



MINUTES – REGULAR BOARD MEETING

November 10, 2022

8:30 AM –Dearborn County SWCD

Supervisor

Ken Gunkel - Chairman
Eric Callahan – Vice Chairman
Matthew Johnson
John Kruse

SWCD Staff–

Beth Terrill
Vickie Riggs
Kyla Dick

Associate Supervisors

Brad Dawson – not present Tom Klump
Pat Holland -not present
Robert Schroeder-not present

Chris Powell - Guest
Kim Wolfert, -Guest
John & Jane Lech - Guest

Watershed – Heather Wirth

NRCS - Matt Jarvis –Not Present
Alejandra Gonzalez-Lopez

Extension-Jeff Hermes

FFA – East Central
Bradley Kolb – not present
Lloyd Derringer – not present

South Dearborn - Not present

ISDA – Not present

The board meeting was called to order by Ken Gunkel, Chairman, at 8:30 AM. A Welcome and introduction was given to the guests that were attending and members of the board introduced themselves to the guests.

Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting, October 13, 2022, were reviewed. John Kruse made a motion to approve the minutes and Eric Callahan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report

The claim vouchers for July, August, September, and October were presented to the Board for review. Previous months had not been signed due to a lack of quorum. A motion to approve the claim vouchers, motion for the credit card payment and a motion for the balance for checking and savings was made by Matthew Johnson and seconded by John Kruse.



Extension

Jeff Hermesch extended a Thank You for being included in the Conservation Tillage Breakfast. A PARP class will be held on November 17 at Zimmer Tractor from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. A last-minute PARP series and a Commercial Credit program will be held in Butlerville at CPAC on December 20 from 8

Jeff will be gone to Purdue for a ANR retreat the week of November 14-18 and will be the host for a four-part DIY Lawn Care Series which starts November 21. An exam will be given through Ivy Tech.

There will be a Lunch and Learn on December 1 for the Winter Care of Trees & Shrubs.

A Beginning Farmer course will be offered starting in January. It will be seven weekly sessions and will focus on specialty crops. Jeff wasn't sure of the fee but Ken Gunkel, Chairman of the Board suggested the DCSWCD could pay the fee or a part of the fee. A discussion was held among the members, and it was decided that the fee would be paid by the board upon completion of the class.

Jeff was asked to explain his position as an advisor of the Dearborn County Park Board to the guests of the board. Jeff explained there are 7 members that are supposed to be on the board but as of now there are only 5.

FFA

No one present.

ISDA

- No one present.

NRCS

- No one present.

Old Business

- Annual Conference registration was discussed. Beth will register Ken Gunkel, John Kruse, Matthew Johnson, Beth Terrill, Kyla Dick, Chris Powell, and Kim Wolfert. Kim is interested in her husband Kurt attending the conference for possibly one day and will register him. Early Bird registration is due by November 16 and the cost will be \$350. After that date, the cost will be \$405. Spouses or guests can attend but are responsible for their own registration payment.
- The Signature Card for the Savings account at Friendship State Bank has not been signed by Eric Callahan. Eric will stop in to sign it.



- Beth Terrill is working on the report for the Annual Meeting on March 10, 2023. The meeting will be held at the Dearborn Adult Center. Ken Gunkel has contacted the FFA representatives about speaking but has received no response yet.

New Business

- Get Well cards were signed for Pat Holland and Rocky Schroeder. Beth will mail them out.
- Matthew Johnson was approved as a Supervisor on October 25 at the State Soil Conservation Board meeting. Matthew and Eric Callahan will be on the ballots at the SWCD Annual Meeting and will be added as Nominees for Election in Conservation Link.
- Rocky Schroeder will be submitting a Resignation for his position as Supervisor but would like to remain on the board as an Associate. John Kruse made a motion to accept the resignation and Eric Callahan seconded the motion. Chris Powell expressed interest in becoming a supervisor as a replacement for Rocky. Eric Callahan made a motion for Chris to become a supervisor and Mathew Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Resolutions were discussed from Knox, Pike and Jennings counties to be further addressed at the IASWCD Annual Conference in January. At the December meeting, the board will discuss the resolutions.
- Ken Gunkel will be the Delegate for the IASWCD Annual Conference and John Kruse will be the Alternate.
- Beth Terrill and Kyla Dick gave their reports on the IDEA Regional Meeting they attended.
- Ken Gunkel discussed the State Internship program he had previously spoken with Tara Wessler Henry about. The state will pay half for an internship program which is available from the state. Wayne County currently works with an internship program.
- Kim Wolfert asked why she was not eligible to be a supervisor since she owns property and pays taxes in Dearborn County. Ken will reach out to Brad Dawson, on the State Soil Conservation Board for clarification on this.



Staff Reports

- Vickie Riggs sent her report. NRCS has an area meeting and the EQIP program will be rolling out for 2023. New applicants are available to submit for the program by December 16. New urban practices have been added with rain gardens and plugs. Vickie also reported there is no electric on either piece of equipment, and the acre meter doesn't work on the Brillion Seeder. County employees will have a new insurance plan at the beginning of 2023 and will be Blue Cross/Blue Shield Anthem.
- Heather Wirth sent her report. She didn't have anything else to report except noted she needed to recommend to EPA a couple of minor questions for the Whitewater grant by December 2.
- Beth Terrill sent her report. She is working on completing the Annual Report for the meeting in March and will contact businesses for door prizes.
- Kyla Dick sent her report. Guided review of Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans. Spencer's Nursery contacted and plants selected for 2023 Native Plant Sale. Decided quantity of tree saplings for 2023 Arbor Day give-away. Will begin Purdue Watershed Leadership Academy in January through May, once a week. Explained MS4 to new members.

Supervisor Updates/Comments

- Matthew Johnson, Tom Klump, and Eric Callahan had nothing to add. John Kruse shared an article that had been published in the local newspaper and wanted Gage Pace to be invited to the next meeting.

Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 8:00 2022, at 10:30 AM**, at Willie's in Hidden Valley.

Beth Terrill
District Coordinator

Approved:

Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District
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John House

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