

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District  
February 24, 2015  
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

**Supervisors**

Brad Ponsler

Matt Branham

Jerry St. John

**Associate Supervisor**

Tom Schneider

**Contracted Technician**

Denise Dailey

**Staff**

Kelly Kent

Bob Steiner

**Reading of the Minutes**

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the January 2015 minutes as submitted, with a second from Matt Branham.

**Financial Report**

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the January 28, 2015 – February 24, 2015 financial reports as submitted, with a second from Matt Branham.

**Correspondence**

Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasive Management – Knox Co. sent a letter asking for financial support for the SICIM and they are challenging districts within the area they cover. There was some discussion about this but the board members present tabled this to the next board meeting.

**Jennings County Chamber of Commerce Rural Urban Dinner Sponsor**

The annual Rural Urban Dinner will be held at the Shrine Club on Wednesday, March 18 at 6 PM and they have requested the district to be a sponsor for this event at a cost of \$250 which includes 4 admission tickets for the event. Jerry St. John made a motion to sponsor the event at \$250 with a second from Matt Branham.

**Postage Permit**

The annual bulk mailing permit fee of \$220 is due by 4/10/15. Matt Branham made a motion to continue with the permit and pay the \$220 fee with a second from Jerry St. John.

## **Agency & Committee Reports**

### **Staff Reports**

#### **Bob Steiner**

Written report submitted.

#### **Jenny Vogel**

Written report submitted.

#### **Kelly Kent**

Written report submitted.

#### **Denise Dailey**

Nothing really moving this past month. She reported that she has been seeing more plans come in stating no permit needed when actually they do. She is making a note and informing the engineers and at that point it is up to them to follow up and make sure that are following proper procedure. There was some discussion as to whether or not it would be beneficial to have a workshop that would cover what permits are needed and when. Nothing was confirmed but may be looked at later on.

### **Old Business**

#### **Annual Meeting**

The program was passed around to make sure that everyone knew what their duties were for the Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 26 at 6 PM at the Rolling Hills Shrine Club. Kelly reported the number of RSVP's received at this time, what help was needed to set-up and when everyone needs to arrive for the evenings' event.

#### **Office Computers**

The new computers are now installed. What to do with the old systems was discussed. Kelly said that she would like to have one for her son's use at college and Matt will take the other one to try and sell. Matt Branham made a motion to give Kelly one with a second from Tom Schneider.

#### **Storage Buildings Installed**

The 2 equipment storage buildings have now been installed.

### **Geo-textile Fabric Stand**

The stand was picked up by Layman Fabrications and they are working to improve the roll pipes and adding a couple of safety features on it. Kelly will check on the status and update the board at the next meeting.

### **Shop Meeting Update**

This year's meetings will be held on Tuesday, March 17 and Thursday, March 19 at Andy Maschino and Nelson Ponsler's farms respectively.

### **Hands free phone device update**

Bob researched the options available for this and there is only one that is compatible with our phone system. The cost is around \$300. Kelly advised the board that we should wait on this a while until she has exhausted all other options of her hearing returning.

### **Tractor Drive/Parade**

Tom Schneider advised the board that he had spoken with the mayor and that the city would help where they could if we decided to go ahead with a tractor drive/parade. Tom agreed to chair a committee to work on this and Jerry St. John said that he would help with whatever Tom needed. Tom is going to attend a meeting with the Reddington Rear Wheelers to see if they would be interested in helping to put this event on and how they normally do their tractor drives.

### **New Business**

#### **Region Meeting**

This year's region meeting will be at the North Vernon Education Training Center on Tuesday, March 3 from 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM. The cost is \$10 and includes a catered meal. Deadline for registration is today. Brad Ponsler and Bob Steiner plan to attend.

#### **MOU with IDEM and SWCD's**

The MOU between IDEM and Jennings Co. SWCD needs to be updated every two years. Matt Branham made a motion that Brad sign the MOU with a second from Jerry St. John.

#### **Magnet Offer**

Kelly presented an opportunity for the district to purchase business card magnets with the theme "Don't Farm Naked" and the district name and phone number. The board opted not to purchase any of these at this time.

### **Retirement Notification**

Bob Steiner advised the board of his intention to retire from the Jennings County SWCD as the Executive Director effective May 1, 2015. Jerry St. John made a motion to accept Bob's retirement notification with a second from Matt Branham.

### **Job description approval & ad**

Bob presented the Executive Director job description to the board along with a copy of the classified ad that needs to be submitted to the newspaper. The ad will be submitted on Friday, February 26 and run for 2 weeks in both weekly papers. Resumes will be due by March 30, 2015.

### **Conservation Plans**

Bob signed plans as needed.

### **Claims**

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Matt Branham with a second by Jerry St. John at 8:16 PM. Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant