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## **October 1, 2019 MINUTES**

Jasper SWCD Office

Supervisors Present: Mark Jordan, Derek Luchik and Lana Zimmer

Supervisors Absent: Mark Kingma and Jim Martin

Staff Present: Shelby Keys and Derek Carty

Partners Present: Kevin Shide and Erica Luchik

### **1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Mark Jordan called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm CST.

### **2. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

The minutes from July and August were presented for review. July's minutes were approved with revisions. Derek L motioned to approve August's minutes with amendments and Lana second the motion.

### **3. Treasurer's Report, Claims**

The treasurer's report and claims were presented for review. Lana motioned to approve and Derek L second.

### **4. Correspondence**

A leadership training is being held in Madison, IN. Discussion was had about board members attending, but a training closer would be preferred. Shelby will ask Geneva for other training dates that are closer to Jasper County.

The Watershed Leadership Academy deadline to apply is November 8<sup>th</sup>. Lana motioned to send Derek to the leadership academy for a cost of \$750 to be paid for through LKWI. Derek L second.

The SWCD Annual Conference in January was mentioned, and discussion was had about Derek L giving a presentation on pollinator friendly solar. Shelby will call the IASWCD and see if there are any openings for a call for proposal.

### **5. Old Business**

**5.1 LKWI** – Derek and Shelby completed water testing for the month of September. There was a successful field day on September 20<sup>th</sup> held at Mark Kingma's farm in partnership with Soil Health Partners. There is an upcoming macroinvertebrate identification day on October 6<sup>th</sup> and an on-water event on October 13<sup>th</sup> that we are partnering with Northwest Indiana Paddling Association. A notice of intent to apply for the implementation grant is due in June 2020. Discussion was had on applying for an implementation grant for both the Kankakee and Iroquois Rivers. Lana reached out to the grant manager and was told that her per

diem could be covered by grant for the work she has done on it the past couple of months. The district has received back almost 1,000 surveys that were sent out, discussion was had on whether to hire temp help for survey entering. Staff will ask Carolyn what has been done previously and if it's feasible to get them entered in-house in a timely manner.

**5.2 CWI 2019** – A field day was held at Kingma Farms showing V5 corn done with an interseeder and Derek discussed PFLA soil testing. Participants then took a tour of a V5 plot. Mark J has been in contact with Interseeder Technologies. Lana recommended having someone make our own hitch, so we can transport the equipment. Derek still needs information on plots and locations, and he will check SharePoint for when the grant report is due.

**5.3 CWI 2017** – The grant is mostly complete with a final report due in December. Derek talked to Michael O'Donnell about [Top 10 Tips for Roller Crimping](#) and discussed it being a published extension piece with a bit more time and details put into it. Lana had spoken with her mom, Doris Meyers of Wheatfield, who will allow us to use her shed to store equipment. Discussion was had on what sort of insurance should be had for this. No decision was made.

**5.4 RC&D** - Derek attended a drone class at Pinney Purdue. He found it useful, and his next step is taking the test. Derek L motioned to allow Derek to use the Districts drone for hobby use to practice for his test, Lana second. Lana motioned to allow Derek to take his test, the funds coming out of RC&D grant, Derek L second. Derek will call Bryan Overstreet and see if he will go with us to fly a drone over certain areas. Derek also explained how using a drone to look at fields easily drains the drone's batteries, next meeting he will have a number in mind of how many extra batteries need ordered.

**5.5 Cover Crop Boxes** – Discussion was had on making the sides of the boxes into a bench to make it multifunctional. Derek L. suggested calling Hendricks County and asking how they made theirs.

**5.6 Insurance** – Derek showed the Board what CI Insurance presented as a quote. The office staff will check with other SWCD's and see how they are insuring their equipment.

## **6. New Business**

**6.1 Signature Authority** – Lana motioned to add Shelby Keys, District Treasurer, as a signatory on both the Jasper County Soil and Water Conservation District and Friends for Conservation bank accounts at First Merchants Bank. Derek L second and the motion passes.

**6.2 Comp Time** – The County Comp Time policy was discussed as many upcoming events are taking place on Fridays and over the weekend. Any time staff is expected to work over the regular work day hours on a Friday or over the weekend they will communicate with Chairman Mark J and get that time approved beforehand.

## **7. Agency Reports**

**Purdue Extension – no report**

**SICIM Invasive Species Specialist, Erica Luchik** - Erica discussed the growing interest in CISMA. She has done 6 landowner surveys and asked for our support in organizing a stakeholder meeting that would include a Q&A session. After that, a call out meeting will follow to create a CISMA group in Jasper County. Lana motioned to support CISMA and allow the fair building facility to be used for meetings. Derek L. second and the motion was approved.

**NRCS** - Kevin Shide discussed the Local Work Group rankings that were chosen and why they differ from last year. The board was satisfied with the rankings.

**ISDA - no report**

**Office Staff - no report**

**Chairman Mark J. adjourned the meeting at 5:08 pm CST.**

Minutes Approved

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Respectfully Submitted: Shelby Keys