

**Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
January 28, 2020
Board Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Dan Megel called the meeting to order at 6:33 am.

Board Members

Dan Megel
Jerry St. John
Matt Branham
Bob Steiner

Staff

Kelly Kent
Andy Ertel
NRCS
Jenny Vogel
Nathan Lind

Purdue Extension

Robert Waller

Dan welcomed Nathan Lind to our meeting. Nathan is the new Program Team Leader with the Salem Tech Team. This position will supervisor the District Conservationist within the Salem Tech Teams region. He is excited to be here and hoping to work with the district.

Reading of the Minute

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the November 2020 minutes as submitted, with a second from Tom Schneider.

Financial Report

Matt Branham made a motion to accept the financial report as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Correspondence

SBOA Invoice

The invoice for the remote audit covering the years of 2015 through 2018 was \$801. Jerry St. John made a motion to pay the invoice with a second from Tom Schneider.

Resignation

Don Biehle is stepping down as an Associate Supervisor. The board would like to extend our thankfulness for his many years to the SWCD.

Bridge Replacement 800 S – Franco Consulting Engineers

Andy shared a photo of the bridge with the SWCD board.

David Ransbottom – Soil Health Specialist

Andy gave an update from Mr. Ransbottom, at this time due to an injury he is unavailable for a field day.

Cummins Case Study

At the Governors Award Ceremony, a representative from Cummins approached him with interest in finding out more about our Pollinator Program. He was able to share some of the info then Cummins hired an individual to create a plan focusing on Cummins as a Global company to create their own program for their employees to increase habitat.

Bank of Record

A motion to continue with the district bank accounts at German American was made by Jerry St. John with a second from Tom Schneider. All in favor.

Old Business

Conservation Building – With the concrete floor completed now the staff asked a local contractor for a couple of bids to build a new closet, add lighting and create photo display frames for our new exhibit. The quote for this was \$7580 and we will need to purchase frames for the photos and descriptions. Matt Branham made a motion to approve a total of \$8600 for these upgrades with a second from Jerry St. John.

IASWCD Conference Updates – Matt Branham shared with the board that the conference was very good this year. He had attended the session about the weather changes and the effects it was having on farming in general. Andy thought the conference was better than last years.

Drill Ordered – The new drill has been ordered from Jacobi.

New Business

CD Renewal – January 19, 2020 – The current CD matured 1/19/20. The staff researched the local banks to see what new offers were available. German American has an 8-month cd with a rate of 1.54%. Matt Branham made a motion to purchase a new CD for 8 months with a second from Tom Schneider. The staff will do the math and determine if we want to put the entire amount back in or an adjusted amount. *Update* Andy and Kelly met with Wendy at German American and reenrolled the CD for \$10k less than the original.

IDEA Dues – Dues for Andy and Kelly for 2020 are due. Jerry St. John made a motion to pay the \$25 each dues with a second from Matt Branham.

Associate Board Members – Matt had spoke to Michael Gasper about coming on to the board as an Associate Supervisor, at this time Michael decline but did indicate he may be interested later.

Bee Box – Andy shared that we just received our new bee box, which will be used for educational field days and at the Conservation Building during the fair.

Decatur Co Annual Meeting – Kelly would like to attend this meeting to hear their speaker for a future potential speaker at our Annual Meeting. Jerry St. John made a motion to pay for Kelly's ticket at \$10 with a second from Tom Schneider.

Agency & Committee Reports

Jenny Vogel – NRCS
Written Report

Andy Ertel – SWCD
Written Report

Kelly Kent – SWCD
Written Report

Robert Waller - Extension

District Policy

County & District Travel Policies – Ready for signatures.

Bank of Record – Ready for signatures.

Claims

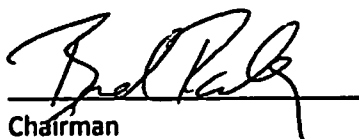
Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

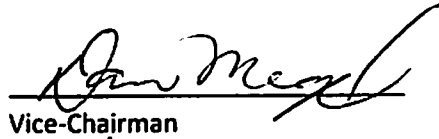
Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt Branham with a second by Tom Schneider at 7:35 am.

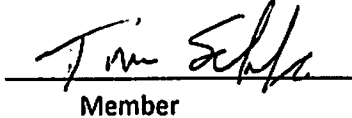
Minutes taken by Kelly Kent.

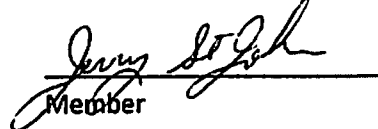
Minutes approved by:


Chairman


Vice-Chairman


Member


Member


Member