



Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Meeting Minutes

331 E Cottage Park Drive Suite 1/ZOOM

August 28, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Webb at 5:57 p.m.

Meeting attendance Roster:

In-Person	Via Zoom Teleconference	Absent
Rhett Nelsen	Kevin O'Brien IVWC	Janice Denney
Katrina Poydack		
Zachary Robinson		
Matthew Robinson		
Robert Webb		
Katherine Mechling		
Katrina Poydack		
Carol Crawford, Assoc.		
John Bellville, Staff		
Arlyse DeLoyola, Staff		
Lydia Robinson, Guest		
Abie Diaz, Staff		
Maelagh Luckett-Baker, Staff		

Notes were taken by: Arlyse DeLoyola

- **Minutes:** The minutes of the previous meeting were presented to the board for review.
 - **Kathy Mechling moved to approve the minutes as presented.**
 - **Matthew Robinson seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**
- **Financial Reports:** The financial reports for July 2025 were presented to the board for review.
 - **Katrina Poydack made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented.**
 - **Kathy Mechling seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**
- **Old Business**
 - **Bio-Char Kiln-** Bob mentioned he had one of the kilns on his trailer.
 - **Thompson Creek Plan:** John reminded the board that any plan for Thompson Creek must be approved by the Soil & Water Conservation Commission at their fall meeting. He believes the plan needs to be stream-lined and he will present an edited version for board approval at the next meeting. October meeting. Further

discussion indicated agreement and no further action was taken. Also discussed was alternate access to the tract.

- **New Business**

- **Review of position descriptions:** John and Maelagh led a review of the position descriptions for the two position titles approved at the last meeting. The board and employees suggested edits.

- **Katrina Poydack made a motion to approve the Conservation Program Manager job description with edits.**
- **Kathy Mechling seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**

- The Conservation Technician job description was reviewed.

- **A motion was made by Rhett Nelsen to approve the description.**
- **Kathy Mechling seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**

- **Review of Cowan J Thompson Creek CT Access permit**

John presented a Special Use Permit allowing a neighbor access to the Thompson Creek tract in exchange for monitoring access and activity on the property.

- **Kathy Mechling moved to establish approve the Special Use permit.**
- **Zachary Robinson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**

- **Contract Grantwriter proposal:** John asked the board to consider Shannon Clark as a contract grantwriter for IVSWCD.

- **Matthew Robinson made a motion to advertise the position in order to allow anyone to apply.**
- **Rhett Nelsen seconded the motion.**
- **Discussion was held citing better optics and high team standards.**
- **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Nelsen, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack and M Robinson, voting in favor.**

- **Staff Reports:**

- John reviewed his report and discussion ensued regarding a proposed Nickel mining operation. It was determined that Alex Dogami should be invited to a meeting again for discussion of the mine proposal
- Arlyse reviewed her report and reported she got no blisters on her recent 60-mile walk and that the SAM for Two Rivers was finally completed.

- **Partnering Agency Reports:**

- **Kevin O'Brien of IV Watershed Council** had to leave the meeting prior to his report, but wished the attendees a good holiday weekend.

- **Public Comment:**

- There were no public comments.
- **NEXT MEETING:** The next regular meeting will be held September 25, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes: Robert L. Lutz Date: Sept. 25, 2025