Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

SWCD Office/Zoom

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Called to Order Thursday February 25th by Bill Reid, Chairman at 6:03 pm

**LIVE ATTENDEES ZOOM ATTENDEES ABSENTEES**

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| Bill Reid | Marcy Sowa | Joy McEwen (WC) |
| Rhett Nelsen | Jim Gurley | Bob Schmidt |
| Katrina Poydack | Gene Merrill (WC) | Bob Webb |
| Arlyse DeLoyola (Staff) | Tracey Reed (Staff) | Carol Crawford (WC) |
| Janice Denney (WC) | Kevin O’Brien (Staff) |  |
| Don Young (WC) |  |  |
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**SCRIBE**

Notes were taken by Arlyse DeLoyola

The meeting began with the Oath of Office being administered to Katrina Poydack, Jim Gurley and Marcy Sowa, as they were sworn into their newly elected terms.

* **Minutes**: The minutes from the December meeting were presented to the Board for review.
* **Katrina Poydack made a motion to approve the minutes for December.**
* **Marcy Sowa seconded that motion.**
* **The motion carried without dissent.**
* **Financials**: The Financial Reports from July 1, 2020– January 31, 2021 were presented to the Board for review.
* **Marcy Sowa made a motion to accept the financial reports.**
* **Jim Gurley seconded that motion.**
* **Discussion was held.**
* **The motion carried without dissent.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

* **Hiring Subcommittee**
	+ The subcommittee met Tuesday and had a Zoom discussion with Angela Boudro. The committee recommended that the board approve the contract as presented **by** Tracey Reed. Discussion was held.
	+ **Marcy Sowa made a motion to approve the contract as written, to hire Angela Boudro for a term of 6 (six) months effective March 1, 2021.**
	+ **Rhett Nelsen seconded the motion**
	+ **The motion passed without dissent.**
* **Meeting Frequency/Accidental Quorum Question**
* Arlyse reported that Eric Nussbaum’s opinion of the “accidental quorum” that will occur during bi-monthly Watershed Council meetings will NOT violate Public meeting Law as long as there is no discussion of SWCD business at the Watershed Council Meetings. She noted that he was very much in favor of splitting up the meetings.
* **ODA Training/ who attended- how was it?**
* Janice Denney attended the New Director Training and stated that there was a lot of good information.
* Marcy Sowa attended the AG Water Quality Session and found it to be very interesting.
* Arlyse attended at least 8 of the sessions for the week and took something from each one.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* **Grant Reporting Update**
* Tracey reported that she had completed the Two-Year monitoring report on the Bridgeview Project and the Final of the Ford Family Foundation Grant. She shared before and after photos of the Bridgeview Project, which illustrated the success of the work.

**CONTINUING**

* **Staff and partnering agency reports were presented to the board:**

Tracey reported that she has been able to work one to four hours per week and is expecting to be back to her normal 32 hours per week schedule in the Fall when her daughter is able to return to school again.

Arlyse reported that all was going well in the new office in spite of the outer areas not being finished as yet. She announced that she would likely be absent for the next meeting (April) and would need to have a volunteer for taking notes. Tracey Reed mentioned that she could do it.

* Chairman Reid announced that Associate Director John Gardiner had resigned from the board.
* Janice Denney mentioned she had read an article in The Courier recently which stated that the Marijuana Tax had created a surplus in tax revenue and asked what could be done to funnel some of this to our organizations and the Valley. Gene Merrill explained that most of the tax is collected in larger metro areas because the tax goes to the counties where the products are SOLD as opposed to where they are PRODUCED. Discussion was held regarding how to get this changed.

* Chairman Reid gave the Oath of Office to another newly re-elected Board member, Rhett Nelsen. It was noted that Bob Schmidt would have to be sworn in at a later date due to his absence.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is to be held on April 22nd at 6:00 PM at the Illinois Valley SWCD Office and via ZOOM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm**

APPROVED MINUTES: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_