign County noting that free signs are available to STAR applicants and Bruce is encouraging counties to become licensed to run the program.
- j. Contribution Agreement Update - Steve noted that he has not invoiced any completed work for the contribution agreement but has about \$8300 ready to be submitted.
- k. Civil Rights “Justice for All” Presentation – Jamie Thompson reviewed the presentation with the Board.
- l. Tree Sale – Delivery of the trees is expected on April 5th or 6th.
- m. Fish Sale – Steve noted a small turnout for the spring sale. Delivery is set for Wednesday March 23rd.
- n. Steve’s contract – Steve’s contract expires March 31, 2022. Dean Sasse moved to extend Steve’s contract to June 30, 2022. Kent Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
- o. Transect Survey – Steve informed the Board that the Transect survey is being cancelled this year.

Adjournment: Dean Sasse moved to adjourn the meeting and David Allspach seconded the motion. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48AM by Chairman Thompson.

Minutes compiled by Steve Bracey, Resource Conservationist

Approved by Logan County SWCD 6/22/2022

Presiding Officer 

Sec.-Treasurer 

