

KANE_DUPAGE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Notes – May 9, 2024

Call to order - ~~Vice~~ Chairman Konen called meeting to order at 6:05 pm, at 2315 Dean Street, Suite 100, St. Charles, IL. Board members present: Bossenga, Konen, Pauling, and Soliz. Associate Directors present: Campbell, Carlson. Staff members present: Gerdts, Purdom, Borzeka. NRCS staff present: Brennan, Woltman. Absent: Piper, Keuning.

Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Soliz to accept the meeting agenda and seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Soliz to accept the minutes from the April 18, 2024 meeting and seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried**.

Public Comment: none

Correspondence:

- Chicago Wilderness newsletter re proposed 42% reduction in state funding support for SWCDs – Soliz to discuss further in Legislative Committee report.

Time Sheets: Motion made by Soliz to accept the timesheets, and seconded by Pauling; and **motion carried**.

Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) Review: Motion made by Soliz to approve NRIs 24-035 thru 24-043 seconded by Bossinga, and **motion carried**. (Note: Pauling abstained from 24-040)

Staff Reports:

Administrative Coordinator – (see attached)

Resource Conservationist – (see attached)

Resource Analysts – (see attached)

Resource Assistant - (see attached)

District Conservationist – (see attached)

Conservation Planner (see attached)

Board Action Items:

- Ethics Documents discussion tabled until June meeting (Kat also noted that the digital files are in some disarray generally and that policies in particular need to be organized)

Financial report and current bills: No specific comments re financials. Motion made by Pauling to accept the financial report and pay current bills, seconded by Soliz, and **motion carried**.

Committees: Committee Chair assignments proposed by Konen. Motion made by Soliz to accept assignments and seconded by Pauling, and **motion carried.**

Personnel: Bossenga – no report

Urban: Piper - absent

Agriculture: Pauling – reported on DuPage Farm Bureau tomato plant program for schools and proposed organic food resolutions

Legislative: Soliz – reported on SWCD lobby efforts (“Loyal to the Soil”) in Springfield to drive more funding for SWCDs in view of the proposed spending cut before the legislature now. Described a significant disconnect of legislators from SWCD value. Also discussed how the SWCD message needs to be more targeted

Grants: Gerdts – reported no action on the Jelke Watershed Plan grant application; IUM grant committee meetings are being scheduled; AFT grant secured for Women in Ag Field Days Series

New Business:

- Annual Plan of Work FYE25 and Budget FYE25 – Gerdts reports they will be ready for vote at the June Board Meeting (copies will be sent in advance for review)
- Health/Dental/Vision insurance renewal for FYE25 (selections due June 1) – Board approves staff to select from the offerings
- Vehicle insurance renewal for FYE25 (invoice to mail in May) - acknowledged
- Policies Review – as noted in the Ethics Policy discussion, files need to be organized and policies as a whole reviewed
- LUC meeting is May 23 - noted

Old Business:

- Technical Team – Borzeka reported
 - Villa Park NRI requirements – TBD. Board awaits future report
- Information Security Policy – Gerdts awaits response from TechPro
- Board acknowledges the updated Employee Handbook Paid Leave Policy

Motion made by Soliz and seconded by Pauling to go into Executive Session at 7:09 pm, and **motion carried.**

Motion made by Soliz and seconded by Pauling to return to regular meeting and approve the Executive Session items at 7:39 pm, and **motion carried.**

Next Meeting set for June 13 at 6pm.

Motion made by Pauling and seconded by Soliz to go adjourn at 7:49 pm, and **motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
William Pauling
Secretary/Treasurer

KG