

**Jennings County  
Soil & Water Conservation District  
October 27, 2009  
October Board Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held on October 27, 2009 at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Chairman Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

**Supervisors**

Brad Ponsler  
Jerry St. John  
Dan Megel  
Nathan Burbrink  
Brian Belding

**SWCD Staff**

Kelly Kent  
**NRCS**  
Jenny Vogel

**Watershed Coordinator**

Bob Steiner

**Reading of the Minutes**

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the September, 2009 minutes as submitted, seconded by Brian Belding, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the September financial report as submitted, seconded by Nathan Burbrink, motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No Correspondence

**Agency & Committee Reports**

**Essential Services**

No Report-No meeting

**HHH RC&D**

RC&D recently held a tour of the Red Wolf Sanctuary and Old Timbers Lodge. Information was shared with those in attendance on other projects the RC&D is involved with. They had a very diverse group of people and the tour was considered a great success. Rob did report that the forestry field day at Richard Jones property in southern Jennings County had 30 to 35 people for a very informative day with lunch of chili cooked over an open fire.

### **Watershed-Bob Steiner**

Written report was submitted. In addition to the written report, he informed the board he had been in contact with Ken Cote of DNR about the Kudzu problem in the county. While out spraying the areas that had been previously treated they located 2 additional patches. Sam Wagoner's patch has not responded well to the treatment but they will monitor this. Rob McGriff also informed the board about potential invasive species of Oriental Bittersweet, this is very aggressive with a stout vine.

### **Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey**

No report.

### **Staff-Kelly Kent**

Written report was submitted

### **NRCS – Jenny Vogel**

Written report was submitted. Jenny also informed the board about an upcoming webinar sponsored by the Indiana Conservation Partnership on Tuesday, Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> covering conservation programs available statewide. All are welcome to sit it on this webinar.

### **Old Business**

#### **IASWCD Annual Conference**

Registration - Kelly reminded the board that the early registration deadline is Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> for the discounted rate of \$245 for the 3 day conference. 5 rooms have been held for this.

Delegates – Two board members need to be selected to attend the business meeting at the conference on January 13<sup>th</sup> following the legislative breakfast. The deadline for submission of these names is December 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Annual Meeting**

**Date** – The confirmed date for the meeting is Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> with a snow date of Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Entertainment/Speaker**-Donya Lester, Executive Secretary of the Purdue Ag Alumni Association, will be our guest speaker for this event.

**Catering** – Will be provided by Rolling Pin Catering of Versailles with the price quoted of \$9.75 per person including 2 meats, 2 starches, 2 vegetables, tossed salad, roll, dessert, and drinks. The other bids were Firsichs Meat Market at \$12 per person and Broad Acres at \$11 per person. Jerry St. John made a motion to have the Rolling Pin cater with a second by Brian Belding all were in favor.

**Location**-Shrine Club has been reserved at \$300 with a \$150 deposit already paid.

**Ticket Cost** – Brian Belding made a motion to leave the ticket cost at \$10 per person with a second by Nathan Burbrink all were in favor.

**Conservationist of the Year** – Jerry St. John made a motion to award this to Quail Unlimited Jackson-Jennings Chapter with a second from Dan Megel. All were in favor.

**Educator of the Year** – The board asked Kelly to send letters to all the school principals for nominations for this award. The deadline for nominations will be December 1<sup>st</sup> and the board will make their selection at the Christmas Party.

**Election Committee Names** – The committee of Jerry St. John, chairman and members Nathan Burbrink and Brad Ponsler will work to find candidates for the election to the SWCD board. Names must be submitted by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Door Prizes** – In lieu of soliciting local businesses for prize giveaways, the district staff suggested giving 5 gift certificates for 1 tree each to be selected from our spring tree sale along with a few of the new plat books. A motion was made by Nathan Burbrink to proceed with this plan and a second by Jerry St. John with all in favor.

### **NACD Conference**

Registration- Early registration is by November 20<sup>th</sup>. Kelly has registered Dan Megel and Jerry St. John. Brad reminded the others if anyone is interested in attending this conference to let Kelly know right away.

### **Plat Books**

The contract for the publishing of 400 plat books for Jennings County was signed with the agreement of \$7600 for early payment in full and the books will be delivered by the 28<sup>th</sup> of February, 2010.

### **Outlook Meeting**

Plans are continuing to be made for the upcoming Economic Outlook Meeting on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at the Jennings Co. Public Library. Those attending will be eligible for their PARP credits. The lunch will be catered. LG Seeds representative Brad Armand has agreed to donate \$200 toward the lunch and Cisco Seeds will donate \$100 toward the lunch.

### **Multifunction Machine**

The purchase of the multifunction machine has been put on a temporary hold pending information from a conference in Kansas City next week. We are waiting to hear if the USDA will approve the Ricoh machine which would save the district approximately \$1600 on the purchase and an overall reduction in the printing cost.

### **Sam's Club Membership**

The district does have a Sam's Club membership now.

### **New Business**

#### **Staff & Board Christmas Party**

The annual Christmas party for board members, staff, and spouses will be held on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Hayden Depot Restaurant. A motion was made by Jerry St. John and seconded by Brian Belding. All were in favor.

### **2010 CWI Grant Application**

The new CWI grant application is due by November 1<sup>st</sup>. The staff has been working on the application this past week and presented to the board what they felt were areas to address based on our business plan and goals. With a maximum of \$7000 in grant funds the staff and board have decided to request the funds for Capacity Building of \$1000 to cover registration costs of staff and board members attending the IASWCD Conference in Indianapolis and the NACD Conference in Orlando. Cost-share incentives of \$3000 to host a field day on cover crops, with a payment incentive for aerial application. Outreach/Marketing of \$3000 will be addressed with updated signage along state highways entering Jennings County with the “We all live down stream” theme.

### **Claims**

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

### **Adjournment**

Jerry St. John made a motion to adjourn with a second by Brian Belding. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM

The next meeting of the Jennings County SWCD Board will be held at the USDA Service Center on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at 6:00 PM

*Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant*