

Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Monthly Meeting Minutes

331 E Cottage Park Drive Suite 1/ZOOM

October 23, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bob Webb at 6:01 p.m.

Meeting attendance Roster:

In-Person	Via Zoom Teleconference	Absent
Robert Webb		Kevin O'Brien, IVWC
Katrina Poydack		Rhett Nelsen
Zachary Robinson		
Matthew Robinson		
Janice Denney		
Kathy Mechling		
Carol Crawfors, IVWC		
John Bellville, Staff		
Arlyse DeLoyola, Staff		
Lydia Robinson, Guest		

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.**
 - **Katrina Poydack seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, and M Robinson, voting in favor.**
- **Financial Reports:** The financial reports for September 2025 were presented to the board for review.
 - **Katrina Poydack made a motion to approve the Financial Reports as presented.**
 - **Matthew Robinson seconded the motion.**
 - **The motion passed unanimously, with Webb, Z Robinson, Mechling, Poydack, Denney, and M Robinson, voting in favor.**
- **Old Business**
 - **Thompson Creek Plan:** Bob Webb attended the SWCC meeting today and presented the approved plan. The SWCC expressed appreciation and approval of the plan and added that approval was not needed but they request that plans be reviewed. John Bellville added that he had a tour of a neighboring property and the tract this week and was given differing ideas for the tract. He requested that a Steering Committee be formed to help guide the District in the best use of the property. The volunteers for the committee are: Kathy Mechling, Bob Webb, Matthew Robinson, and Katrina Poydack. The first meeting will be scheduled later. Katrina will research Youth Groups

that may be available for work. Janice suggested contacting the IVHS Horticulture teacher. A neighbor offered to do interpretive tours.

- **Water Quality Monitoring Updates**

John updated the board There will be one more round of grab-Sampling this year. The temperature monitors have been pulled and data is being archived. Passive monitors will be pulled November 17th. The DEQ will come out in April for training. John is working on a data analysis flyer, the IVWC will do a mailing with the information as part of the deliverables. Two Rivers SWCD will model their SAP on ours.

- **New Business**

- **Budget Meeting Scheduling**

Staff noted that it is time to have a budget meeting as we are required to approve a budget annually. Arlyse suggested naming a new committee since many of the standing committee are no longer on the board. Volunteers were Zachary Robinson, Katrina Poydack, and Bob Webb. The meeting was set for Tuesday, December 5th at 5:00pm. Also discussed were alternative funding methods. John attended a District Manager Roundtable and learned that most Districts are looking to change their funding models as grants become more competitive. More interaction with County Government was discussed.

- **District Manager HR Authority**

John asked the board to consider making policy to determine his role in Human Resources work. He would like to be considered for hiring and firing authority. Discussion was held on current policy. In the past, the board has convened a hiring or HR committee for all matters dealing with Human Resources. A motion was made to grant him authority, but died for lack of a second. The consensus was that Policies need to be reviewed and or written. John is tasked with contacting the ODA and SDAO for assistance.

- **Staff Reports:**

- **John reviewed his report.**

- Norman Design has completed the website build for IVSWCD. It is an alternative site that may be rolled into our Streamline site. <https://ivswcd.fhtechsolutions.com/>
 - He and Barbara Neidermeyer are chairing and recruiting for the Small Grant Team which is slowly developing, as the structure has been changed. There is a higher limit and more funding, but there will be much more competition. He expects to open the first round in January. He has informed OWEB that he will lead the team this year and will not be able to continue beyond that.
 - Trout Unlimited and the IVSWCD are working to get all the pieces together for the Sweet Cron irrigation Modernization Project, with an anticipated installation next April/May. They conducted a flow study on the Jimmy Little Ditch and will do a Spring study and then hire an engineer. A meeting is planned for December to encourage landowner engagement on Althouse and Sucker Creeks. ***Director Zachary Robinson submitted a list of concerns regarding irrigation on Althouse Creek for the board to review. (attached) John stated***

that he realizes that the Board can and should help determine which projects are to be sought.

- IV water Quality Monitoring- The DEQ approached John with questions regarding our program. Discussion was held on managing the deliverables and analyzing the data for distribution to the public and interested agencies.
- John submitted a FERNS NOAP for planting the XERCES Pollinator kits on the Thompson Creek Tract. After a tour, it was noted by a neighbor that there are many pollinators present in the tract already. John will continue to investigate and determine the feasibility of introducing more.
- John has conducted one site visit in the last month for a bank stabilization project within the North IV SIA. The IVWC is planning an outreach event in the next few months.
- A potential grant application for Recreational Trails was scrapped due to a requirement to have staff on site during business hours.
- **Arlyse reviewed her report** noting that she needs a note taker for next month's meeting. Janice Denney volunteered. She also asked the board their wishes for the December Holiday Meeting. They determined that a pot-luck with IVSWCD providing a main dish like last year would be sufficient. They also would like to continue the White Elephant Gift Exchange.

She also asked that they be thinking about an Annual Meeting Resolution soon.

- **Partnering Agency Reports:**

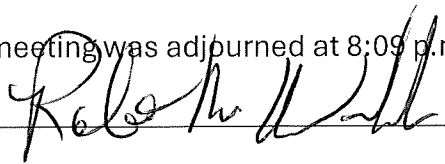
There were no partnering agencies present.

- **Public Comment:**

- The board discussed options for a Tree sale, potentially with a BBQ for early next year.
- **NEXT MEETING: The next regular meeting will be held November 20, 2025 at 6:00 pm.**

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Approved Minutes:



Date:

11-20-25