

December 20, 2018

SWCD Office

Supervisors Present: Mark Jordan, Kyler Laid, Derek Luchik, Lana Zimmer, and Mark Kingma

Supervisors Absent:

Staff Present: Dan Perkins, Sheila Schroeder

Associates Present: Jim Martin

Partners Present: Ben Eaton and Kevin Shide

Citizens Present:

I. Call to Order

An Executive Session was held at 3pm. Chairman Kyler Laird called the regular meeting of the SWCD board of supervisors to order at 3:30pm CST.

II. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from November were presented for review. Mark J. motioned to approve the minutes and Mark K. seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Treasurer's Report, Claims

The treasurer's report and claims in the amount of \$12,389.21 for November were presented for approval. Discussion was held. Mark K. motioned to approve the reports and claims and Mark J. seconded. Motion carried. Reports will be filed for audit.

IV. Next Meeting Schedule

Next meeting: Jan 24th, 2pm Executive Session; 3pm regular session. Jasper SWCD Office.

V. Correspondence

Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management has hired a new regional Invasive Species Specialist, Erica Luchik, to work in the 10 county area making up the RC&D which includes Jasper County. They are in need of office space for the employee. After discussion, it was decided the RC&D specialist may utilize space in this building to be determined by Kevin. RC&D did not receive the CWI 2019 grant to help fund this employee. They are requesting that each district still contribute \$500 toward the salary of this newly created position. Lana makes a motion to use \$500 of CWI annual funds to support this position. Mark J. seconded. Derek abstained. Motion passed.

NCF Leadership Campaign discussed. After discussion, it was decided not to contribute to the foundation.

Annual conference resolutions: Mark J. is the Jasper County delegate, Lana is the alternate. Each resolution to be voted on at the annual conference was discussed. Mark will listen to arguments and explanations for each item at the annual conference and vote accordingly.

CWI 2019 award letter – we plan to lease equipment and waiting to hear on those terms.

VI. Healthy Soils

CWI 2019 funding will be received soon and work will begin on the interseeding project.

We did not receive NWF 2019 grant.

Ben Eaton was very helpful in creating some maps. Tillage transect was recently performed on the Notre Dame study area. This project is wrapping up this year also.

VII. Water Management

319 outcomes? Do we keep water testing in the Iroquois? Carpenter and Curtis? Where does money come from to do that? 9:00 am on January 2 – Chelsea Cottingham, IDEM specialist, will be here for the first quarterly meeting of the new Kankakee grant. Lana and Mark K. may attend that. Dan distributed draft steering committee letter. Lana will work on the format and wording of the letter. Need firm start date from IDEM to set the date for initial meeting.

Iroquois River Conservancy District met today. Dan went. USGS gauge project is wrapping up 4 years in January. Dan gave them the numbers and summaries about how it has been helpful in hopes they will continue to fund it. They pay \$26K per year, USGS \$15K and all staffing, maintenance, time. Discussion was held about petitioning farmers to sign a letter of support for continuing this funding.

KRBC is meeting on 1/11/19. The report from Bob Barr should be ready by 1/4/19 and presented to surveyors. The plan will go to the legislature within the first two weeks of January. 5-10 year project, \$100M. Talking about cleaning all the way to Watseka area where Kankakee/Iroquois meet. 110 miles.

VIII. Land Use and Development

- IX. RC&D grant – due at the end of January. Idea is to see what land is currently under Equip contract for invasives, and perhaps cost share on some neighboring properties that don't qualify for other programs. Wouldn't require a forestry management plan. Mark J. made a motion to discuss a grant idea with Erica after she starts and bring it to January board meeting. Mark K. seconded. Motion carried.

X. District Development

Administrative Committee met and plans to do more and develop policies for board to consider.

Clothing allowance discussion was held. A policy may be developed.

Mark will discuss cover crop plantings, etc., landscape around the new office and possible destruction of the old bathroom with the Fair Board. Kyler noted that the county owns the education center because it was built on their land.

The per diem rate for supervisors was discussed. For 2018, annual conference attendance and monthly board meeting attendance will be counted toward the per diem. Lana made a motion that the Administrative Committee develop a policy outlining what meetings and events should be counted in the future. Mark J. seconded. Motion passed.

XI. Agency/Partner Reports

Purdue Extension – No report.

NRCS – Farm bill was signed today.

ISDA – Sexual Harassment video needs to be watched by the end of April. Ben will plan to present the video to the supervisors at the February meeting.

XII. Other Business

Kyler will be traveling February – June. Kyler asked Geneva about naming a new person to the Board for the duration of his term. Geneva said that is acceptable. Jim Martin would be willing to take this position through the end of Kyler’s term if we wish. Mark J. moves that we ask Jim to fulfill the remainder of Kyler’s term. Derek seconded. Motion passed. Kyler was asked to remain as an associate supervisor, and he agreed. Jim will be presented as our nominee to the State Board to carry out the remainder of Kyler’s term. Sheila will ask Jim if he would like to attend annual conference in place of Kyler.

Annual meeting: Kyler suggested a poster session and displays for people to look at and discuss to help increase attendance. Notre Dame project will be wrapping up and 319 implementation grant just ended. Kankakee project is starting. There are a lot of things we can share with the community. Community Conservation focus. Bryan was Certified Crop Advisor of the Year. State leaders of NRCS, IASWCD, local FFA and 4-H groups to be invited. March 19th, eMbers. Jean Witherington cater. We will seek sponsors, including asking Ceres to sponsor the meal. 4:00 board to meet, 5:00 social hour, 6:00 dinner.

Dan will attend the Soil Health Partnership annual meeting in St. Louis.

Derek made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mark K.. Chairman Kyler Laird adjourned the meeting at 5:42 p.m.

Minutes approved

Respectfully submitted _____ Sheila Schroeder