

Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District  
June 24, 2014  
Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Dan Megel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Supervisors**

Jerry St. John  
Matt Branham  
Nathan Burbrink  
Dan Megel

**Staff**

Kelly Kent  
Bob Steiner  
**NRCS**  
Jenny Vogel

**Contracted Technician**

Denise Dailey

**Reading of the Minutes**

Matt Branham made a motion to accept the May, 2014 minutes as submitted, with a second from Jerry St. John.

**Financial Report**

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the May 28 – June 24, 2014 financial report as submitted, with a second from Matt Branham.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence

**Agency & Committee Reports**

**Staff Reports**

**Bob Steiner**

Written report submitted. Essential Services did not meet. HHH RC&D council is in the process of updating bylaws after it's separation from NRCS. They are also expecting a 319 grant for a cost-share program for the Central Muscatatuck of \$400K over 4 counties.

**Jenny Vogel**

Written report submitted.

**Kelly Kent**

Written report submitted.

**Denise Dailey**

Nothing to report at this time.

## **Old Business**

### **NACD Soil Health Forum & Conservation Tour – Indianapolis July 21-22**

This is an opportunity for supervisors to attend an NACD conference right here in Indiana. The board has agreed to pay for registration and hotel for those wanting to attend. The registration deadline is July 11<sup>th</sup>. Kelly asked those present if anyone was able to attend and they are not. Kelly will get with Brad to see if he plans to attend and if not she will cancel the rooms that are currently on hold.

### **Wildlife Building**

The next cleanup day will be Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 8 AM – 12 PM, mainly cleaning and finalizing where the displays will be placed. Mr. Dunham has not been able to complete the turtle tank stand and wetland display. Bob spoke to him and he plans to complete this next week.

### **Giveaway Approval**

Nathan Burbrink made a motion to approve the purchase of 500 screwdrivers and 500 pens for giveaway at the county fair with the SWCD logo imprinted at a total cost of \$777.97 with a second from Matt Branham.

### **Fair Benches**

Richard Vogel created a branding iron for the SWCD to be used on the new fair benches at the fair. This will be done at the work day on June 28<sup>th</sup>. Kelly will send a Thank You note to Richard for creating this.

### **Storage Building**

Kelly spoke to Louis Wilson and he gave his blessing for us to remove the tree behind the office in anticipation of placing a new storage building. Bob spoke with Mike Clancy about the storage buildings that he sells and he gave us a pricing sheet to do our comparison. Bob and Kelly worked on a cost guide for 2 – 18'x21' carports with sides and one enclosed end at a cost of \$2470 per building. Jerry St. John made a motion to purchase 2 of these carports to be installed behind the SWCD office with a second from Nathan Burbrink. Kelly and Bob will talk to Mike Clancy about getting these purchased. The board asked that we check with Mike about preparing the ground for this installation. This would be an opportunity to “work” off some of the strawblower debt. If he needs assistance Jerry St. John volunteered to help get the ground prepped.

### **Cost Share Program**

Bob and Jenny worked on an SWCD Cover Crop Cost-Share program of up to \$20k that would assist landowners with planting cover crops to improve soil health. Details of the program were discussed and changes made. The application sign up time will be June 25 – July 14 with the application ranking to take place on July 15. The priority will be given to first time users with a maximum of 100 acres approved per entity.

### **Tractor Display**

Kelly has the signup sheet for setting up, tearing down and working the tractor booth at the fair. Matt will do some checking to see what the cost would be to put a 3'x5' frame around the sign we would like to use at the entrance of the tractor display. Jerry St. John proposed that the SWCD purchase a fence post puller. He will check out some options and let Kelly know what he finds.

### **Pond Clinic**

Tom Schneider, owner of Schneider Feed & Seed along with the SWCD will be hosting a pond clinic at Tom's home on Tuesday, August 26. Tom has lined up pond chemical representatives and asked that the district find someone that can speak about proper pest and predator control.

### **New Business**

#### **RCPP – Regional Conservation Partnership Program**

Bob and Jenny explained the program is similar to MRBI and Bartholomew, Decatur and Jennings County are interested in putting in a preliminary application requesting \$1.2 million over a 5 year period. Nathan Burbrink made a motion that Jennings County participate in this opportunity with a second from Jerry St. John.

#### **Goat Field Day**

Bob met with Josey Huffmeyer, Extension ANR Educator and Robert Zupancic about assisting with a goat field day. Josey is thinking about hosting this in the southern part of the county on a Saturday in late August. The field day may include: Pasture Management, Nutrition, Famacha Training, Health and Herd Management and then tour Brewer Livestock. More details will follow.

#### **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 8:30 pm  
Minutes recorded by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant