

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
August 27, 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 6:58 PM.

Supervisors

Brad Ponsler
Dan Megel
Jerry St. John
Matt Branham

Staff

Kelly Kent
Bob Steiner
NRCS
Jenny Vogel

ISDA

Ed Roll

Contracted Technician

Denise Dailey

Reading of the Minutes

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the June, 2013 minutes as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Financial Report

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the June 25-August 27, 2013 financial report as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Correspondence

4-H Thank Yous were read and passed around.

Agency & Committee Reports

Essential Services

Bob updated the board about a rezoning request from the City of North Vernon for the former First Financial drive-through property to the Stellar Project Railroad Park.

HHH RC&D

Bob has attended these meetings as the SWCD representative. He reported that the Central Muscatatuck Watershed program would be applying for additional funding. There is a group that is interested in building a hydroplane museum in Madison along with a teaching/education area and they would like to see about the RC&D assisting them in this venture.

Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey

Denise reported on the Downtown Street Scape project, Layman's 4th St. Building, and the Harmon Spec. Building. She also reported that there had been some reported issues about run-off from O'Mara's onto the Yux property. She reported that she did not find an issue and IDEM has taken a look at it and concurred with her report. Mr. Yux is still unhappy at this time.

Staff Reports

Bob Steiner

Written report submitted.

Jenny Vogel

Written report submitted.

Kelly Kent

Written report submitted.

Old Business

Wildlife Building at Fairgrounds

The district has taken over the building and will be looking at some improvements over the next year. Some ideas at this time are: new turtle tank, remove animal cages, a pictorial of the reason for conservation starting with the dust bowl.

Tractor Display

The question was raised – Why does the SWCD host this? Many ideas were discussed and then it was decided that Matt Branham would come up with some ways to promote the district more with this display. He will report back to the board at our next meeting.

Budget Hearing

Jerry St. John attended the budget hearing this year. He had arrived early and they asked him to come ahead in. They felt as though the district's request was within reason. We are waiting to find out what the 2014 budget will be at this time.

Plot Master Update

The Plot Master and trailer have been sold.

CWI Updates

Kelly reported to the board that the 2012 CWI MWIP is nearing completion with all funding obligated along with an additional \$10,416 that the group will go back to the SSCB and request funds to cover this. The 2012 CWI SWIP grant has all but \$18,135 obligated. Both of these grants must be complete by 12/31/14. The 2013 CWI Better Soil Grant has \$ 31,209 obligated at this time.

Strawblower

Kelly will check with Mike Clancy in regarding the status of the strawblower and report back to the board at the next meeting.

New Business

Leadership Institute

Bob asked the board to allow him to attend this final session. Jerry St. John made a motion to send and pay the registration for Bob to attend his final LI with a second from Dan Megel. The supervisors were encouraged to attend also.

Ag Day

Jennings County Ag Day has been changed to the fall. This year's event will take place on September 25th.

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 Matt Branham at 8:04 pm.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant