



January 26, 2021

WebEx Meeting

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

Staff Present: Derek Carty and Shelby Keys

Partners Present: Bryan Overstreet, Kevin Shide, Mandi Glanz, Geneva Tyler, Ben Eaton and Danielle Waldschmidt

i. Call to Order

Chairperson Mark J. called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm CST.

ii. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were presented for review. Mark K. motions to approve minutes with changes, Stuart O. seconds and the motion carries.

iii. Treasurer's Report

Claims for the month of December in the amount of \$3,115.85 were presented for review. Mark K. motions to approve, Jim M. seconds and the motion carries.

iv. Old Business

Derek on Open Grants

- i. 205j – LKWI – Hosting a soil health webinar via WebEx on February 5th @ 9 AM CST in partnership with the Izaak Walton League, Natural Resources Conservation Service and Understanding Ag. Derek & Bri collected soil samples for the webinar to show the difference in soil health between different agriculture practices. Invoice 7 submitted to IDEM. Staff water testing tomorrow, NW Regional Watershed Meeting on February 2nd and IDEM Quarterly Site Visit on February 4th. Discussion was had on how to share the draft WMP for public feedback. Will discuss with Amanda Studor-Bond at the quarterly site visit.
- ii. CWI 2019 – Interseeder – The results for the phospholipid fatty acid (PFLA) testing came back for the two different farmer fields. Derek met with lab to go over the results. Could not tell a difference in cover crop species, but you could tell a difference in soil type and management. No-till field had more microbial activity than the plowed field. Testing for PFLA this year in the spring and fall. Geneva explained that we can apply for modification for the grant due to the interseeder funds not being used. If the board decides to reallocate those funds or add a component ex.) cost share, the next State Soil Con Board is March 15th. Discussion was had on what exactly we could reallocate or add as a component. Mark J suggested paying for seed and application. No decision was made. CWI reporting due January 30th.
- iii. CWI 2020 – Improving Infiltration with Native Plantings and Cover Crops – Final draft sent in to Bri Ciara for reporting due January 30th. In-person Spring and Fall event to be held this year.

- iv. RC&D 2020 – Invasive Buy-Back Program – Discussion was had on how Mandi Glanz, SICIM Regional Specialist, will be helping with the program. Optimal planting window is in early Spring, especially woody species.
- v. LARE Grant – Application submitted on January 15th, focusing on cost-share for fencing, windbreaks and pollinator plots for a total of \$19,000. Able to make edits/changes until July. Late August - September should know if grant was awarded.
- vi. Annual Meeting – Discussion was had on switching to all virtual format with a mailing pamphlet. Mark K made a motion to go all virtual, Lana Z seconds. Staff will work on getting the pamphlet put together.
- vii. Roller Crimper – Dan Sutton picked it up on January 21st and will get it back by April 1st. Discount on repair is equal to \$5,000 rental usage. Mark K. gave details on what Dan was planning to do to fix the crimper and felt confident in the job that was being done.

v. New Business

- i. Audit Committee – Mark J. and Lana Z. will serve on the audit committee. Financials will be ready in March for them to audit.
- ii. Infield Advantage - Bryan Overstreet reached out asking if we wanted to help with Infield Advantage. Discussion was had on what is new this year with the program and what would be needed of the staff if the District got involved. Bryan Overstreet, Ben Eaton, and Mark J. all gave an update about the program and what they know of it. Lana motions to allow Derek to work with Ben and Infield Advantage and the programs needs and Stuart O seconds. Ben, Derek and Bryan will be in contact.
- iii. Annual Plan of Work - Create a folder on google drive and send it to the board.
- iv. Director Update – The RC&D application was not turned, timeline for what we wanted to do with the data would not have worked out. Presented the Memorandum of Understanding to both the Jasper County Commissioners and the Jasper County Council, it passed at both.

vi. Partner/Agency Reports

- i. Mandi Glanz - SICIM Regional Specialist - Mandi gave an introduction of herself and the current state of the forming CISMA in Jasper County. SICIM is sponsoring grants. She provides landowner surveys and technical assistance, reach out to mandi@sicim.info for more information
- ii. Kevin Shide - NRCS, District Conservationist – Kevin explained there was an upcoming meeting with elected officials in the Kankakee watershed and discussion about the Wetland Restoration Program and Wetland Easement Program. CSP deadline was January 8th, 2 applications in. Office is in Phase 0. Limited on staff we can have in open areas. Out for another 7 days.
- iii. Danielle Waldschmidt – NRCS, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations - Works for NRCS, Area Conservationist in Lafayette. Here for any questions or issues. NRCS is trying to bring on new employees. 25 new employees trying to hire on. In the Northwest there is a soil conservationist position open in Winamac and Lafayette.
- iv. Bryan Overstreet – Purdue Extension - Hosting Annie’s Project, 6-week program for farm women. Starting Feb 23rd. Registration Open now. If anyone has questions about plat books, send them to Purdue Extension.
- v. Ben Eaton – ISDA Resource Specialist - Tillage Transect, now late winter early spring transect. Parameters are that it must be three consecutive days over 40 degrees and then wait 10 days. Sometime around the start of April, complete by month of May.

Chairperson Mark J. made a motion to adjourn at 4:56 pm CST.

Minutes approved

Mark Jordan

Stuart Orr

Lana Zimmer

Jim Martin

Mark Kingma

Respectfully Submitted: Shelby Keys