



December 23, 2019
SWCD Education Building

Supervisors Present: Mark Jordan, Mark Kingma, Derek Luchik, Jim Martin and Lana Zimmer

Staff Present: Derek Carty and Shelby Keys

Partners Present: Ben Eaton

1. Call to Order

Chairperson Mark Jordan called the meeting to order at 3:12 pm CST.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from November were presented for review. Mark K. motioned to approve minutes and Derek L. seconded.

3. Treasurer's Report, Claims

The treasurer's report was presented for review. Lana motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Mark K seconded.

4. Correspondence

Discussion was had on continuing to support the NACD with the same contribution as the previous years, Derek L motioned to continue contributing \$775 towards the National Association of Conservation Districts and Mark K seconded. The SWCD also received a letter from the local 4-H chapter asking for contributions. Mark J mentioned that this helps promote conservation projects, and discussion was had about Derek C. helping to become a project leader. Mark K motioned to spend \$150 to help the 4-H council and Jim seconded.

5. Old Business

a) Derek on Open Grants

- i. 205j - Kankakee Grant – The social indicator survey data is being entered and will be completed by the end of January. Conversation was had about having an online link to the survey for next time to speed up the process and make it more efficient for the landowners.
- ii. CWI 2019 – Interseeder Project – Derek C. will collect and organize the yield data from farmers and start looking for plots for next year, which starts in late May/June. Discussion was had on hosting a roundtable for participants who used the tool and get their feedback, Derek C. will plan this for late January.

- iii. CWI 2017 – Roller Crimper – Mark K. will be moving the roller crimper to Lana’s Mother’s, Doris Myers of Wheatfield, shed. Final report is due January 30, 2020. Need to start thinking about the long-term plan and if that includes the use of the roller crimper any longer.
- iv. RC&D 2017 – Drone and Water Testing – Derek’s drone exam is scheduled, and he will take it on December 30, 2019. He’s currently working on wrapping up the final report.
- v. CWI 2020 – Improving Infiltration with Native Plantings – January 1, 2020 the 3-year grant becomes effective. This grant will improve infiltration in flooded areas within the Kankakee Watershed using Native Plantings and Cover Crops. In addition to the acreage in Jasper County there will be acreage in LaPorte, Newton, and Porter Counties, whom we partnered with on the grant. Staff will make a flyer to post in office. Will meet with LaPorte, Porter, and Newton Counties at the IASWCD Annual Conference to discuss final details.

6. New Business

- a. 2020 Board Meetings – The board decided that in order to better utilize the SWCD Education Building at the fairgrounds, starting in 2020 board meetings will be held there every other month. Odd month meetings will still be held at the office (USDA Service Center) and even month meetings will be held in the SWCD Education Building.
- b. Annual Meeting – Ember’s Venue has been reserved for the Annual Meeting and the caterer has been contacted. Shelby will begin working on postcard invites. Scott Pelath, Executive Director of The Kankakee River Basin and Yellow River Basin Development Commission, has been confirmed as our speaker.
- c. Annual Conference – Discussion was had on going down early Sunday to work on the long-range plan for a few hours. Shelby and Derek will also attend a new employee training session for an hour during that time. Mark J will attend the business delegate meeting.
- d. Computer Screens – The staff has requested that each be allowed an additional computer screen for better efficiency in completing tasks. The County IT department gave a quote of \$144.66 per screen, totaling \$289.32 for both screens. Mark K motioned to allow \$300 out of the office supply budget to buy two new computer monitors for the staff, Lana seconded the motion.

7. Agency/Partner Reports

- a. ISDA - Ben Eaton – Ben reported that Infield Advantage received a \$900,000 Federal Grant over a 3-year time period. ISDA is still looking for a Director for the Division of Soil. Also, Ben helped SWCD staff along with Kevin Shide, NRCS, to complete the 2019 fall tillage transect.

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

