

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
February 28, 2017
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 6:30pm.

Board Members

Matt Branham
Brad Ponsler
Tom Schneider
Bob Steiner
Jerry St. John

Staff

Andy Ertel
Kelly Kent

NRCS

Jenny Vogel

Reading of the Minute

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the January 2017 minutes as submitted, with a second from Tom Schneider.

Financial Report

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

Correspondence

- Region Meeting – 3/9/17 @ 5pm – Brad mentioned that if anyone was able to attend that would be great.
- Contribution Agreement – Jerry asked the staff if this was something we wanted to continue to do and the staff along with Jenny agreed. Jerry made a motion to sign the agreement with a second from Matt Branham.
- HHH RC&D Annual Meeting – 3/30/17 @ 630pm – Bob, Andy & Kelly will be attending this.
- HHH RC&D Due – Jerry St. John made a motion to pay the \$250 dues with a second from Tom Schneider
- Jennings Co. Extension 4-H – Matt Branham made a motion to pay \$200 for 4-H awards support with a second from Tom Schneider.
- Rural Urban Dinner Attendees 3/20/17 @ 6pm – Supervisors that will be attending are: Brad Ponsler, Bob Steiner, Tom Schneider and Matt Branham.

Agency & Committee Reports

Jenny Vogel – NRCS

Written Report

Andy Ertel – SWCD

Written Report

Kelly Kent – SWCD

Written Report

Old Business

District Food Expenditure Policy

The staff will present an updated policy for the board's approval at the next meeting.

Legislative Update

Andy and Brad shared with the board that they and Kelly met with Cress Hizer, lobbyist for IASWCD at the Statehouse on Feb. 23rd and had the opportunity to meet with Randy Frye, and the assistants of Jim Lucas and Chip Perfect. Andy was able to tell them what we are doing for conservation and pollinators in Jennings County.

Share Some Space

- Plant Sale – Kelly updated the board that sales were a bit slower this year. Suggestions were made on additional promotions by emailing this flyer to our newsletter list, asking the Plain Dealer to run an article and making sure Amber has this info to share with the schools.
- Industrial Proposal Brochure – Andy advised the board of the information he is sharing with the Industrial Business owners on the Pollinator Program. At this time we have 6 businesses committed to the program. He will continue to work on this and Brad will work with Layman Fabrication to see if they would like to participate.
- Calli Preserve – Andy informed the board that he has been working with Jason Larson, DNR to add some pollinators at the Calli Preserve. The local chapter of FFA will be building bluebird houses to utilize here and other areas in the county.

Annual Meeting

- Tickets Sold – Kelly advised the board that we had around 80 people so far attending the Annual Meeting. Brad and Tom had tickets they sold and will give Kelly the information after the meeting.
- Duties – Kelly asked the supervisor what activity each would like to commit to for the program/agenda.

New Business

Plat Books

Kelly updated the board on plat book sales. Currently the district and other vendors have 182 of the 2013 Plat Books left. The board decided at this time we would not be creating a new plat book anytime soon, if ever again. There are online options and apps available to the public for this service. With the district dropping the price of the 2013 plat books to \$10 each Tom Schneider made a motion to giveaway 1 plat book per table at our Annual Meeting this year with a second from Matt Branham.

Future Growth

Andy asked the supervisor's to think about and consider some names for future associate supervisors so that when the time comes next fall to form a nominating committee we have already begun the process.

Claims

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Schneider with a second by Jerry St. John 7:43 pm
Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant
Minutes approved by:

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Member

Member

Member