

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District  
September 26, 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. Dan Megel called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

**Board Members**

Brad Ponsler  
Jerry St. John  
Tom Schneider  
Dan Megel  
Matt Branham  
Bob Steiner  
Rob McGriff

**Staff**

Andy Ertel

**NRCS**

Jenny Vogel

**Student Intern**

**Reading of the Minute**

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the August 2017 minutes as submitted, with a second from Dan Megel.

**Financial Report**

No report – Kelly was absent

**Correspondence**

Indiana Woodland Steward – Dan Megel made a motion to pay the mailing cost of \$250 for the Indiana Woodland Steward with a second from Tom Schneider.

**Agency & Committee Reports**

Jenny Vogel – NRCS

Written Report

Andy Ertel – SWCD

Written Report

Kelly Kent – SWCD

No Report

Pollinator Committee Updates

- 2018 Planning Meeting – Working on Industrial Park Planting, Sand Creek Elementary, Business Plots, Photo ID, Social Media Usage and Plant Sale

## **Old Business**

### **Annual Meeting**

The date has been confirmed for March 6, 2018 @ 6pm with a snow date of March 13<sup>th</sup>.

Speakers that are confirmed will be Crosley Fish & Wildlife and Tripton Park Board. We are waiting on MUTC to confirm.

Awards – Educator & Conservationist of the Year – Suggestions/ideas will be discussed at the next board meeting.

Potential names for Supervisors was discussed at the prior meeting and updates was received about those who had been contacted. Current supervisors will follow up with the remaining few and inform the board of their decision at the next board meeting.

### **Wildlife Food Plot Field Day**

Tom Schneider will host the event on Thursday, October 5 @ 5:30 pm and will last around 1 hour. Nate Yazel will be there and Tom has replanted some plots.

## **New Business**

### **NACD 2018 Annual Meeting**

This year's meeting will be held in Nashville TN at the Opryland Hotel and Conference Center.

Andy was selected to present during a breakout session on Pollinators. Dan Megel made a motion for Andy to do this presentation with a second from Jerry. The board approved this and many were interested in attending. Kelly will put together a cost estimator after reviewing the agenda to see when the dates will be to travel.

### **Leave Requested**

Andy will be having both hips replaced this winter. His first will be Nov. 13 and the second will be Dec. 18. He is unsure how much he will be off but plans to be able to work some from home during this time.

### **Outlook Meeting**

Dr. Chris Hurt will be speaking again this year. A moderator will be needed to solicit information and Dan Megel agreed to fulfill that duty. After much discussion this year's event will not have PARP credits available. The district will market it to landowners that don't farm, Women's Learning Circle, etc. Rob McGriff will do a timber outlook for about 30 minutes with Dr. Hurt's outlook for about 1 hr. A synopsis will be written for our newsletter. The district will provide lunch for those in attendance.

### **Republic Article**

After the most recent article in the Columbus paper the district has been contacted by the Sierra Club and the City of Columbus FEMA Park.

**SWCS Annual Meeting**

This year's topics will be soil health & pollinators. This falls on the same day as the district's outlook meeting.

**Shelby Co Visit**

Andy shared with the board on the success of the visit they made last month.

**District Policy**

Nothing New

**Claims**

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jerry St. John with a second by Tom Schneider 7:36pm

Minutes taken by Jenny Vogel in Kelly Kent's absence.

Minutes approved by:

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Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member