



February 23, 2021

WebEx Meeting

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

Staff Present: Derek Carty and Shelby Keys

Partners Present: Bryan Overstreet, Kevin Shide, Ben Eaton and Kim Peterson

i. Call to Order

Chairperson Mark J. called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm CST.

ii. Minutes from Previous Meeting

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

iii. Treasurer's Report

Claims for the month of January in the amount of \$3,588.77 were presented for review. Lana Z. motions to approve, Stuart O. seconds and the motion carries.

iv. Correspondence

- i. Received a mailing asking for donations to support the Jasper County 4-H. Discussion was had on what we've contributed to in the past and how the staff can help with the program. Lana Z. motions to donate \$150 to the 4-H council and work with Purdue Extension to see how we can establish a dedicated program for conservation and offer incentives to participants and offer Shelby & Derek as Project Leaders for the conservation projects.
- ii. Monroe County SWCD sent to all Indiana SWCD's a children's book written by their District Manager, Martha Miller. The book discusses the importance of our activities and how they affect water and soil. Shelby sent a thank you note.
- iii. The National Association of Conservation District's (NACD) sent a renewal for the District's membership. Lana Z. motions to support NACD for \$775, Stuart O. seconds and the motion passes.
- iv. Pheasants Forever sent a letter with their membership renewal form. Stuart O. motions to support Pheasants Forever membership fee of \$50, Jim M. seconds and the motion passes.
- v. The Soil and Water Conservation Society (SWCS) sent a letter for membership renewal. Lana Z. motions to support the SWCS renewal for \$115, Mark K. seconds and the motion passes.
- vi. The Indiana District of Employee's Association (IDEA) send an email with their membership renewal form. Lana Z. motions to support IDEA in the amount of \$50, Mark K. seconds and the motion passes.

v. Old Business

Current Grant Updates/Deliverables

- i. 205j – LKWI – The initiative hosted a successful soil health webinar on February 5th, there were 65 people watching live and 90 YouTube views currently. It has also been posted on the District’s website. Met with Amanda Studor-Bond on February 4th for the Quarterly Site Report Update. Informed us we don’t have to have a public comment period. Aiming to have our final WMP ready to turn in to the Environmental Protection Agency by the end of the year. She also recommended that we partner with Kankakee River Yellow River Basin Development on best management practices for the 319 grant. The Notice of Intent is due in May.
Sara Peel is hosting an Agriculture Conservation Planning Framework (ACPF) training on March 18th at 9:00 AM at the Newton County Government Center. This tool was run for the Kankakee Watershed, and this training will teach us how to use the tool to implement the best conservation practices. Derek worked with Jared O’Brien to get GIS up to date. Worked with Mark Nicolas, NRCS IT, and has gotten ACPF tool and its database downloaded onto his computer.
- ii. CWI 2019 –Derek created an infographic highlighting the success of the program, a deliverable stated in the grant. Started contacting potential participants for upcoming growing season. Confirmed with 2, and 2 other potential participants. Grant ends this December.
- iii. CWI 2020 – Have been discussing with the other Counties involved about hosting a training series for native plantings regarding establishment and maintenance. Still in the early planning stages. Have an upcoming meeting with the other counties for moving forward.
Heard back from Zach Ratliff. His plot was tilled over in December. It is the end of the frost seeding seed-frame according to NRCS guidelines, Derek discussed with Stuart if he still had time to seed. Mix he had picked would still be successful. Zach R. will be called tomorrow. He has until the 2nd week of March to seed for it to be accepted.
- iv. RC&D 2020 – Had an application turned in. Land-owner survey set up with Mandi Glanz for April 27th. Promotion of program has begun.

Roller Crimper – Roller Crimper is finished; we will inspect and pay. Mark K. will be willing to help inspect, Mark J. can be backup.

vi. New Business

- i. Jasper County Invasives Initiative – A Weed Wrangle has been scheduled for Saturday, May 15th from 10:00-12:00 AM CST at the Prairie Border Nature Preserve in Wheatfield, IN. Currently only 10 participants are allowed.
- ii. Tree Planter Rental - Barney Johnson filled out application requesting the use of the green planter from April 1st-April 15th. Tree Planter is currently at Kyler Laird’s. Needs maintenance before April. Will get a video of Barney using it to promote on YouTube.
- iii. Statewide Soil Sensor Project - Leslie Fischer, Benton County SWCD, reached out to Derek C. about a Purdue University soil sensor project. The data is used to give farmers an idea on conservation vs. conventional and on how nutrients run through soil.
- iv. Director Update – Cisma meeting was held on February 10th, created a Facebook page for the group, Jasper County Invasives Initiative. The next Cisma meeting is March 10th at 6:00 pm. Attending Purdue’s Women in Ag Conference on Thursday. 2020 Per Diems were sent out to all. Talking to the Rotary Club at noon on April 6th.

vii. Partner/Agency Reports

- i. Kevin Shide - NRCS, District Conservationist – An office-wide candle policy was sent out to all staff. The Board was made aware of the policy. No open flames in the office.

ii. Bryan Overstreet – Purdue Extension – PARP Programs in March.

Chairperson Mark J. made a motion to adjourn at 4:25 pm CST.

Minutes approved

Mark Kingma

Lana Zimmer

Stuart Orr

Mark Jordan

Jim Martin

Respectfully Submitted: Shelby Keys