

July 24, 2018
SWCD Office

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

Supervisors Absent:

Staff Present: Dan Perkins and Sheila Schroeder

Associates Present:

Partners Present: Bryan Overstreet

Citizens Present:

I. Call to Order

Chairman Kyler Laird called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. CST.

II. Minutes from Previous Meeting

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

III. Treasurer's Report, Claims

The treasurer's report and claims in the amount of \$7,426.86 for June were presented for approval. Lana motioned to approve the reports and claims and Mark K. seconded. Motion carried. Report will be filed for audit.

IV. Next Meeting Schedule

We have been encouraged to attend the Regional meeting on August 30th. Kyler suggested holding our August board meeting in conjunction with that event at Fair Oaks Farm. Sheila will check with Geneva Tyler regarding what room we might be able to use. Mark J. moves that the Jasper Co. SWCD Board and staff attend this meeting, with the cost being paid for by the District. Mark K. seconded. Motion approved. All board members will attend, along with Dan and Sheila.

V. Correspondence

Gary Braasch sent a thank you note to us for allowing some of the performers at the Jasper County Fair to use our education building to prepare for performances.

VI. Healthy Soils

Steel in the Field event, August 2nd near Wolcott at the Jason Federer farm was discussed. Dan distributed an informational flyer about the event. Mark K. voiced concern over the palmer weed that seems to be more prolific with organic farming. Dan explained there will be a tool – Lightning Weeder - at this event that can deal with weeds such as that. Our focus is on helping organic farmers to implement conservation practices into their operations. 130 reservations so far for the event; 60% are farmers. This event replaces our usual November field day for 2018.

We had an informal audit on our CWI 2017 Roller Crimper grant. Everything was in order.

VII. Water Management

On July 11th, Mark K. attended a KRBC meeting and also a Farm Bureau meeting. Two state legislators and people from the offices of 2 US legislators were in attendance. Several Illinois officials were also in attendance. IDEM, DNR, Fish & Wildlife and Army Corps were all represented as well. Bob Barr has been hired to put together a plan for the 90 miles going into Illinois, using a form of what they did on the Yellow River. The end plan would resemble a two-stage ditch in many areas of those 90 miles. The cost of the plan is just under \$300,000. The project is expected to cost \$1,000,000 per mile. The plan is expected to be complete by the end of 2018.

Our 319 grant for the Kankakee involves forming a Steering Committee of 8-12 people and writing a plan for the area, as well as analyzing past water quality data and putting it in a more easily accessible format. We have a quote from a company to perform that task and will be seeking additional quotes. Dan will sort the farmer list by sub-watershed.

Mark J. had a couple speak with him about log jams on the Iroquois at the fair. They had contacted the Iroquois River Conservancy, but never heard back. Removing log jams isn't the duty of the district. The landowner can remove it himself.

VIII. Land Use and Development

No report.

IX. District Development

Carl Ward reconfigured the drain. The issue has been resolved. He also took care of a condensation drain in the furnace room. Discussion was held about finishing the shower in our bathroom and how to lock it off to only be accessible by certain people who have permission. Permanent bathroom signage is also needed. Labels and fixes of displays are needed for next year. Larger banners drawing attention to the building are needed as well. Having a cover crop plot would be nice as well. Mark J. will start a conversation at the Fair Board meeting on Thursday. Having a sign at the roller crimper is also needed. Signage for the benches in the building would be nice too. Friday night at the fair there is a dinner at 4:00 and auction at 6:00, so a half hour time slot during that time might allow farmers to come and learn about cover crops or other conservation practices.

X. Agency/Partner Reports

Purdue Extension – Field Day September 6; Penny Purdue is August 22, Clean Sweep – August 15 to get rid of chemicals. July 31-August 1, 2019 is the North America Manure Expo at Fair Oaks Farm. Bryan has been flying some of Mark K's fields and some Rodibaugh fields as well to see if there are any differences throughout the year. Dicamba – 43 complaints in Indiana last year; 75 this year. Overall, nationwide, complaints are down this year though.

NRCS

No report

ISDA

No report

XI. Other Business

InField Advantage enrollments:

30 cornstalk testing fields

6 soybean fields

10 replicated strip trials (2 of them are soybean)

Bryan and Dan will be out testing soybean fields tomorrow. The soybean fields focus on sulfur levels.

Mark K. made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mark J. Chairman Kyler Laird adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.

Minutes approved

Respectfully submitted _____ Sheila Schroeder