

**MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 7, 2023**

CALLED TO ORDER by Spring Duffey, at 6:01 p.m., 1648 S. Eastwood Dr., Woodstock, IL.

MLCSWCD DIRECTORS PRESENT

Critchell Judd
Bob Haraden
Ken Book
Dean Farr

MLCSWCD DIRECTORS ABSENT

Andrea Pracht

ASSOCIATES PRESENT

None

SWCD STAFF PRESENT

Spring Duffey
Ryan Bieber

NRCS STAFF PRESENT

Wes Krug

GUESTS PRESENT

None

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary)

Spring Duffey opened nominations for the Board positions. Critchell Judd moved to keep the positions the same as last year, with Critchell Judd as Chairman, Andrea Pracht as Vice Chairman, Bob Haraden as Treasurer, and Ken Book as Secretary. Ken Book seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 6:02 pm, Spring Duffey turned the meeting over to Chairman, Critchell Judd.

CHANGES (ADDITIONS) TO AGENDA:

- "AISWCD Legislative Updates" was added to "Correspondence".
- "Master Property Owners email" was added to "Correspondence".
- "Illinois Attorney General email" was added to "Correspondence".
- "AISWCD/Dean Farr Legislative Outreach emails" were added to "Correspondence."

MINUTES OF THE February 7, 2023, BOARD MEETING

The Minutes of the February 7, 2023, Board Meeting were reviewed. Dean Farr moved to approve the minutes. Critchell Judd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BUDGET ANALYSIS

We are eight months into our FY2023 fiscal year, the totals are as follows: 43.1% of budgeted income and 57.2% of budgeted expenses.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. Dean Farr moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Ken Book seconded the motion. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS/TIME SHEET APPROVAL

Staff Reports were reviewed. Ken Book moved that the Staff Reports and Time Sheets be accepted. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

- AISWCD Legislative Updates Email: House Bill 3627 – Soil Health Week, Senate Bill 2325 – Soil and Water Conservation Signs, and Senate Bill 1701, Partners for Conservation Fund.
- Master Property Owners email: The Master Property Owners are looking for a part-time administrative help. If you know of anyone, please have them contact Dick Hilton.
- Illinois Attorney General email: The Illinois Attorney General is offering webinars on the Open Meetings Act and FOIA. Spring Duffey will forward the notice to directors.
- AISWCD/Dean Farr Legislative Outreach emails: Dean Farr has been corresponding with Grant Hammer on Legislative Outreach for the Chicago Area.

FOIA REQUESTS: None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Ken Book indicated that he received a call regarding the renewal of our County Wetland Contract. The individual was concerned that it was a conflict of interest, and that the farming community should only be governed by the USDA when it came to wetlands and not the county. Ken Book assured them that Spring Duffey is not giving out their private information. Spring Duffey and the Board agreed that the farming community should ask to be exempt from the Stormwater Ordinance Wetland Provisions. Spring Duffey indicated that the farming community makes up less than 1% of the wetland reviews and services she provides the county through the contract. She only reviews the permit applications, completes inspections, works with individuals to remove violations, and assists landowners in wetland avoidance. Additionally, Bob Haraden received a call from someone who was concerned that Spring Duffey was being paid by the SWCD and the County (double dipping). Spring Duffey only is paid by the SWCD. The County pays the SWCD directly for wetland services. Spring Duffey is not on the county payroll. It was agreed that a meeting with County Board members would be beneficial to highlight our duties in the contract and our other activities. Critchell Judd will speak with Mike Buehler and try to set up a meeting.

NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION REPORTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **2023 Director Election**: Due to the weather, the turn out was poor for our election. Andrea Pracht and Bob Haraden were re-elected to the board. Spring Duffey still needs Bob Haraden's Acceptance of Office form.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Turbidity Meter Purchase**: Ryan Bieber provided information on two different turbidity meters. He indicated that the need for one no longer exists and at this time he will not be asking for purchase approval.
- B. **Partners for Conservation Practice Component List FY 2023**: The IDOA is requesting the practices that we would like to offer with our FY23 sign up. Spring Duffey recommended limiting the practices to those that are typically asked for and fundable. We do not receive

enough funding from the state to implement many of the practices. Ken Book moved to allow Spring Duffey to choose the practices that we will offer cost-share assistance. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. **Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership Membership (\$100.00)**: The Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership Membership is up for renewal. Spring Duffey asked the board to approve all future membership renewals. Ken Book moved to approve all future Kishwaukee River Ecosystem Partnership Membership renewals, as long as the cost remains at \$100.00 per year. Critchell Judd seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. **2023 Kenneth Fiske Memorial Conservation Scholarship Review and Selection (\$500.00)**: The applications from Vianay Gurrola and Jacob McConnell were reviewed and were scored. Ken Book moved to award the 2023 Kenneth Fiske Memorial Conservation Scholarship of \$500.00 to Vianay Gurrola. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Ken Book moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. Dean Farr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Book, Secretary