

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District
June 25, 2013
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Chairman Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Supervisors

Brad Ponsler
Nathan Burbrink
Jerry St. John

Staff

Kelly Kent
Bob Steiner

Reading of the Minutes

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the April 2013 minutes as submitted, with a second from Nathan Burbrink.

Financial Report

Nathan Burbrink made a motion to accept the April 24 – May 28, 2013 and May 29 – June 25, 2013 financial report as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

Correspondence

No Correspondence.

Agency & Committee Reports

Essential Services

Bob updated the board about rezoning request received.

HHH RC&D

No report.

Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey

No report.

Staff Reports

Bob Steiner

Written report submitted.

Jenny Vogel

Written report submitted.

Kelly Kent

Written report submitted.

Old Business

Snow Fence Replacement

The fencing was ordered and received for the tractor display at the Jennings County Fair.

Tent Replacement

The new canopy was ordered and received for the tractor display at the Jennings County Fair.

Plot Master Update

We are on hold with the Plot Master at this time. Those who made an offer have possibly since backed out. Brad will check with Matt Branham to find out the status. The board agreed to a bottom dollar price on the trailer if we do go ahead and sell the Plot Master.

New Business

2014 Budget

After much discussion Jerry St. John made a motion to request a 5% increase in operating and salary budgets for 2014 with a second from Nathan Burbrink.

Wildlife Building @ Fairgrounds

The wildlife building exhibit at the Jennings Co. Fairgrounds has been operated for many years by Harry Wheeldon, Don Tolbert, & Bob Steiner. This year Don and Harry have opted to give it up. Bob asked the SWCD board if they would like to take over the building and in 2014 turn it more into a conservation exhibit. The board discussed this option and has some concerns of taking over the building and putting work into it but the fact remains that the county owns the building. In past years it has been used as a storage building of sorts for display cases, poster racks, etc. when the military was using the fairgrounds. The board wants to make sure that if this continues we will have enough room to park the no-till drill and Brillion seeder out of the weather like we have done in the past.

Noxious Weeds

Bob advised the board that we are seeing an invasive species (Poison Hemlock) show up in the county. This plant can be deadly to humans and livestock. Washington County contacted our district to gain support for a request to the Indiana Invasive Plant Advisory Committee which asked to have the Poison Hemlock listed as an invasive species. They would like a letter of support. Bob will draft the letter with the board's approval.

Label Printer

The label printer that Kelly had been using will no longer be compatible with the upgraded Windows 7 OS. Printers and prices were researched with the lowest cost being \$ 76.88 from B&H Photo with shipping. Jerry St. John made a motion to purchase this label printer with a second from Nathan Burbrink.

Scanner

The office scanner has quit. Bob and Kelly researched options and pricing. Jerry St. John made a motion to purchase a new scanner with a second from Nathan Burbrink.

Pedal Tractor Race

Kelly asked the board if they plan to hold a kiddie pedal race again at this year's Antique Ag Parade. Nathan Burbrink made a motion to continue this with a second from Jerry St. John. They will also present trophies to the top 2 kids winning the pedal race and present tractor plaques to those who bring tractors to display.

Fair Schedule

A fair schedule was passed around to sign up to work at the Antique Ag booth at the fair.

CWI Grant Updates

Kelly reported to the board that the 2012 MWIP Grant is wrapping up we have spent \$52K of the original \$60K and the remaining money has been allocated. She also reported that the 2012 SWIP Grant is half way done. We have spent about 50% of the money but we are still accepting applications at this time.

Other Business

Strawblower

The board asked what the status of the Strawblower payment was. Kelly will check with Mike from Clancy's to see if we can get paid for the rentals for 2012.

No-Till Drill Agreement

Kelly brought to the attention of the board that we are starting to have problems with the No-Till Drill being brought back with seed left in, dirty, etc. After some discussion Nathan Burbrink made a motion to revise our rental policy by adding a \$100 cleaning/damage deposit with a second from Jerry St. John.

Conservation Plans

Bob signed plans as needed.

Claims

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Jerry St. John with a second by Nathan Burbrink at 9:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant