

**STARK COUNTY SWCD  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, January 18, 2024 - MEETING: 8:30 a.m.  
USDA Service Center – Toulon, IL**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Stark County Soil & Water Conservation District board meeting on **Thursday, January 18, 2024** at the USDA Service Center, Toulon, IL. Vice Chairman Trevor Nelson noted a quorum was present and called the **meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.** then led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Trevor Nelson, Vice-Chairman; Nick Rumbold, Director; Phil Webster, Director. **Absent:** Keith Bush, Chairman; Miriam Mock, Secretary/Treasurer.

**Associate Directors:** Ethan Ely. **Absent:** David Sager, Lee Hager, Robin Nowlan and Frank Shafer.

**Staff:** Jannifer Powelson, RC; Katie McCauley, AC. **Absent:** Joyce Scholl, DE.

**NRCS:** James Morgan. **Absent:** Zane Downing, SC; Erika Luft, DC.

**Guests:** None.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

▮ ***Motion by Webster to approve the 12/28/2023 board meeting minutes as submitted; seconded by Rumbold; all present voted aye; motion carried.***

**TREASURER’S REPORT / BILLS PAID & PENDING APPROVAL** (See Financial Report)

▮ ***Motion by Webster to approve the December Treasurer’s Reports seconded by Rumbold; all present voted aye; motion carried.***

**EMPLOYEE TIMESHEETS APPROVAL**

▮ ***Motion by Webster to approve the employee time sheets as submitted (12/29, 1/12) seconded by Rumbold; all present voted aye; motion carried.***

**STANDING BUSINESS**

**PFC (Partners for Conservation)**

FY22 money is spent. SWCD is taking more applications for FY23 funded projects.

**CRP**

CRP is now open for applications. Tammy Kelpel-Lane has 8 applications on the back burner coming in for tech support from us.

**CREP**

Waiting on payment from 2023 reviews. Molly Koleczek, the new CREP Specialist, will assist Jan Powelson in reviewing LaVern Larson’s CREP ground in 2024.

**CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT**

Jan continues tech support and Katie for admin assistance. Waiting for 2 checks from previous work submitted.

**EDUCATION UPDATE**

The 4th Grade Poster contest “My the Forest Be With You Always”, Association of SWCDs are hosting a writing competition Stark FFA submitted one 250 word essay. Essays are due January 1, 2024. Winning essays are to be read on March 6, 2024 at AISWCD Legislative Day.

**FUNDRAISER UPDATE**

Spring Sale is under way. Order forms will go out in our January Newsletter along with emails sent to individuals who have requested online forms. The order form will also be found on our website. We will be using a new native plant distributor from Rock Island.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Certified Planner Incentives** – February 1 is the due date for all tests and quizzes. Katie is continuing work on Conservation 1 Planner.

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ANNUAL MEETING PLANS** – 2024 Annual Meeting Date is set for February 2, 2024 at the Stark County Fair Grounds Conference Room at 310 Diagonal St, Wyoming, IL 61491 beginning at 9 a.m. with breakfast provided to attendees and guest speaker Jim Iserman presenting on cover crops in traditional corn and soybean rotations. Door prizes and raffle baskets will be distributed. Donations accepted. Stark County FFA will be serving breakfast.

**SPRING SALES** – Spring 2024 Sale order forms for fish, trees, and native plants can be found on our website, Facebook or in our newsletter going out January 26, 2024.

**LEGISLATIVE DAY** – Stark County SWCD will attend this event in Springfield March 6, 2024.

**DIRECTOR REIMBURSEMENT** – Discussion held. Directors will revisit this subject at next month's meeting.

**TAX FORMS** – FBFM is responsible for 2023 tax preparation. They will continue to submit payroll in 2024.

**CD RENEWALS** – *□ Motion by Webster to approve transfer of all CD #24558, #24559, and #24560 into new 10 month CDs at the rate of 4.81% interest at State Bank of Toulon.*

**OTHER NEW BUSINESS** – None.

**AGENCY REPORTS**

**AISWCD (Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts)** – None.

**N.R.C.S. (Natural Resources Conservation Service)** – Morgan introduced himself. He will be assisting with NRCS programs at Stark once a week.

**B.LW.R. (Bureau of Land & Water Resources)** – None.

**F.S.A. (Farm Service Agency)** – None.

**FARM BUREAU** – None.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – None.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE**

The next board meeting will be at the USDA Service Center, Toulon, Illinois on **Thursday, February 15, 2024.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*□ Motion to adjourn the meeting by Webster; seconded by Rumbold; all present voted aye; motion carried. Adjourned at 9:15 a.m.*

Minutes Taken and Transcribed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Katie McCauley, Administrative Coordinator Date

Minutes Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Miriam Mock, Secretary-Treasurer Date