

WOODFORD COUNTY SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
**** AGENDA ****

Date: Tuesday June 16th, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM

Place: USDA NRCS office: 937 W Center St. Eureka, IL 61530

Please contact me by noon on Monday June 15th and let me know if you can attend.

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Call to Order –

Approval of Minutes – April 28, 2026

Approval of Financial Accounts Report – April 2026, May 2026

Approval of revised FY26 Budget

Approval of preliminary FY27 Budget

Approval of Time Sheets –

Partners for Conservation –

Conservation Plans –

Zoning –

Reports –

NRCS/SWCD Team Report

Old Business –

1/ Log Jam in Mackinaw

2/ West Branch Roanoke update

3/ Summer Conference

4/ Pond Shocking

New Business –

1/ Equipment purchase form

2/ Health ins premium increase

3/ EUNA Grant documents

4/ QuickBooks Update

5/ SWCD laptop issues

6/ District cell phone

7/ Employee reviews

Other Business-

Adjourn

WOODFORD COUNTY SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

April 28, 2026

The April 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting of the Woodford County Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 8:07 AM by Chairman Mark Rocke. The meeting was held at 937 W Center St, Eureka, IL.

Present:

Those present included Board Members Mark Rocke, Mary Jo Adams, Darrin Schertz, Pete Wettstein and Gail Fisher; office staff SWCD Diane Freeman AC, and Marissa Iverson RC; NRCS staff Jeremy Beck (DC), Blake Retherford (SC), Kyra Herron (SCT); PCM Andy Gilson

Absent:

None

Minutes:

Motion made by Adams, seconded by Schertz to approve the March 24, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

Motion made by Schertz, seconded by Adams, to accept the March 2026 Financial Reports and disbursements as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Time Sheets:

Time sheets for Freeman and Iverson for the pay periods of 3/23/26 - 4/5/26 and 4/6/26 – 4/19/26 were brought to the Board. Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Schertz, to approve the Time Sheets as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Partners for Conservation:

RC Iverson reported that we have several pollinator plots going in this spring that we are waiting to receive bills for. We have several prospective projects that we have not ranked yet that we will hopefully be able to fund once we hear if and how much funding we will receive for FY26.

Conservation Plans:

We have completed around 20 CRP plans for the continuous sign up. Our current total number of CRP contracts is 84.

Zoning:

None

SWCD/NRCS Team Report:

The SWCD Team Report for April 2026 was reviewed and discussed. Copy attached.

For NRCS, Kyra reported that she has been working on EQIP rankings, completing construction checkouts, surveying and designing potential PFC projects, and attended a Grade Stabilization training last week. Blake has also been working on EQIP rankings, completing requirements for engineering job approval and working on contract reviews. Jeremy went over EQIP funding results. Statewide there were 1900 applications and only 150 approved in the first round of funding. In our DG we had 103 applications submitted for ranking and 1 approved in each county. More funding has been requested by the State. CSP rankings are underway. Rankings need to be completed by June 12th. There are 84 applications in our DG, 36 of which are in Woodford. There are currently 50 critical vacancies listed in Illinois with NRCS. Hopefully some of them will be filled soon.

For PCM Andy reported that they have been busy reviewing current contracts and delivering reports to landowners. The new Farmers for Soil Health program will be open for enrollment soon. It will pay \$35/ac for up to 2000 acres per landowner for cover crops. PCM will be the technical advisors for the program in Illinois.

Old Business

Oak Forest Initiative- Twenty-five oak trees were planted on April 25th at Chinquapin Bluffs. There were 8 people that came to help. Unfortunately, there were no 4H kids. We will try, if we participate again, to get more interest from the 4H-ers, or maybe we can find a boy scout troop willing to help.

Log Jam in Mackinaw – AC Freeman was able to speak with someone at the Corps in Rock Island about the project. It was suggested to get contractors to the site and draw up a proposal of exactly how the removal would take place. At that point a request for service would need to be initiated through the Corps website to speak with a project manager. Schertz and Adams are going to contact the 3 main landowners involved, and hopefully a site visit can be made with everyone including potential contractors to discuss a plan for removal.

West Branch Panther Creek Roanoke Update-Nothing new to report.

New Business:

IDOA quarterly report- the final quarterly report for FY25 funds was signed by Chairman Rocke and will be sent to IDOA.

Summer Conference voting delegate-Chairman Rocke will be the voting delegate for Woodford for the annual meeting at summer conference. Reminder that registration is online and due by June 1.

Pond Shocking demo- McLean SWCD reached out about partnering with us to do a pond shocking demo on a pond located on the McLean-Woodford line. AC Freeman reached out to our IDNR fisheries biologist to see if he would be willing to do the demo. We are looking at possibly the first week of June. McLean was going to reach out to the landowner to see what worked with his schedule. The possibility of having a fish fry at the event came up. AC Freeman will discuss that with McLean Co.

New Director training- an online training was held at the end of March. We have a link for anyone who wants to watch it again. The slides from the presentation have been printed out and put in a binder for future reference.

Banking changes-The signatory cards have been changed to Freeman, Fisher and Rocke being the members able to sign checks. During that process, it was discovered that our bank accounts are coded incorrectly since they contain Public funded. Corrections were made to the agreements backing the accounts. No account numbers were changed. This change also allowed the interest rate of the money market account to go from .75% to 2.75%.

AFR/Audit change of CPA-there have been questions raised by neighboring SWCD's regarding the current CPA that completes and submits our AFR each year. There have been delays for completing the AFR's and audits that have caused issues with the IDOA deadlines. AC Freeman has been checking with other CPA's. One quote was \$2500 for the AFR compared to the \$850 we are paying now. Other CPA's that we reached out to have not returned phone calls. The Board decided for now to stick with the current CPA.

Other Business:

None

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn made by Adams, seconded by Schertz. All Ayes. Motion carried.

The April 28th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 9:29 AM.

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

Approved by:

Diane Freeman AC

Board Members