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**Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District**

10729 Randall Avenue, Suite 2 – Aurora, IN 47001 – Phone (812) 926-2406, Ext. 3

**MINUTES – REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

September 8, 2022

8:30 AM –Dearborn County SWCD

**Supervisor**

Ken Gunkel - Chairman  
Eric Callahan – Vice Chair – not present  
Pat Holland  
John Kruse  
Robert Schroeder

**Associate Supervisors**

Brad Dawson – not present  
Tom Klump  
Matthew Johnson

**SWCD Staff–**

Beth Terrill  
Vickie Riggs  
Kyla Dick – Not present

**Watershed** – Heather Wirth

**NRCS** - Matt Jarvis,  
Alejandra Gonzalez-Lopez

**Extension** – Jeff Hermes

**FFA** – East Central –  
Bradley Kolb,  
Lloyd Derringer

**South Dearborn** - Not present

**ISDA** – Not present

The board meeting was called to order by Ken Gunkel, Chairman, at 8:30 AM.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting, August 11, 2022, were reviewed. Rocky Schroeder made a motion to approve, and Pat Holland seconded the motion, motion carried. A motion was made by John Kruse to accept the minutes from the July Open meeting and was seconded by Pat Holland, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

The claim vouchers for July and August were presented to the Board for review. July claims had not been approved due to lack of quorum last month. A motion to approve the claim vouchers for July and August was made by John, seconded by Pat, motion carried.

**Extension**

Jeff Hermes

- Meeting with Mayor in the Civic Park to talk about dying trees.



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- SEPAC field day was August 30 in Butlerville, IN. More than 120 attended. Specialists from campus were there.
- Roger Wenning Field Day on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 2:00. 90 attended.
- New program year has started for Extension.
- Master Gardener - Not enough signups to move forward. May be re-evaluating the program making it a 6-week course instead of 13 weeks and eliminating volunteer hours.
- Meeting for prep work for Ag Day, Sept 23 and Sept 26. Ag Day will be Sept 27-28.
- Dearborn County Plan Commission is looking for new Director.
- Park Board – Looking to fix up the athletic fields in Bright.
- Partnering with projects with EC FFA
- Jeff is still looking into the AE # (Agriculture Exemption) that Tom Klump asked about last month.

### **FFA**

- Livestock Skill-A-Thon – Top team placed 8<sup>th</sup> out of 16
- IN FFA Horticulture CDE – Purdue Oct 8
- FFA/FCCLA Hayride Oct 20
- National Convention will be Oct 26-29 in Indy

### **ISDA**

- No one present.

### **NRCS**

- Booster for building – Ben is working on it. Estimates received ranged between \$3,000 - \$8,000.
- EWP – State Engineer was out to look at Johnson Fork, which is completed, Bonnell has been approved.
- Wilson Creek is completed.
- Working with Highway Dept in Switzerland County due to recent flooding.
- Locally led completed. Results will be used for EQIP local ranking.
- A lot of people have signed up for high tunnels. Possible high tunnel workshop will be held in January.
- Kim Lampert will begin in Switzerland County as a District Conservationist on September 26. Mike Hughes will begin in Brookville as the acting DC.



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### **Old Business**

- The Summer District Meeting was held on August 25, 2022, in Greensburg. Matt Jarvis, Alejandra Gonzalez-Lopez, John Kruse, and Beth Terrill attended the meeting.
- Charlie Adams, a long-time speaker for Soil and Water meetings will be considered as a speaker at the 2023 SWCD Annual Meeting. Beth Terrill will contact him.
- Beth has received the required bonding forms for her county position.
- Vickie has applied for a Forestry grant for \$1,000. A possible Forestry Field Day will be held at Rocky's next August if the grant is received.
- Vickie mentioned the Great Plains Drill keeps breaking a roll pin. John Kruse said he would look at it.

### **New Business**

- Welcome was given to Kyla Dick, but she was away at training.
- Dates for Annual Meeting were discussed of March 9, 2022, or March 16, 2022. March 9 was chosen and will be held at the Dearborn Adult Center at 6:30. Beth Terrill will check to see if there is a charge, and if not a \$250 donation will be given. Beth will also check to see if there is a room available to hold the monthly meeting in the morning and set up. Beth will call Charlie Adams as a possible speaker and will call the Rolling Pin to see if they can cater the meal.
- Mileage and Per Diem was discussed for meetings. A Per Diem will be paid to Supervisors for each meeting they attend in person (not virtually or by phone) at a rate of \$35 per meeting. This includes meetings that are not the regular board meetings. Mileage will also be paid for meetings that are not regular monthly board meetings such as the Annual Meeting or others. If a meeting occurs the same day as a Board Meeting such as the Annual Meeting, then mileage will be paid for that meeting. This was also tabled till next meeting to discuss if Associates will be paid.
- The Christmas Board Meeting was discussed to possibly hold at Der Heisse Stein in Greendale.
- Vickie Riggs said the Soils Testing Program fund was getting low and is a valuable service to landowners and would like to ask the board for additional funding to keep the program. Pat Holland made a motion for the board to contribute \$2,000 towards the program and Rocky Schroeder seconded the motion. Motion carried.



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- The Brillion Seeder had the hydraulic transport locks not in place and a broken hydraulic hose. County Highway Department fixed. Zimmer Tractor fixed bearing at end of seed shaft.
- The Sexual Harassment Training and Internal Controls Training will be presented at the next board meeting.
- Election Committee will be John Kruse, Pat Holland and Rocky Schroeder.
- Eric Callahan will be contacted to see if he wants to be on the ballot for Vice Chairman.
- A motion was made by John Kruse to amend the credit card policy amount from \$1,000 to \$3,000. Seconded by Pat Holland. Motion carried.

### **Staff Reports**

- Vickie Riggs sent her report.
- Heather Wirth sent her report. 100 people showed up for the Next Generation Field Day.
- Beth Terrill sent her report.
- Kyla Dick sent her report.

### **Supervisor Updates/Comments**

- Rocky Schroeder questioned whether the Weed Wrangle program will continue.
- Matthew Johnson said his son is working on joining the FFA program.
- Pat Holland said Carnegie Hall is having tours on Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00
- John Kruse questioned if the East bound 1-74 rest area was still closed and if a pollinator area could be established which is in Ripley County. He will touch base with Ripley County to find out.

### **Other**

**Adjourn** - Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 8:30 AM**, at the Dearborn County SWCD Office

*Beth Terrill*



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District Coordinator

Approved

  
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