

**Soil and Water Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Koch at 10:12 a.m.

Members present for roll call were Owen DuCharme, Kate Krachey, and Mary Kuhn. Chad Sime was absent. Members of the community were also present.

Motion by Krachey, second by DuCharme to approve August 12, 2025, minutes as emailed. Motion carried unanimously. Kuhn abstained.

Land Conservationist report, Dave Troester: Troester shared with the committee that he issued a determination notice that the 2 livestock siting permit applications were incomplete. Troester shared he went to the Town of Utica Comprehensive Plan meeting last night. Troester reminded the committee that Youth Conservation Day will be next Thursday and Clean Sweep is October 17, and he is working on the Land and Water Plan.

Motion by Krachey, second by Kuhn to approve vouchers as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Land & Water Projects, Travis Bunting: Bunting informed the committee that he has been busy with projects due to the weather cooperating, adding one project finished last week and one started today. Bunting stated everything is looking good, trying to get everything finished up to allow for some growing season on the projects. Bunting shared he is still waiting for the slide windows on the new truck topper.

Wildlife: Troester asked the committee if we would like to participate in the Deer Donation Program again this year. Motion by Kuhn, second by DuCharme to approve participating in the Deer Donation Program in 2025.

NRCS, Josh Bushee, District Conservationist: Bushee shared with the committee that NRCS is catching up on implementations. Wrapping up the fiscal year. Bushee brought along Lissa Tschirgi, Resource Conservationist. Tschirgi introduced herself to the committee.

Forester, Rebecca Vasquez: Vasquez reported she has been working with NRCS to get EQIP CSP projects in and working on getting out CRP checks done before the October deadlines. Vasquez informed the committee of Forestry updates regarding a new Forester at Boscobel. Vasquez wrapped up by telling the committee that the DNR seedling order forms should be out sometime this fall, stating she will share when they are out and mentioned you can also order online.

UW Extension, Sheri Schwert: Schwert introduced herself to the committee and gave a handout. Sam Bibby updated the committee on the Statewide Weed management workshop being held Thursday. 2024 had 80 people, expecting 150 this year with

FSA: no report

Public comment: Forest Jahnke welcomed the new attendees. Jahnke continued with clarifications and concerns on behalf of the Crawford Stewardship Project regarding the Gruber Livestock siting permit.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 14, 2025.

Motion by Kuhn, second by DuCharme to adjourn at 10:50 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Opprieht".

Amy Opprieht
Administrative Assistant