

KANE_DUPAGE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board Meeting Notes – March 6, 2025

Call to order - Chairman Konen called meeting to order at 6:00 pm, at 2315 Dean Street, Suite 100, St. Charles, IL. Directors present: Konen, Bossenga (zoom), Pauling, Soliz (zoom). Absent: Piper. Associate Directors present: Campbell. Staff present: Gerdts, Hunter, McPartlan (zoom), Purdom, Borzeka. NRCS staff present: Brennan (zoom).

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 Pauling to accept the minutes from the February 13, 2025 regular meeting and the Annual Meeting, seconded by Soliz, and **motion carried**

Public Comment: none

Correspondence:

- Request from College of DuPage for Letter of Support for a ComEd Green Region Grant application. Discussion included addressing a concern about the longevity of the installation proposed in the grant – what guarantee that it will not be torn out when current staff leaves. Board directed LOS be issued with language of expectation of long-term lifespan.
- FREP email announcing change to One Earth Film process this year. Not sponsoring a film, offering a viewing date of *Mississippi River Speed Record*, at no charge on April 9, 6:30 pm at the Kane County Government Center Auditorium.

Time Sheets: Motion made by Pauling to accept the timesheets PPE 2/14 and 2/28, and seconded by Soliz; and **motion carried**.

Staff Reports:

Administrative Coordinator – (see attached)

Resource Conservationist – (see attached)

Resource Analysts – (see attached)

Resource Specialist - (see attached)

District Conservationist – (see attached)

Conservation Planner (none)

Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) Review: Motion made by Pauling to approve NRIs 25-013 thru 25-018 (25-017 on hold), seconded by Soliz, and **motion carried**.

Board Action Items:

- Board Reorganization and Acceptance of Office documents executed to complete 2025 election
- Directors to complete Logs for April payment
- IDOA grant agreement executed. Awaiting cost share addendum

Financial report and current bills: Motion made by Pauling to accept the financial report and pay current bills, seconded by Soliz, and **motion carried**.

Committees:

Personnel: *Bossenga* – none

Urban: *Piper* – absent

Agriculture: *Pauling* – attended Farm Bureau GLAC meeting, legislators were present.

Nothing of note to report

Legislative: *Konen* – SB2387 still awaiting decisions in Springfield for Ag Land Conservation Act. Discussion at Executive Meeting last week included estimates of 60,000 acres being lost which could equal \$16M in funds which would be distributed equally around the state. There may be other entities than SWCDs that receive funds. Also noted SWCD Lobby Day is March 19.

Grants: *Gerdts* – IEPA funding for Jelkes 604B application still undetermined. IEPA assures that IUM update 604B grant funds are not in jeopardy. Kane County has shared grant application parameters for the Microbial Water Testing Project for which KDSWCD will administer the 604B grant. Awaiting the next grant cycle. Local Work Group meetings planning is in process in hopes that the NRCS funding will remain available.

New Business:

- Board directs team to plan to nominate candidates for 2026 Farm Family of the Year and/or Leopold Conservation Award
- Board directs team to send a volunteer to Envirothon State
- Board directs Gerdts to collaborate with Kane County Farm Bureau so KDSWCD can have a presence at the July Kane County Fair. No opportunities available for us at the DuPage County Fair.
- Pauling and Gerdts described meeting with ByLine Bank and the positive potential of moving bank accounts to their “municipal program”. Will revisit in April.
- Board approves ordering a new banner to replace damaged unit with new agricultural graphics focusing on conservation practices

Old Business:

- Policies Sub-Committee met and developed a strategy and made task assignments – no updates, Board determined this initiative will become part of the Strategic Planning.
- Strategic Planning Sub-Committee: Konen, Soliz and Gerdts met with Chris Foster. Awaiting proposal.
- St Charles MOU – revised document removing NRCS is in hand for signature at St Charles
- Natural Area Guardian potential investigation on hold due to lack of resources at this time

Motion made by Pauling and seconded by Soliz to adjourn at 7:20 pm, and **motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

William Pauling

Secretary/Treasurer

KG