

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order Thursday April 25, 2024, by Bob Webb, Vice-Chairman at 6:05 pm.

LIVE ATTENDEES	ZOOM ATTENDEES	ABSENTEES
Bob Webb	Kevin O'Brien (WC Staff)	Gene Merrill (WC)
Katrina Poydack	Marcy Sowa	Patty Downing (WC)
Bob Schmidt	Katrina Poydack 6:10	Janice Denney (WC)
Jim Gurley	Rhett Nelsen	Bill Reid
Don Young (WC)		
Carol Crawford (WC)		
John Bellville (Staff) Arlyse DeLoyola (Staff)		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes from the March meeting were presented to the Board for review.
 - **Bob Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes for March.**
 - **Jim Gurley seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion carried.**

- **Financials:** The Financial Reports from March 2024 were presented to the Board for review.
 - **Bob Schmidt made a motion to accept the financial reports.**
 - **Jim Gurley seconded that motion.**
 - **The motion carried without dissent.**

OLD BUSINESS

- **Election Materials Available**
 Arlyse reminded the board that election materials were now available on the ODA website. If members do not have access to the website they can come into the office and use the computers here. All the information and deadlines are available and some items have been changed from past years so be sure to check carefully. There are four positions available this election year. At large 1, Zone 1, Zone 4 and Zone 5.
 John added that the Soil & Water Conservation Commission is seeking a director for Zone 3 (Stan Dean's position). It requires 4 meetings per year and other commitments.

- **Planning for Hanby Block Party**
 Last month the board voted to participate in the Block party to be held May 29th from 5pm-8pm here at the office. Discussion was held.

- **Committee for the 75th Anniversary Celebration**
 Discussion was held regarding formation of a committee to plan the 75th anniversary celebration. Bob Webb volunteered to head the committee. Kevin O'Brien volunteered to help. He suggested trying to contact Roy Manning, formerly of the Soil Conservation Service, who worked closely with IVSWCD

and wrote a lot of conservation plans in the Illinois Valley, as a speaker, narrator, or a resource for history.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Upper Illinois River Watershed PostFire Restoration Sealed Bid Proposal Award**
Proposals were reviewed by the board and the District Manager in advance of the meeting. It was agreed that the lowest bidder, Grayback Forestry, was a responsible bidder, and therefore should be awarded the contract.
 - A motion was made by Jim Gurley to award the contract to Grayback Forestry.
 - Bob Schmidt seconded the motion.
 - The motion passed without dissent.

CONTINUING

- **Staff Reports:**
John reviewed his report and it was discussed by the board.

Arlyse added to her report that she had received correspondence from SDAO that insurance rates will increase next year by 15-20% so we should plan our budgeting accordingly.

- **Partnering Agency Reports:**
Kevin O'Brien spoke for the Illinois Valley Watershed Council-He has been "in the trenches" of grant-writing with John and this board made the right hire. He also wanted to remind the board that last election there was a measure defeated that would have changed code enforcement that might have afforded our organizations more partnering on projects with the county which failed, so please be careful with your votes.

John added that he and Kevin attended the Connect Conference last week and he learned that the best method for success for SWCD's was to fund with 1/3 donors, 1/3 contracts and 1/3 fundraising. He will be working to implement some new strategies.

- **Public Comment:**
No public comment.

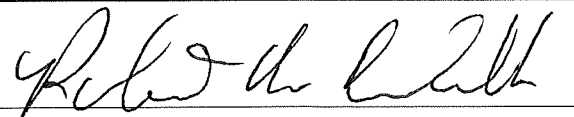
NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is to be held on May 23 at 6:00 pm at the Illinois Valley SWCD Office and via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

APPROVED MINUTES:



DATE: 5-23-24