

**Minutes**  
**Lake Decatur RCPP**  
**Farmer Board Meeting**  
**LOCATION: City of Decatur South Water Treatment Plant**  
**1155 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Decatur, IL 62521**  
**Feb 8, 2024 9:00am-11:00am**

**Meeting Facilitator:** Jennifer Gunter

**Meeting Notetaker:** Ben Harbaugh

**Attendees:** NAME (Organization or Role)

Name	Organization or Role
Todd Wibben	Evergreen FS
Jeff Boeckler	Northwater Consulting
Frank Rademacher	TNC
Haley Pyatt	Farm Manager
Quint Shambaugh	Pinion Global
Ben Harbaugh	AFT
Jennifer Gunter	City of Decatur
Eric Miller	Farmer
Cody White	Farmer

## Meeting Minutes

No. / Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
<b>Initial outreach to farm groups and farm managers</b>	<u>Progress Made:</u> Identified roughly 20 fields that are high priority.	Jeff will add maps to Dropbox- farms that are high priority.  Jeff will send the list of 20 fields to Quint to find farmer contact information.
<b>Progress on list creation</b>	<u>Farm groups and farm managers:</u> Quint- focused on Advanced Agrilytics- will have a list of possible applicants. DTN is asking for \$7000 for the data	Quint will reach out again and negotiate the price.

	We have funding to acquire data	Jeff will check into budget options
	Is the DTN information that AFT has access to useful?	Ben will check with Jean about this.
	<u>TSP's or people with related experience:</u> We need to finalize a list of mentors for farmers.	Jeff and Jen will finalize this list.
<b>Information Needs</b>	<u>Harvestable perennial grasses:</u> First application in. FDC offtake agreement done. The city is offering 2 years \$259/acre payment, another \$200 for the first two years.	
	<u>Hemp Practices:</u> We are still waiting for their prices and incentives to be finalized.	
<b>Mindsalt</b>	<u>Are accounts created?</u> Everyone at the meeting has created an account.	Jeff and Jen will work with AFT to decide on time tracking system for AFT members
<b>Donated John Deere Tractor</b>	<u>What is the status of this?</u> There is a set number of hours on the tractor for us to use. If we have a use for it.	Todd will check on implement availability from FS.

Discussion:

Jen had a kickoff meeting with NRCS, Macon, Pyatt and DeWitt SWCD on January 16.

Jeff and Jen are collecting contributions from partners, the report is due at the end of March.

First RCPP application submitted and signed.

Another application started, meeting scheduled for tomorrow- Cover crops and perennial grasses. Eric Veech is the farmer.

Everyone has a copy of the RCPP conservation practice menu.

Everyone is happy with Mindsalt as a time tracking software.

Advanced Agrilytics could be too much for us to spend. We have money budgeted for contact list generation.

Fact sheets on Stackable carbon payment sheets added to [Dropbox](#).

There is a discounts sheet in [Dropbox](#) outlining the discounts farmers are eligible for, provided by area service providers.

How are plans selected and approved?

Plans get selected by a ranking system based on the conservation practices that will be implemented. The RCCP plan duration is 5 years.

The CSP interview questionnaire supplement is in [Dropbox](#). This is for interested farmers, they need to fill out up front, to get that information early. That info gets put into a CPA-52 worksheet. It will shoot out answers as you fill out the application.

Mentor list- Once a farmer is signed up, we will assign a mentor (ex: Eric knows about bioreactors) Bring the mentor into the process early, work with Jeff and Jen, they will suggest which practices are needed then the mentor will distill that down to practices adopted.

Dylan Kinsley new DC for Macon County, Pyatt County and DeWitt County

**Next meeting date:**

March 7, 2024, 9:00am-11:00 am

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Backburner / topics for next meeting:

**I. Progress on contact information on 20 high profile farms**

- a. Quint can provide updates.

**II. Progress on outreach**

- a. Feedback

**III. DTN Data**

- a. Quint-Renegotiated price?
- b. Jeff- Will our budget allow for this purchase?
- c. Ben- Can we use the DTN data that AFT has?

**IV. Implement for the donated tractor?**

- a. Todd- any update? Does FS have a use for the tractor?
- b. Any other ideas for tractor use?

**V. Focused maps for the 20 high profile farms**

- a. Jeff- Are these available in Dropbox?