



April 13, 2021

Carnegie Center, Rensselaer

Supervisors Present: Lana Zimmer, Jim Martin, Mark Kingma and Stuart Orr

Supervisors Absent: Mark Jordan

Staff Present: Derek Carty and Shelby Keys

i. Call to Order

Vice-Chairperson Lana Z. called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm CST.

ii. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were presented for review. Jim M. motions to approve minutes, Mark K. seconds and the motion carries.

iii. Treasurer's Report

Claims for the month of March in the amount of \$5,897.35 were presented for review.

Mark K. motions to approve, Stuart O. seconds and the motion carries.

iv. Old Business

Current Grant Updates/Deliverables

- i. 205j – Lower Kankakee Watershed Initiative – Invoice 8 was submitted on April 12th. Meeting with Scott Pelath, Executive Director for the Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission, to discuss partnerships within the Kankakee on May 13th. LKWI booth at the Weed Wrangle in Wheatfield on May 15th. Monthly water sampling will happen on April 22nd. Regional Conservation Partnership Program(RCPP) Kankakee River Meeting on April 26th. Shelby will forward the invite once it is sent out and will provide a summary of the discussion next month.
- ii. CWI 2019 – Interseeding Project – 3 participants for 2021. Derek suggested doing demo plots for a third year as the interest is there and will get the seed ordered.
- iii. CWI 2020 – Improving Infiltration with Native Plants and Cover Crops - Confirmation letter sent to Zach R. that he no longer qualifies for the program. Jake M was paid for cover crops.
- iv. RC&D Invasive Buy-Back - Two more landowner surveys lined up for interested participants. Derek has hung flyers around the County.
- v. Cover Crop Boxes – Reached out to Alyssa Nyberg, The Nature Conservancy, per our last meeting. Put us in touch with Jeanette Jaskula, President of the Friends of the Sands. Discussed with her what we wanted and verified the plant suggestions with Stuart O. Friends of the Sands are growing the plants and transporting them to the beds, free of charge. Jeanette J. will be in contact in May for drop-off.

Roller Crimper Update – Crimper was returned on April 9th, Will P. picked it up for use and will be returning it on April 16th. The plug for drainage was changed. Derek suggested warning labels for draining the water.

v. New Business

- i. Marking Flags - Staff requested a restock of 20 bundles of marking flags to sell in the office. Mark K. motions to approve, Stuart O. seconds and the motion carries.
- ii. Clothing - The Indiana Invasives Initiative is having a t-shirt campaign to promote discussion about invasive plants. Jim. M motions to spend \$200 on the campaign, and Mark K seconds.
- iii. Director Update – NIPSCO Soil Testing grant was submitted on April 1st. Shelby gave a presentation to the Rensselaer Rotary club on April 6th and discussed the District’s current activities. The Spring Tillage Transect was completed on April 8th with the help of Ben Eaton, ISDA. Staff will be helping with the Electronics Recycling day on April 17th. The Weed Wrangle is on May 15th, with a max capacity of 20 participants. The District will be giving away two of the Regulated Terrestrial Invasive Plant guides.

vi. Partner/Agency Reports

- i. Kevin Shide - NRCS, District Conservationist - Building access has changed. 25% of entire occupancy is allowed.
- ii. Bryan Overstreet – Purdue Extension - 2 PARP meetings last week. Openings in White County for Drone class.

Vice-Chairperson Lana Z. made a motion to adjourn at 4:02 pm CST.

Minutes approved

Respectfully Submitted: Shelby Keys