

Chairperson Mark J. made a motion to adjourn at 4:58 pm CST.

Minutes approved

Jim McInt

Mark J. ...

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Respectfully Submitted: Shelby Keys

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It is the mission of the Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District to provide leadership and assistance in the proper use and management of soil, water, and related natural resources in Jasper County.

'Going Native' planting and maintenance workshop on October 14th. These two events will meet the grant deliverables.

- iv. RC&D Invasive Buy-Back – Received application, participant removed 11 invasive Winged Burning Bushes and replaced with Ninebark and Smooth Hydrangea Shrubs. Before and after photos, receipts and plant tags were submitted.
- v. Lake and River Enhancements (LARE) 2021 - Met with Austin Taylor, Watershed Restoration Biologist with the Lake and River Enhancement Program. Project has officially started and needs to be completed by December 31, 2023. Total grant amount is \$15,000 and focuses on 3 HUC-12's including the Knight Ditch-Kankakee River, Wentworth Ditch and Brown Levee Ditch. This grant is strictly cost-share.
- vi. **New Business**
 - i. Conservation Plans Signing Authority – Derek was the authorized Soil and Water Conservation District signer for conservation plans. Since he has left, someone else must be authorized. Jim M. motions to designate Shelby K. as the authorized signer and asks that she report back and track contracts being signed, Lana Z. seconds and the motion passes.
 - ii. Equipment Storage – Lana Z. will speak with her mother about storing equipment in her shed for the winter, again. The rotary ho has been picked up and is no longer at the office. Discussion was had on the roller crimper and its usage. Lana Z. motions to plan to sell the roller crimpers, whether it be listing them online or asking for bids, Jim M. seconds and the motion carries. Shelby will research prices for both pieces of equipment.
 - iii. Election Committee Appointment - The election held at the annual meeting of land occupiers shall be conducted by an election committee. In October, the district chairman shall do the following: Appoint an election committee made up of a supervisor as chairman and two (2) interested citizens. Mark J, Stuart O, and Jim M. will serve on the committee. Shelby will submit the names online.
 - iv. Recommendations for Supervisor Appointment – Lana Z. is up for appointment and Mark J. is up for election.
 - v. Hiring Committee – Derek's last day was September 3rd. Mark J. will reach out to the Commissioners to request approval for hiring his replacement. Lana Z. and Shelby will go through old job descriptions and create an updated position description.
 - vi. Local Work Group Resource Concern Rankings – Minutes from the meeting and the rankings were distributed and discussed.
 - vii. Strategic Plan – Discussion was had on what we have remaining to accomplish this year for current grants. Shelby will develop a list of deliverables still to be met this year and present those at the next meeting.
 - viii. 319 Implementation Grant – Received correspondence from Indiana Department of Environmental Management that our grant application was not funded. Planning to reapply next year. In the meantime, will work on promoting the approved Watershed Management plan.
 - ix. Director Update – Shelby will be attending the Tree and Shrub Identification Training on October 19th at Martell Forest in Tippecanoe County. Ron Wamsley, with the Indiana Agriculture and Technology school reached out about talking with his class. The last 3 days of the RC&D River Rafting was cancelled. A request for a Weed Wand with replacement tips and a new external drive was heard. The weed wand will help with weed wrangle and maintaining the rain garden. The current external hard drive is from 2014 and is currently where all the financial documents are kept. Stuart O. makes a motion to approve the requested equipment, Jim M. seconds and the motion carries.



September 28, 2021

Jasper County Fairgrounds – SWCD Building

Supervisors Present: Mark Jordan, Jim Martin, Lana Zimmer and Stuart Orr

Supervisors Absent: Mark Kingma

Staff Present: Shelby Keys

Partners Present: Kevin Shide

i. Call to Order

Chairperson Mark J. called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm CST.

ii. Partner/Agency Reports

- i. Kevin Shide, NRCS District Conservationist – New fiscal year starts October 1st. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) is complete. Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) deadline in December.

iii. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were presented for review. Jim M. motions to approve the minutes, Lana Z. seconds and the motion carries.

iv. Treasurer's Report

Claims for the month of August in the amount of \$3,152.93 were presented for review. Lana Z. motions to approve claims for August, Stuart O. seconds and the motion carries.

v. Old Business

Current Grant Updates/Deliverables

- i. 205j – Lower Kankakee Watershed Initiative – Kankakee River Bison Paddle October 10th at Willow Slough Fish and Wildlife Area. Partnering with North West Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA), Department of Natural Resources, and The Nature Conservancy. Participants will paddle part of the historic Kankakee swamp. Then, travel to the Kankakee Sands Nature Area for a naturalist-led hike to see a bison herd's grazing area.
Discussion was had on how to disperse the Watershed Management Plan once it is finalized and approved. Printed copies will be made for the office, steering committee, and libraries.
- ii. CWI 2019 – Interseeding Project – Received an invoice from Interseeder Technologies after sending a certified letter. Shelby will work with the contact on getting the equipment picked up.
- iii. CWI 2020 - Improving Infiltration with Native Plants and Cover Crops – Received an application for 48 acres of cover crops. Participant tried oats last year, wanted to try a new species. Field is in the HUC-12 Wentworth-Knight Ditch. Participant will be implementing 82 total acres of cover crop.
Soil health field day on September 17th had 36 total participants. Heritage FS sponsored lunch. Grant deliverables require two field days in 2021. LaPorte County is hosting a

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