**BUREAU COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 4, 2025

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Mike Thacker, Bill Gebeck, Todd Sears, Rod Grunloh

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Jim May

**DISTRICT STAFF PRESENT:** Becca Taylor - RC, Wallace - AC

**NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT:** Erika Luft - DC. Erika gave a brief report mentioning that she sat in on IDOA Planner interviews and that Morgan may return in January as a Soil Con. She is working on EQIP projects and staff is continuing CRP enrollments.

**Call to Order:** Mike Thacker called the meeting to order at 8:23a.m.

**Guests:** Ainslee Stroup – IDOA Conservation Planner

**Approval of Minutes:** No minutes to approve.

**Approval of Bills:** Rod Grunloh made a motion to approve the open bills. Bill Gebeck seconded; motion carried.

**Approval of Timesheets:** Mike Thacker made a motion to approve the January timesheets. Rod Grunloh seconded; motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget & Finance:** General bookkeeping.

**Education & Outreach:** Ashley mentioned that Jill Freuh with Farm Bureau has started a monthly ag breakfast. Ag employees meet at Coffee Cup to have breakfast and discuss programs and agricultural issues. The district will be co-hosting a pond clinic with LaSalle County SWCD on February 22nd. Finalizing plans for LUC Envirothon on March 12th. Hosting water jeopardy session at the Ag Fair on March 21st. Spring sale dates are set.

**Natural Areas:** Tentative McCune workday on February 19th.

**Personnel:** No updates.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**BUSINESS**

**PFC:** FY23 fund spent; have started using FY24 funds.

**SSRP:** No updates.

**CRP:** Establishment and maintenance reviews being completed.

**CREP:** No updates.

**Seeding Service:** Approximately 70 acres left to seed; waiting on ground to firm up.

**Vegetative Filter Strips:** No updates.

**Zonings**: No requests received.

**Equipment Purchase:** Drill maintenance needed.

**Whitver Farm:** No updates.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A.

NEW BUSINESS

**AISWCD Changes:** Eliot Clay is new Executive Director

**Director Election:** Jim May and Rod Grunloh up for re-election.

**Prairie Chickens:** Pheasants have been spotted at Whitver.

**Agenda items for next meeting:** Organization of the board

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at Bonucci Farms on March 4th at 8:15a.m.

**Adjournment:** Mike Thacker adjourned the meeting at 9:00a.m.

Minutes drafted and submitted by Ashley Wallace