

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
January 22, 2013
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Chairman Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Supervisors

Brad Ponsler
Brian Belding
Jerry St. John

Staff

Kelly Kent
Bob Steiner

NRCS

Jenny Vogel

ISDA

Ed Roll

Contracted Technician

Denise Dailey

Reading of the Minutes

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the November 2012 minutes as submitted, with a second from Brian Belding.

Financial Report

Brian Belding made a motion to accept the Nov. 28 – Dec. 31, 2012 and Jan. 1 – Jan. 22, 2013 financial report as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Correspondence

A Get Well card was passed around to send to Tom Flora.

Agency & Committee Reports

Essential Services

Bob reported that 3 rezoning request were submitted for the new pipeline going from Seymour to Pittsburgh. There are 65 tracts affected by this in Jennings Co. There was a rezoning request from Hayden Water to go from Residential Single Family to Institutional in order to conform to the county zoning.

HHH RC&D

No report

Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey

Denise reported that she was busy with field visits in December but so far in January not much going on. She will be working in the county two days this next week. She also asked Bob to get the information to her about the pipeline to make sure a Rule 5 plan had been filed. Bob recommended that she get in contact with Cheryl Trisler for this information.

Denise asked the board if they wish to continue with her as their contracted technician for Rule 5 reviews. Brian Belding made a motion to continue with Denise as the Contracted Technician with a second from Jerry St. John. All were in favor.

Denise reported that IDEM will now have Dan Perez at the Brownstown office as a local contact person.

Staff Reports

Bob Steiner

Written report submitted. Bob also reported that he and Ed Roll have been selected to serve on an Advisory Committee with the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative hub at SEPAC.

Jenny Vogel

Written report submitted. Jenny also shared highlights for NRCS. There is \$26 million for EQIP in Indiana with signup under General and Initiatives. Some of the Initiatives are: On Farm Energy, Air Quality, MRBI, and High Tunnel. The first round cut-off date was Jan. 18th and Jennings County had 18 applications. Jane Hardisty is continuing as Acting Associate Chief of Operations in D.C. for another 120 days and Leonard Jordan is the Acting Associate Chief of Conservation.

Kelly Kent

Written report submitted.

Ed Roll

Ed encouraged the staff to continue entering projects in Sharepoint. This is a great tool for the legislators to see what is going on in their areas of the state. The new director for ISDA is Gina Sheets.

Old Business

Plat Book Options

Plat books have been ordered and will be delivered by June 1, 2013. Bob is working with the local photo club to get pictures taken in Jennings County for the front cover. Kelly advised the board of other items needed for the book.

Elected Officials Breakfast

Jerry gave an update to the board. He has spoken with each of the commissioners and is waiting to hear back from them.

Nominations for Supervisors

No new nominations were submitted. Brad, Nathan, and Dan will work to find someone to fill Brian Belding's position. Brian Belding will continue as an Associate Supervisor.

Annual Meeting

The board decided that Kelly should send personal invitations to the County Commissioners and County Council.

CWI Grant Update

Kelly passed around the 2013 CWI Grant brochure. Brad recommended that we distribute some of these to the farm retailers to get the word out.

New Business

New PA system

Bob will check into some additional options.

Seed Giveaway

Kelly spoke to a vendor, Cover Crop Solutions, at the IASWCD Annual Conference who was distributing radish seeds in a bottle. Kelly suggested the board purchase these to give away at this year's SWCD Annual Meeting. The price is \$1 each. Brian Belding made a motion to purchase 50 bottles with a second from Jerry St. John. All were in favor.

Spring Tree Sale

Kelly asked the board if they would like to participate in the multi-county tree sale again this spring. Brian Belding made a motion for the district to hold the spring tree sale with a second from Jerry St. John.

Appoint Representative to HHH RC&D

Rob McGriff has been the representative for the past few years and would like to step down. He had asked the board to appoint someone else to take his place. This was discussed and Brad asked the board members to think of someone to appoint and bring that back to the next board meeting.

Bank of Record

The district is required to name their bank of record each year. Jerry St. John made a motion to retain PNC as the district's Bank of Record with a second by Brian Belding.

Rural Urban Dinner

Brian Belding made a motion to continue our \$250 sponsorship of the Jennings Co. Chamber of Commerce Rural Urban Dinner with a second by Jerry St. John.

Soil Health Campaign Training for Farmers

There will be more information coming on this from the CCSI.

Shop Meetings

Bob asked the board if they would like to continue hosting the shop meetings. The board agreed this was good for the local farmers and we should continue to host these. Bob has spoken to Cameron Mills about coming to these shop meetings to speak about cover crops. He will be available sometime the week of March 18th and Bob is trying to contact Barry Fisher to see if he would be available during that time as well. Once a couple of dates are set, Bob and Jenny will contact Eddie Maschino and Tom Low to see if they will be willing to once again host these shop meetings. More details will be forthcoming.

Conservation Plans

Bob signed plans as needed.

Claims

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Brian Belding with a second by Jerry St. John at 8:20 pm.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by:

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Member

Member

Member