

June 6, 2019

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. Those present were Sam Hagest, Dana Coots, Carolyn Clark, Luanne Stahly, Jennifer Kipper, Tami Kruer, Laura Fribley, and Melanie Davis. Guests in attendance were Dawn Slack (Indiana Invasive Initiative, The Nature Conservancy in Indiana) and Kaila Knies (Indiana Invasive Initiative Regional Specialist).

Sam asked for additions or corrections to the May minutes. Dana moved to approve the minutes as written; Luanne seconded, and the motion carried.

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

Old Business

Grant updates: 319 14 Mile Creek – Melanie stated that David had submitted a written report for supervisors. The first newsletter of the project has been out. Tami stated that the one application received to date is awaiting a determination on a well before work can proceed. Tami spoke to David about reducing his hours per week until activity on the grant increases, and he has done so. The next Steering Committee meeting will be 6/12/19. CWI – two project applications were presented for board signature.

4-H Fair – Rhino Shield completed painting the grain bin roof and shelter house. They included the seats of the shelter in their painting as the color was dried lighter than expected and would not have been a good match to the stain. Tami and Melanie weeded the front flower bed this week and planted one of the square foot gardens. It was suggested to order dark hardwood mulch for the flower beds and possibly the path; Melanie will check cost for the path. The Sheriff who supervises the chain gang has stated that his workers are available if needed; Eric can contact him. Staff will contact Eric when mulch is scheduled for the path. Melanie will be painting the map. Sam may be able to get a cover for the drain hole; staff will send a picture to determine size needed.

Dawn and Kaila spoke about what CISMAs are, and the steps the SWCD would need to take to form one in our county. Kaila expressed interest in attending the fair to distribute information; Melanie will send details.

Business Plan – Suggestions for the plan which Loren submitted were discussed. It was decided that: though River Ridge would make an excellent partner, they do not seem interested in our activities; there is currently a lawsuit between the County and the landfill operators, making it difficult to contact or visit the landfill, therefore inspections will be put on hold for the time being; invasive species control will be addressed by the development of a CISMA in our county; promoting conservation practices to limit soil

erosion will be all-encompassing not limited to grain farming; and township trustees will be included as key partners.

June 14th is the deadline for River Friendly Farmer nominations. No nominees were suggested.

The mowing contract with Johnson's Lawn Care was signed.

New Business

Tami has submitted the District's 2020 budget request to the County. She increased amounts for supplies and dues, and put the rent dollars taken out by the Council in 2019. Dates for budget sessions should be announced in August.

Carolyn moved to sponsor the Soil and Water Conservation award for \$21. Dana seconded, and motion carried.

Tami stated that she had been contacted by John Churchman at Prosser regarding a crop judging team he would like to put together. He needs names of students who plan to attend Prosser in the coming year. He would like the team to practice this summer for competitions.

Region meeting dates have been announced. The nearest meeting for districts in the south is the Orange County Community Center in Paoli on 8/22. Schwartz Family Restaurant will cater the meal. Registration begins at 4:30 p.m., meeting at 5. IASWCD and ICP will give updates, and there will be breakout learning sessions.

IASWCD submitted a request for 2019 dues. Carolyn moved to pay the \$2,000 dues. Luanne seconded, and motion carried.

Laura Fribley distributed copies of maps produced showing data from National tillage transects. The ICP accomplishments report is being prepared; currently waiting on approval of the financial data by all parties before it is released.

Staff Reports

Jennifer Kipper submitted a written report. Some of the EQIP applications have been funded; more could potentially be this fall. CRP continuous signup has opened back up. She noted resources for information on Sudden Oak Death in Indiana.

Tami Kruer submitted a written report. She will be attending the SWAC meeting this afternoon, primarily to hear discussion of suggested modifications to the QPI training program.

Melanie Davis submitted a written report of her activities.

David Trotter submitted a written report of his activities.

Lynn Miller was not present for a report.

Mike Johnson was not present for a report.

Correspondence/Announcements:

None.

Agenda items for Next/Future Meetings: None.

With no further business, Sam adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.