

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
March 20, 2025
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center Conference Room. Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 6:36am.

Board Members:

Brad Ponsler
Alex Helms
Matt Branham (Absent)
Kevin Morin (Absent)
Kameron Garlitch

Staff:

Becca McClellan
Maddie Suhre
Andy Ertel (Absent)

Associates:

Jimmi Berkey (Absent)

Partners:

Jennifer Kipper

Reading of the Minutes:

Kameron Garlitch made a motion to accept the February 2025 Minutes as written, with a second by Brad Ponsler. All in favor.

Annual Meeting Minutes:

Kameron Garlitch made a motion to accept the Annual Meeting Minutes from March 1, 2025 as submitted, with a second by Brad Ponsler. All in favor.

Financial Report:

Kameron Garlitch made a motion to accept the Financial Report as written, with a second by Brad Ponsler. All in favor. Also, Becca presented to the board regarding Trust Indiana to make more on interest on our accounts. It was suggested that we have a representative from Trust Indiana to explain this process to any of the board members that could attend.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence to discuss at this meeting.

Ongoing/Old Business:

HHH RC&D Membership Dues- Maddie emailed Kim Jolly about what was included with the HHH RC&D membership and shared the email with the Board. The last time that we paid dues was in 2020 and the last time the County paid dues was 2022. The Board decided to not pay dues this year but will re-evaluate next year.

Website Domain Renewal- Maddie presented to the board that this item had been paid, she spoke with SEI Data and they said the website domain was included in the amount that was given at the end of last year when the whole amount for 2025 was paid.

Watershed Update- Becca updated the board that we still have \$41,000 still left to allocate. Also, that there is still one year, and nine months left in the grant. No word on if the 319 grant will continue in 2026.

Annual Meeting Recap- The board was able to share their thoughts on how the annual meeting went, and sharing their thoughts on ideas for the next annual meeting. Board members are wanting to get thoughts from other members that couldn't attend the meeting for the meeting. This will be put on the agenda for next meeting to get more thoughts.

Geotextile Fabric- Becca presented to the board that there are still a total of two rolls hanging on the side of the shed, and two under the tarp behind the shed. This item will be tabled until the April Board Meeting.

QuickBooks Pricing- Maddie stated to the board that she got in contact with QuickBooks regarding why our subscription keeps fluctuating in pricing. Maddie stated that the lady that she talked with said that their rate just keeps going up. Also, Maddie said that at the last meeting in February the board wanted to change the subscription from Payroll Elite to Core. When Maddie and Becca were doing the research on the switch it was brought to their attention that if they were to switch to Core it would not send their automatic reports to the IRS & IDOR, and that our subscription was changed to the Premium to keep the automated reports that were needed. Maddie stated that the subscription amount was changed to \$85.00 a month, but when she talked to the lady on QuickBooks, she let us know that we got a discount on the Premium so it made \$42.50 a month for a year. Lastly, the lady from QuickBooks stated that we can call around this time last year and see that if there is another discount on the subscription to see if we could get another discount for next year.

New Business:

Operation Round-Up Grant- Becca spoke with one of the elementary school educator's about Envirosapes and they suggested the District apply for Operation Round-Up, a grant opportunity through REMC. Becca looked into this grant and applied for it. This would cover the cost of an Enviroscape Watershed Display and display case. We won't know if we were awarded the funding or not until August.

Transect- The Transect has been scheduled for Friday, March 21, 2025.

Election of Officers- The board held an election of officers.

Chairman: Brad Ponsler

Vice Chairman: Matt Branham

Fiscal Officer: Maddie Suhre

Back Up Fiscal Officer: Becca McClellan

Kameron Garlitch made a motion to elect Brad Ponsler as Chairman with a second by Alex Helms. All in favor. Kameron Garlitch made a motion to elect Matt Branham as Vice Chairman with a second by Alex Helms. All in favor. Lastly, all were in favor in electing Maddie Suhre as the Fiscal Officer with a back-up of Becca McClellan.

Conflict of Interest Forms- The five Supervisors were given a Conflict of Interest Form that needs to be completed and brought back to the next Board Meeting.

Future Board Meeting Times & Dates- Board Meeting times and dates will remain the same. Time will be 6:30am, and the dates will be the fourth Tuesday of every month.

Per Diem- The Board was asked if they wanted to accept the per diem. Kameron Garlitch made a motion to not accept the per diem, and a second was made by Alex Helms. All were in favor.

District Policies: 2025 Policies were reviewed and signed.

Staff/Partner Reports:

Jennifer Kipper – District Conservationist – NRCS
Written Report

Becca McClellan- SWCD
Written Report

Madelyn Suhre- SWCD
Written Report

Claims: Maddie prepared a packet including a Financial Report and Board Meeting Minutes needing reviewed and signed by the Board Members.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:28am.

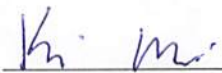
Minutes taken by: Maddie Suhre



Brad Ponsler – Chairman



Matt Branham – Vice Chairman



Kevin Morin – Member



Kameron Garlitch – Member



Alex Helms - Member