

October 4, 2018

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. Those present were Sam Hagest, Dana Coots, Carolyn Clark, Loren Christman, Luanne Stahly, Mike Johnson, Jennifer Kipper, Tami Kruer, Melanie Davis, and guest, Zach Tischendorf.

Sam asked for additions or corrections to the August minutes. Luanne 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

Grant updates:

319 14 Mile Creek – Melanie distributed copies of the draft grant agreement, which Kathleen Hagan will be discussing with staff this afternoon. She also presented copies of the grant budget, and practices projected to be installed through the grant. Melanie stated that funds for the watershed coordinator are limited. Ways to supplement the salary of the coordinator, and number of hours they would work were discussed. It was suggested to supplement the salary with District funds. Loren suggested decreasing the number of hours worked from year 1 to year 3, i.e., 24 hrs. year 1, 18 hrs. year 2, and 15 hrs. year 3. Mike noted that Task C requires a lot of time due to the meetings, workshops, and other educational components.

CWI 2017 –First half 2018 report has been submitted. Work to make path handicap accessible, and creation and placement of tree markers, needs to be done to complete the grant.

CWI 2018 – Approved applications were signed.

Annual Conference will be held January 14-15, 2019. A schedule of activities has not yet been released.

Luanne stated that she had obtained an estimate from a company that would do a Rhino coat on the grain bin roof. The company has a \$5,000 dollar minimum for on-site work, therefore, Luanne asked him to include the shelter house roof in the estimate; the two together met the minimum. Martin Schwartz also looked at the bin roof but has not returned an estimate. Luanne felt his estimate would be for replacing the roof instead of coating/painting it. Other items: Paul Graf has not been contacted about working on the path; items in the butterfly house need to be moved into storage.

New Business

The Washington County Soil & Water Conservation District is seeking sponsorships for their Mid-Southern Small Farm Ag Summit, November 9 & 10, in Salem. Carolyn moved to sponsor the Summit with \$100; Luanne seconded, and motion carried.

Annual Meeting: Sam is up for re-election this year. The Election Committee was appointed, and will consist of Loren or Dana, and staff members. Rolling Pin Catering submitted the only bid for catering the meal. Cost is \$12.50 per person, \$50 travel fee; coffee an additional .50 cents per person if desired. Rolling Pin can supply either a decorated 75th anniversary sheet cake, or assorted items for dessert. Loren moved to accept Rolling Pin's bid; Luanne seconded, and motion carried. A slide show of pictures from the last 75 years was suggested for the program, as well as a short video from Annie Davis the 2018 scholarship recipient. It was also suggested that someone speak briefly about the Fourteen Mile Creek grant. Nicholson Printing will be able to do the printing of the Annual Report in newsletter format. The reports will be distributed at the Annual Meeting, and through the office since they will not be published as part of a newspaper.

A request from the Indiana Woodland Steward to sponsor the printing and distribution of their newsletter to Clark County woodland owners was considered. It was decided to request a mailing list from them before making a decision on the sponsorship, so that it could be reviewed for accuracy.

Leadership Institute, Leadership in Change, will be held November 30th at Turkey Run State Park.

Heart of America Grazing Conference will be held January 22-23, 2019, in Ferdinand, IN.

Staff Reports

Jennifer Kipper, submitted a written report of her activities, and highlighted some of those. Tami Kruer, submitted a written report. Additionally, she reported that the Land Trust has been working for some time with NRCS on the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program. Through this program, the Federal Government sets aside dollars for grants in each state in order to get properties in easements. The Land Trust is currently doing survey and title work on a 150-200 acres property in Harrison County, and when completed, will be the first property in Indiana assisted through the program. Harrison County has a Farm and Ranch Land Preservation Program, which can provide a portion of the match for the grant.

Melanie Davis, submitted a written report of her activities.

Lynn Miller was present and gave a report of his activities. He noted that he has tried numerous times to contact the inspector of the landfill with no success.

Mike Johnson did not have a report.

Correspondence/Announcements:

With no further business, Sam adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Davis.