

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Called to Order December 12, 2024, by Katrina Poydack, Chair at 5:01 pm.

ATTENDEES	ZOOM ATTENDEES	ABSENTEES
Katrina Poydack	John Bellville	
Patty Downing	Gene Merrill (6:00)	
Carol Crawford		
Janice Denney		
Kevin O'Brien (E.D.)		
James Gurley		
Bill Joerger		
Arlyse DeLoyola (staff)		

SCRIBE

Notes were taken by: Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes of the November 2024 meeting were presented to the council for review.
 - Carol Crawford made a motion to approve the minutes.
 - Janice Denney seconded that motion.
 - The minutes were approved without dissent.

- **Financials:** The Financial Reports for November 2024 were presented to the Council for review.
 - Kevin O'Brien made a motion to approve the financial reports.
 - Carol Crawford seconded that motion.
 - The motion was approved without dissent.

Before committee reports: John Bellville of Illinois Valley SWCD announced that the irrigation Efficiency grant for CRON Farm was approved for funding. Funding should be announced early in 2025.

Committee Reports: Kevin asked that most committees schedule meetings beginning in the new calendar year. The schedule is:

- Policy- Tuesday, January 7th at 10:00am
- Programs & Projects- Tuesday, January 14 at 10:00 am
- Organizational Development- Tuesday , January 21 at 10:00 am
- Community Engagement- Tuesday, January 28 at 10:00 am

OLD BUSINESS

- **QuickBooks**

Arlyse is still looking at options, but with Tech Soup, QuickBooks online is very reasonable. Patty asked if she had ever used any Open Source software. She had not. She will continue investigating options.

- **Recruiting**

The board discussed needs and how best to fill them while still being aware of diversity, equity and inclusion policy. Kevin suggested that we fill the board with members with specific skill sets, such as legal knowledge, marketing skills, etc. What are we missing in serving our community?

The subject was tabled to next month's agenda.

Notes will be sent via email. The following were discussion items:

NEW BUSINESS

- **Patty introduced proposals regarding Land acknowledgement, Labor Acknowledgement, and a statement of respect for the inherent rights of nature.**
She asked the board to review each one and come to the next meeting prepared for discussion.
- **Logo**
Patty next introduced several logos from around the state in the conservation field. Discussion was held, no decision was made.
- **Budget Committee Recommendation**
The budget committee met today and approved a bonus for Kevin in the amount of \$3587.91
 - **Janice Denney made a motion to grant to bonus of \$3587.91**
 - **Patty Downing seconded the motion**
 - **The motion passed. Kevin abstained from the vote.**The budget committee wished to discuss wage recommendations with the full board.
The board moved to Executive Session from 6:00 to 6:30.
No consensus was reached and further study was recommended. The subject was tabled to next month.

CONTINUING

- **Staff and Partnering Agency reports:**
Kevin reviewed his report. He is looking forward to a more normal routine after Christmas.

Arlyse had nothing to add to her report.

Board Actions/Homework:

Homework was given during new Business.
There were no Partnering Agency Reports
There were no public comments.

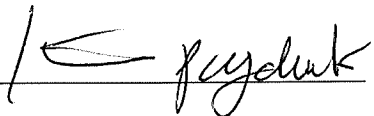
NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting is to be held at 5:00 pm on January 9th, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned by Katrina Poydack, Chair, at 7:04pm.

Approved Minutes:

Signature 

Date 2-13-25