

Board Meeting

October 15, 2025

The Knox County Soil and Water Conservation District held their monthly meeting on October 15th, 2025 at 7:00 PM at 180 S. Soangetaha Rd. Galesburg, IL 61401. Directors present were George Cummings, Brian Friedrich, Chris Bewley, and AJ Harland. Also present was Don Moffitt, Associate Director, Kara Downin, Resource Conservationist, and Katie Ingle, Administrative and Education Coordinator.

Agenda

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

Secretary Report

Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by Brian Friedrich, to approve the September 17th 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 November board meeting to be paid. Brian Friedrich made a motion to approve the bills as presented along with a future CREP bill for closing an easement as long as it is under \$2,500.00, which was seconded by Dave Asbury. Motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

Funding Update- Kara reached out to Marty at Illinois Department of Agriculture about when they will be sending out the current fiscal years' grant agreements to get signed and he had no update to provide.

Sales Update- Katie informed the board that the fall tree sale customer pickup went smoothly and that after paying for the cost of the trees the District made \$231.30. The deadline to order fish for the fall sale was also October 15th with 15 customers and \$1,793.00 in sales. Lastly, winter fish sale will still be accepting orders until November 5th.

New Business

CPP/PFC- Kara sought approval to amend contract 318 for Josh Haynes' streambank stabilization project. The landowner is needing to construct one of the reaches now with a deadline of 11/4/25, and delay construction on the second reach to the spring with a deadline of

6/1/26. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the amendment. Motion passed 5-0. Kara also sought approval for contract 342 which is for 21 acres of single species cover crops with a maximum cost share of \$1,348.99. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the contract. Motion passed 5-0. Contract 341 is for Clark Cummings.

Edward Jones CDs 10/23/25 & 10/31/25- Katie reminded the board that two of the CD's are maturing before the next board meeting. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Dave Asbury, to renew the CD for another 3 months and add the interest back into it with rounding to the nearest thousandth. 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.

FY26 Scholarship Approval- The board reviewed the updated scholarship application. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to approve the application. Motion passed 5-0.

FY26 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance 2026-1- The FY26 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was reviewed by the board and approved via roll call. Chris Bewley- Aye, George Cummings- Aye, Brian Friedrich- Aye, Dave Asbury- Aye, Dave Asbury- Aye, AJ Harland- Aye.

Annual Tax Levy Ordinance 2026-2- The Annual Tax Levy Ordinance was reviewed by the board and approved via roll call. Chris Bewley- Aye, George Cummings- Aye, Brian Friedrich- Aye, Dave Asbury- Aye, AJ Harland- Aye.

Knox SWCD Table Cloth for events- Katie asked the board for approval to buy a table cloth with "Knox County Soil & Water Conservation District" printed on it to take to education and promotional events. Chris Bewley made a motion, seconded by AJ Harland, to buy a custom table cloth. Motion passed 5-0.

Winter Training December 2-3rd- Kara asked the board for permission for her and Katie to attend winter training and stay in the hotel for one night. Brian Friedrich made a motion, seconded by Chris Bewley, for Kara and Katie to both attend winter training and stay in a hotel for one night. Motion passed 5-0.

Side-by-Side Options- Kara updated the board that the mule got it's transmission replaced after waiting 6 months for the part but after it was installed the mechanic decided it needed a new differential as well so that part is on order and the mule is usable until that is replaced. The shop was able to extend our Kawasaki warranty for another year, and the board recommended waiting to look at replacement options until there is 3 months left on the warranty.

Board Meeting: November 19th @ 7:00 PM- The next board meeting will be held on November 19th at 7:00 PM and will be held at the USDA Building (233 S Soangetaha Rd. Galesburg, IL 61401).

Other Reports

Resource Conservationist- Kara informed the board that she has mostly been trying to react to everything since the federal shutdown initiated. Her and Katie have been working out of the U of

Illinois Extension conference room across the street. She touched base with all of the current PFC projects currently going on and let them know our updated contact information. She also has been working on answering questions from contractors about the bid for the ISAP Batch and Build project.

Administrative and Education Coordinator- Katie updated the board on how the education events have been going, as well as her efforts to react/be flexible to the federal shutdown while still accepting sales orders and planning education events.

Correspondence

Katie presented the monthly Field and Bean.

Meeting Ending

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

Submitted by: Katie Doyle

Date: 11-19-25

Approved by: Chris Asbury

Date: 11-19-25