**BUREAU COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 1, 2025

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Mike Thacker, Todd Sears, Rod Grunloh, Jim May

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Bill Gebeck

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

**NRCS PERSONNEL PRESENT:** Erika Luft – DC, Richard Rappley – NRS, Ainslee Stroup – IDOA Planner

**Call to Order:** Mike Thacker called the meeting to order at 8:17a.m.

**Guests:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** Jim made a motion to approve the February minutes. Rod seconded; motion carried.

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

**Approval of Timesheets:** Mike made a motion to approve the February/March timesheets. Rod seconded; motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Budget & Finance:** Tax Levy signoff amount for FY2024 was $17,730.

**Education & Outreach:** LUC2 Envirothon on 3/12 - Princeton High School tied for 1st place, will go to state as FFA team. Ashley and Becca led Water Jeopardy at the Bureau County Ag Fair on 3/21. Tree sale on 4/18, fish sale on 4/25. Illinois Envirothon 5/4-5/6.

**Natural Areas:** McCune was burned on 3/22. NRCS hosted a burn training at Warnecke on 3/18.

**Personnel:** No updates.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**BUSINESS**

**PFC:** FY23 fund spent; $9,741 for FY24 spent.

**SSRP:** No updates.

**CRP:** Maintenance reviews being completed.

**CREP:** In the survey process.

**Seeding Service:** 4 contracts completed; 3 left.

**Vegetative Filter Strips:** No updates.

**Zonings**: 4 requests received. Previously approved in text thread (printed copy available).

**Equipment Purchase:** Drill maintenance was done by Yarger.

**Whitver Farm:** Schoffs will complete their prescribed burn. Still waiting on CRP payment from Schoffs. Staff will look for contractors to pull trees.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** N/A.

NEW BUSINESS

**AISWCD Funding Bills:** New bills being introduced at the Capitol that will hopefully generate more operating funds for SWCDs.

**Organization of the Board:** Rod made a motion to keep the directors’ positions the same; Jim seconded; motion carried.

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

**Agenda items for next meeting:** Scholarship applicants

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held at Bonucci Farms on June 3rd at 8:15a.m.

**Adjournment:** Mike Thacker adjourned the meeting at 8:47a.m.

Minutes drafted and submitted by Ashley Wallace