

WOODFORD COUNTY SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

*** * AGENDA * * ***

Date: Tuesday July 28th, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM

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

Please contact me by noon on Monday July 27th and let me know if you can attend.

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Call to Order –

Approval of Minutes – June 16, 2026

Approval of Financial Accounts Report – June 2026

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/ Burn Training
- 5/ SWCD Laptop issues
- 7/ District cell phone
- 8/ AFR

New Business –

- 1/ I-Cover agreement signatures
- 2/ FOIA requests
- 3/ Soil Health Assessment questions

Other Business-

Adjourn

WOODFORD COUNTY SOIL and WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

June 16, 2026

The June 16, 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, and Gail Fisher; office staff SWCD Diane Freeman (AC), and Marissa Iverson (RC); NRCS staff Kyra Herron (SCT); PCM Andy Gilson

Absent: Board Members Darrin Schertz, Pete Wettstein; NRCS staff Jeremy Beck (DC), Blake Retherford (SC).

Minutes:

Motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher to approve the April 28, 2026 Regular Board Meeting minutes. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Adams, to accept the April 2026 Financial Reports and disbursements as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried. Motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher, to accept the May 2026 Financial Reports and disbursements as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried. The Revised FY26 budget was presented to the Board. Motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher, to approve the Revised FY26 budget as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried. The Preliminary FY27 Budget was presented to the Board. Motion made by Fisher, seconded by Adams, to approve the Preliminary FY27 budget as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Time Sheets:

Time sheets for Freeman and Iverson for the pay periods of 4/20/26-5/3/26, 5/4/26-5/17/26, 5/18/26-5/31/26, and 6/1/26-6/14/26 were brought to the Board. Motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher, to approve the Time Sheets as presented. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Partners for Conservation:

RC Iverson reported that we have submitted two claims for payment for pollinator plots, projects 203-176 and 203-189. For this fall we have another 2 pollinator plots, 1 waterway and 2 fields trying cover crops for the first time. We received news that we are getting money for the multi year I-Cover program for 1 participant in the county, but along with that news we discovered our FY26 cost share dollars were being swept to pay for the I-Cover program in our county. There will be no regular cost share funds for FY26. Payments may be ready to be made in July for the CPRG no-till program. Participants are currently completing their STAR forms right now.

Conservation Plans:

We have completed around 86 CRP plans for the continuous sign up. We only have a handful of signatures left to obtain, otherwise our SWCD work is complete. EQIP obligations should be completed soon, and we will have 9 plans to approve.

Zoning:

None

SWCD/NRCS Team Report:

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

For NRCS, Kyra reported that in addition to the first round of EQIP funding, more funding was released to Illinois and we were able to pick up more contracts. Woodford now has 9 contracts totaling \$1.49 million. Deadlines have been pushed back for EQIP obligations, as well as CSP ranking and obligations. For CSP, Illinois has requested up front an additional \$30 million on top of the \$20 million they already have. Annual contract reviews are being completed, of which Woodford has 106. Wetland and compliance reviews have been completed as well. Kyra has been busy with an EQIP contract that was picked up that contains a lot of engineering practices.

For PCM, Andy reported that they have been busy enrolling new producers as well as re-enrolling existing producers. The new Farmers for Soil Health program is open for enrollment for cover crops. Anyone interested needs to “enroll” online, which will trigger a message to PCM for further information.

Old Business

Log Jam in the Mackinaw – The Snyders are ready and willing to meet with the Van Scyoc’s and any contractors to get ideas on a plan for removal. As Board member Schertz could not attend today’s meeting, we will revisit this at the next meeting.

West Branch Panther Creek Update-Still waiting for the Cultural Resources review to be completed. The timeline has shifted back about three months.

Summer Conference- Three full registrations were submitted for Woodford Co. at \$200 each. It came to our attention that if requested, the AISWCD would waive the fee for dinners at Summer Conference if you do not plan on attending. AC Freeman inquired about this, and a refund of \$300 will be returned to our office. The Resolutions that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting were passed out. Due to the length and number of them, Chairman Rocke requested that Board members read over them and let him know their thoughts on how to vote no later than July 10th.

Pond Shocking demo-due to excessive rains and impending storms the day of the event, the pond shocking was postponed. It will be rescheduled when the homeowner and IDNR biologist can agree on a date.

New Business:

Equipment Purchase form-The FY25 Equipment purchase form stating that we did not purchase any equipment with FY25 operation funds was reviewed, signed and will be returned to IDOA.

Health insurance premium-all State of Illinois health insurance premium rates have increased for FY27. Plan amounts were reviewed. The current AC plan will go from \$41 to \$122/month.

EUNA Grant documents-EUNA/Amplifund has replaced the normal way we sign contracts with IDOA to get our operation and cost share funds. We had to apply for these funds online this time. Funds have been requested and forms needed to be signed by Chairman Rocke and Treasurer Fisher. Those forms were signed and submitted to IDOA as required.

QuickBooks update-our current version of QB is a 2018 desktop version which is no longer supported by QB. Current versions are no longer a one-time payment deal. We were informed by our CPA that we should use the desktop versions of QB not the online version so they can access our records. Current rates appear to be \$38/month for QB without payroll. AC Freeman will do a little more research on versions that are available, but will update to a newer version soon.

SWCD laptop issues-The SWCD laptop has been flashing errors lately and needs to be checked out. Board member Adams gave the name of her computer guy, and AC Freeman will contact him as well as Best Buy to see what the cost is to diagnose the issue.

District cell phone-Staff brought to the Board the need/desire to have a District owned cell phone for landowners to contact office staff while out in the field, or to transmit information via text between staff and landowners as opposed to using their personal cell phones. Motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher to purchase a district cell phone and plan. All Ayes. Motion carried.

Employee reviews – At 9:55 AM motion made by Adams, seconded by Fisher to enter Executive session to discuss Employee evaluations and contracts. All Ayes. Motion carried. At 10:42 we returned to open session, and a motion was made by Adams, seconded by Fisher, to proceed with the personnel matters as discussed in executive session. All Ayes. Motion carried. Employee reviews and evaluations were completed and are on file in the office.

Other Business:

Storage of the tree planter- Board member Adams has agreed to store the tree planter in her barn for the time being.

Adjourn:

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

The June 16th, 2026 Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 10:44 AM.

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

Approved by:

Diane Freeman AC

Board Members

