

Board Meeting

November 19, 2025

The Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District held their monthly meeting on November 19th, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 180 S. Soangetaha Rd. Galesburg, IL 61401. Directors present were George Cummings, Brian Friedrich, Chris Bewley, Dave Asbury, and AJ Harland. Also present was Don Moffitt, Associate Director, Kara Downin, Resource Conservationist, and Katie Ingle, Administrative and Education Coordinator.

Agenda

Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, to approve the agenda. Motion passed 5-0.

Secretary Report

Dave Asbury made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, to approve the October 15th secretary report. Motion passed 5-0.

Treasurer Report

Dave Asbury presented the treasurer's report. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the treasurers report. Motion passed 5-0.

Bills

The bills were presented to show deposits and debits for the accounts at Tompkins State Bank. Discussion was held on bills to be paid and the estimated bills for the December board meeting to be paid. Brian Friedrich made a motion to approve the bills as which was seconded by AJ Harland. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

Funding Update- Kara did not have an update on IDOA funding but thought she would find out more at Winter Training in a couple weeks. She did mention that the District has several outstanding invoices with IDNR for work on CREP easements and that she expected to receive that money fairly quickly, along with an outstanding invoice at Association for the CRP work her and Katie accomplished this past year.

Sales Update- Kara informed the board that she had 4 native seed customers for dormant planting resulting in an income of \$1,200.00. Katie informed the board that the winter fish sale had 2 customers with an income of \$35.50.

New Business

CPP/PFC- Kara sought approval to amend contract 331 for Stacy Webster's pipe drop structure due to supply delays from the contractor. AJ Harland made a motion, seconded by Brian Friedrich, to extend the construction deadline to March 31, 2026. Motion passed 5-0. Kara sought approval

for contract 343, sealing a bored well with a maximum cost share of \$850.00. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the project. Motion passed 5-0. Contract 343 is for Dean and Sarah Mayhew. Next Kara sought approval for contract 344, 0.2 acres of pollinator habitat with a maximum cost share of \$269.24. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, to approve the project. Motion passed 5-0. Contract 344 is for Brad Anderson. Kara also sought approval for contract 345, sealing a dug well with a maximum cost share of \$500.00. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, to approve the project. Motion passed 5-0. Contract 345 is for Greg Jones. Lastly, Kara sought approval for contract 346, 20 acres of cover crops with a maximum cost share of \$1,284.74. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the project. Motion passed 5-0. Contract 346 is for John Davis.

Edward Jones CD 11/20/25- Katie reminded that board that they have another CD expiring. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by Brian Friedrich, to renew the CD for 6 months and add the interest earned back into it. Motion passed 5-0.

FY26 Election Reminder- Katie reminded the board that the next director election will be taking place on January 21st at the USDA Building (233 S Soangetaha Rd. Galesburg, IL 61401) from 7 AM to 5:30 PM.

2026 Meeting Calendar Approval- Kara presented the board with the dates and potential times for next years monthly board meetings. Discussion was held on changing the times. AJ Harland made a motion, seconded by Brian Friedrich to approve the calendar dates and move all meeting times to 4 PM. Motion passed 5-0.

New Office Chairs- Kara and Katie asked the board for permission to purchase new desk/office chairs for their work stations. Katie showed the board the chair she had found online for \$128.00 each. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dave Asbury, to approve the purchase of two of the chairs Katie presented. Motion passed 5-0.

ISAP Batch and Build Knox County Pilot: year 2?- Kara updated the board on how the first year of the project was going and how for year two they are currently working on securing funding from IDOA.

Work Cell Phone- Kara asked the board if the District would be able to buy a cell phone for use in the field or when the office phones are not working. She said that she had been thinking of asking for one for a while but during the federal shutdown it really would've made a difference. Katie presented the wireless plan she found on their Verizon account that would fit the District's needs. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by Brian Friedrich, to approve the purchase of a district cell phone and wireless plan as long as it is the same cost as the quote Katie presented. Motion passed 5-0.

Thank-you gift for Extension?- Kara and Katie let the board know how welcoming and generous the whole U of I Extension office was while letting them use their conference room during the federal shutdown. They asked the board if they could get the people they worked with gift cards as a thank you. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, to buy 5 \$20 gift cards for the Extension staff that helped. Motion passed 5-0.

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Board Meeting: December 17th @ 1:00 PM- The next board meeting will be held on December 17th at 1:00 PM with lunch provided before a brief annual meeting followed by monthly board meeting at Pizza Ranch (2590 N Seminary St. Galesburg, IL 61401).

Other Reports

Resource Conservationist- Kara informed the board that her main focus has been wrapping up all the streambank and CPP projects that are under construction. This year she managed to get 3 reaches of streambanks built with 2 landowners on top of multiple CPP projects.

Administrative and Education Coordinator- Katie informed the board that she too has been focusing on projects and getting all of the paperwork prepped for Kara. She also spent time getting outreach ready to be mailed for the landowners that are in the watersheds for year 2 of the ISAP Batch & Build Pilot grant.

Acting District Conservationist- Kindra informed Kara that she will be acting DC for another 28 days, but is not sure who will be acting after that.

Correspondence

Katie presented the monthly Field and Bean and Kara sent around a letter from another power company wanting to update their power lines across multiple counties in the state, including Knox.

Meeting Ending

Dave Asbury made a motion to adjourn the meeting which Brian Friedrich seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Submitted by: Katie Ingle

Date: 12-17-25

Approved by: Cyrus Crenley

Date: 12-17-25