

September 21, 2017
Wheatfield Library

Supervisors Present: Mark Kingma, Kyler Laird, Lana Zimmer, Derek Luchik, and Mark Jordan

Supervisors Absent:

Staff Present: Dan Perkins, Leslie Davisson, and Carolyn Ahler

Associates Present:

Partners Present: Bryan Overstreet

Citizens Present:

I. Call to Order

Chairman Kyler Laird called the meeting to order at 8:06 am CST. Mark K brought in breakfast for the group. Thank you, Mark K!

II. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from August were presented for review. Mark J motioned to approve the minutes and Mark K seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Treasurer's Report, Claims (on back)

The treasurer's report and claims in the amount of \$11,723.89 for August were presented for approval. Leslie gave a brief summary of the large Heidelberg lab charge. Mark J and Lana motioned to approve the report and claims. Motion carried. Report will be filed for audit.

IV. Correspondence

The Woodland Steward requested funds to cover the costs of publishing and distributing copies of their publication to Jasper Co woodland owners, 3 times per year. After some discussion and an initial motion, Derek L motioned an amendment to support the publication at the \$100 level and request a copy be sent to the office. Mark K seconded. Motion carried.

V. Old Business

5.1 Travel Log: There was discussion about the purpose of the travel log that Dan has been keeping and whether or not there is value in continuing to track that information. Mark J motioned for Dan to discontinue tracking but summarize what he has tracked up to now for later use. Mark K seconded. Motion carried. Instead of purchasing a county vehicle, the purchase of a trailer to haul and store meeting supplies, seed, and other items might be a better fit. Table for now.

5.2 Roller Crimper: We are getting calls from outside Jasper, Newton, and Benton counties to use the crimper. The policy will have to address that situation. There needs to be a mileage cap to be able to haul the crimper behind a vehicle. Beyond that cap, the crimper needs to be on a trailer. Mark J and Dan will continue to flush out the details. When a draft policy is ready, it will be distributed to Newton and Benton counties as well. A statement about Jasper County ownership/storage of the crimper needs to be in the policy for those counties to approve/amend.

5.3 Fall Field Day: November 9th is quickly approaching. Sponsorship dollars are looking good, but we will likely spend it all. Postcard for mass mailing via Vista Print is about ready and other counties are providing lists or requesting postcards. We hope to have those distributed by October 6th. A 3 page flyer with more information is also about ready and will be distributed electronically starting next week and every couple of weeks until the event. The current location is great, but not in Jasper Co, and some may stay away because of the “been there, done that” mindset. We will try to find another location for next year.

5.4 Neonicotinoids: Dan found a good summary of neonicotinoids and gave to the board members to review on their own time. Discussion will have to be tabled until another time.

VI. New Business

6.1 Kankakee Outreach: Dan spoke at DeMotte rotary last week to inform them about our Kankakee grant application and to glean some insight on where their thoughts regarding conservation agriculture lie.

6.2 SHP Field Day: September 26th at 8:30-10:30am CST at Mark Kingma’s field. Day will highlight interseeding cover crops into knee high corn.

6.3 Iroquois River Log Jam Management: Two residents, Kenny Oliver and Zach Weems, float the Iroquois frequently to fish and trap and came into our office to discuss the location of large jams and the process of removing them. They are happy to remove the ones that they can to make the river passable, but want to have some legal ground to stand on when confronted by an angry, misinformed landowner. Dan sent them to the surveyor’s office to become official members of the Jasper Co Friends of the Iroquois, and he mentioned their situation and willingness to scout the river to the IRCD. We can also contact and pay them independently for float scouts, which has been a struggle for us.

From the discussion at this meeting, there is clearly a lot of misunderstanding regarding the legalities of right away and trespassing when on the river and on tributaries. We need to find out what the rights of river/tributary users and landowners are and make that available on our website and conduct outreach. A map of the navigable waters of Jasper County should also be posted. Once information has been gathered and understood, discuss with county officials/stakeholders.

Bob Barr of IUPUI will be at the December IRCD meeting to impart to them the importance of continuous monitoring and funding of the Sentry Gauge. He will also discuss his work on the Yellow River.

VII. District Development

7.1 Education Center: Mark J did go to the building and did his best to snake the kitchen sink drain. It did eventually clear a bit, but drained very slowly. Dan and Leslie went to the building a week or so later and also noticed that the drain quickly fills up and slowly drains down. Mark J will try to get Carl Ward to fix the problem.

7.2 Office/Staff: Leslie may be moving so there was some discussion of how to proceed with hiring a replacement and the training of that person, should she leave. Leslie asked the county attorney and the auditor's office what the minimum job posting requirements are. There are none.

VIII. Agency/Partner Reports

Bryan Overstreet thanked us for partnering with them on the roller crimper workshop, and we thanked Bryan for his help with that as well as with the coordination of crimper users.

No report from ISDA or NRCS.

IN division of Nature Preserves is celebrating 50 years with a trail dedication at Jasper County's Stoutsburg Nature Preserve immediately following the meeting. Members of the board and staff will attend to show support and appreciation!

Chairman Kyler Laird adjourned the meeting at 9:50am CST

Minutes approved

Respectfully submitted _____ Leslie Davisson