

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
January 28, 2014
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Supervisors

Jerry St. John
Matt Branham
Nathan Burbrink
Brad Ponsler
Dan Megel

Staff

Kelly Kent
Bob Steiner
NRCS
Jenny Vogel

Contracted Technician

Denise Dailey

Associate Supervisors

Tom Schneider

Reading of the Minutes

Matt Branham made a motion to accept the November 2013 minutes as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Financial Report

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the Nov. 21 – Dec. 31, 2013 & Jan. 1 – Jan. 28, 2014 financial reports as submitted, with a second from Nathan Burbrink.

Annual Financial Report

The SBOA Annual Financial Report was submitted to the board for signatures. Brad Ponsler & Dan Megel signed the reported that was submitted to the SBOA by Kelly Kent.

Correspondence

Postage – Bulk Fee

The annual bulk mailing fee permit invoice for \$200 was received. A motion to pay this invoice for 2014 was made by Dan Megel, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Chamber of Commerce – 2014 Membership Dues

The 2014 membership dues invoice for \$100 was received. A motion to pay this invoice was made by Jerry St. John, with a second from Matt Branham.

Agency & Committee Reports

Essential Services

Nothing to report.

HHH RC&D

Bob attended the last meeting. HHH is planning their Annual Meeting for March 27th more details will follow. They are also looking at dues in the future.

Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey

Denise reported that she is starting to get back out on some sites after all the snow and cold. She has recently made site visits to the N.V. Rail to Trail and N.V. LTCP.

Staff Reports

Bob Steiner

Written report submitted.

Jenny Vogel

Written report submitted.

Kelly Kent

Written report submitted.

Old Business

IASWCD Annual Meeting

Due to poor winter weather and travel conditions Brad Ponsler was the only representative from Jennings County to attend the IASWCD Annual Conference this year. He reported a very small crowd as expected due to the conditions. Some of the speakers were not able to make it to Indianapolis so they utilized technology and in fact had one session via Skype. Kelly printed an IASWCD Annual Report for each board member. Kelly also updated the board on the 2 resolutions presented at this year's Business Meeting. That report is on file in the district office for review.

Strawblower

Kelly checked with Mike Clancey on the status of payment for the strawblower rental. Mike owes the district \$2070 for rentals from August of 2012 to December of 2013. Mike stated at this time he is unable to pay that amount but promised to make sure and get caught up. The board discussed many different ways to handle this situation and came up with the following. Kelly will contact Mike and let him know that district will work with him on this especially since he assists the district with moving the geo-textile fabric. The board would like to know what amount of compensation would be fair for his time and equipment use for moving the fabric rolls. If an agreement on compensation for this service can be reached the district will start taking that amount off of what the balance is but would also like for Mike to start making some type of payment on the overdue balance. Then when this amount is paid we would set up our future rental payments on a quarterly basis. Kelly will report back to the board at the next meeting.

New Business

Annual Meeting Duties

Kelly made up packets for each supervisor and associate supervisor which includes the following: 10 numbered tickets along with a sheet with details of the meeting, location, time, & cost. Each supervisor is tasked with selling these tickets and reporting the names and ticket numbers back to Kelly for her records. This is to be completed by the next board meeting. Also, flyers for the event were passed around for the supervisors to place in area businesses.

Matt Branham shared that he had a friend with sound equipment that would be willing to come to the Annual Meeting for a \$200 fee. Jerry St. John said he would get with the person in charge of the sound system at the Shrine Club to see if we could just use what was there. This will be decided on at the next board meeting.

Bank of Record

SBOA required the district to declare their bank of record at the first meeting of the calendar year. Kelly stated that PNC is currently the district's bank of record and suggested this remain the same for 2014. Dan Megel made a motion to keep PNC as the bank of record, with a second from Matt Branham.

Cooperative Working Agreement

Jenny Vogel reported that the agreement that was signed by the board last April and it has finally made its way around to all partners for signatures. This agreement is between NRCS, FSA, SSCB, ISDA, Extension and the District. This covers the work between agencies, leased space, technical support and etc. This is on file in the district office.

Southeast Conservation Workload

Bob shared maps of the state showing the conservation practices are going on around the state. Each map represented which agency and practice that was being done.

Antique Tractor Display

Matt asked the board if focusing on one area of antiques would be something they would like to do at this year's display at the Jennings County Fair. It was agreed that a letter would be sent out within the next week to past participants letting them know that this year we would try to focus the display on the progression of planting. Kelly will work with Matt on making signs to display around the booth in hopes of deterring anyone of climbing on the equipment for their own safety and the owners' protection. Kelly will compile a letter to the tractor owners and forward to Matt for his approval.

Tent – Sunscreen

Matt asked about locating a screen to hang from our tent to shade the area better for this year's tractor display along with some seating for those fairgoers to sit and visit. Kelly will check the size of the tent and get this information to Matt for pricing on a sunscreen.

District Equipment Building

The Jennings County Council received the bond for capital improvements. The district was awarded some of their funding for a building at the district office to house the rental equipment owned by the district. Matt has received quotes for pipe building. The building quotes were for a 3 sided building. The 12'x24' building was \$4500, and a 24'x24' building was \$6500. Bob will check with the council to find out what the district needs to do to receive their funding and report back at the next meeting.

Conservation Building at the Fairgrounds

Bob stated that we will need to meet sometime at the building and assess what improvements we would like to do and what needs to be torn out of the building. We will wait until the weather breaks to take a look at this project.

Conservation Plans

Bob signed plans as needed.

Claims

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Jerry St. John with a second by Nathan Burbrink at 8:28 pm

Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant