

August 1, 2019

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. Those present were Sam Hagest, Loren Christman, Dana Coots, Carolyn Clark, Luanne Stahly, Mike Johnson, Jennifer Kipper, Tami Kruer, and Melanie Davis.

Sam asked for additions or corrections to the July minutes. Loren moved to approve the minutes as written; Carolyn seconded, and the motion carried.

Sam asked for questions on the Financial Report. Carolyn moved to approve the report; Loren seconded, and the motion carried.

#### Old Business

CISMA formation: Kaila Knees was on hand to answer questions about invasive species on Thursday night of the fair. Carolyn stressed that a potential list of committee members need to be compiled, and that we move forward with the project. Information could be distributed to, and potential members found in, homeowners associations, developers, garden centers and nurseries, Farm Bureau, and town Trustees. Tami suggested a committee within the board to oversee the committee. Carolyn stated that the SWCD would not have to be involved in the committee once it was established; it should operate on its own. The SWCD's purpose would be to educate. English Ivy, Poison Hemlock, and Bradford Pear are prevalent in Clark County and should be emphasized in educational efforts. Other established CISMAs such as Floyd and Knox County may be able to provide documents and other info that could be duplicated in Clark County.

Grant updates: 319 14 Mile Creek – One project has been completed; two others are in the works. Staff and David met with Kathleen Hagan on the progress of the grant last week. Kathleen was positive about the progress. CWI 2017 – 6 month progress report has been submitted. CWI 2018 – 6 month progress report has been submitted. Information on cover crops was available during the fair. Jennifer and David were on hand Wednesday night of the fair to answer questions on cover crops and talk to folks about applying for funds.

Region meeting will be held at the Orange County Community Center, Paoli, IN, on 8/22/19. RSVP by 8/12/19. Supervisors will let Melanie know if they would like to attend.

4-H Fair review – Carolyn suggested our work day be set for May or June. Items such as tree limb removal, removal of invasives, and mulching, should be scheduled and completed well in advance of the fair. She stated that the quantity of displays seemed less this year – staff agreed. She emphasized the importance of expanding displays and information distributed. The soil tunnel was discussed. Luanne and Carolyn suggested offering milkweed for sale in May so that folks interested in butterfly gardening could obtain host plants for Monarchs.

Carolyn submitted her resignation from the Clark County SWCD board effective immediately, and did not stay for the remainder of the meeting.

Tami provided the June 2019 statement from the Community Foundation for the Marvin Wright Scholarship Fund.

No other old business.

#### New Business

County budget hearings will be: 8/19 – 9:30 a.m.-3:45 p.m.; 8/20 – 4:15-7:45 p.m.; 8/22 – 8:15-11:45 a.m. Loren will attend with Tami; he will check his schedule and advise her of a time.

Woodland Steward has requested a \$250 sponsorship from the District to cover printing costs for newsletters distributed to Clark County residents. Consensus was not to sponsor.

Options for changing the location/format of the Annual Meeting were discussed. It was decided to survey guests at the 2020 meeting to gauge their support, or not, of a change.

The Washington County SWCD is requesting support for their South Fork-Blue River Watershed Project in the form of in-kind or cash match. It was decided to support the project with in-kind match such as articles in newsletters, and advertising events and the project.

Tami stated that the Land Trust is close to finishing the easement on the Haggard property. The Land Trust has also been in conversation with Crane Naval Academy as Crane is encouraging landowners around their facility to put farmland in conservation easements. A landowner with 177 acres in Harrison County has also contacted the Trust about a possible easement.

Tami reported that Lynn has been working closely with Matt Bell on City of Jeff sites. Matt has stated that he has experienced the same problems in communicating with IDEM as the District has. Tami mentioned that permits have expired on some developments in which the City of Charlestown is creating “pocket parks”.

#### Staff Reports

Jennifer Kipper submitted a written report. EQIP dollars have been allocated however, an EQIP Disaster signup for cover crops only is currently underway for fall 2019 planting. Landowners are encouraged to apply before first round deadline as funds are limited; prevent or failed acres only are eligible.

Tami Kruer submitted a written report of her activities.

Melanie Davis submitted a written report of her activities.

David Trotter was not present for a report.

Lynn Miller was not present for a report.

Mike Johnson did not have a report.

#### Correspondence/Announcements:

None.

Agenda items for Next/Future Meetings: None.

With no further business, Sam adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.