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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**

December 8, 2022

10:30 AM –Willes's

**Supervisor**

Ken Gunkel - Chairman

Eric Callahan

John Kruse

Matthew Johnson

Chris Powell

**SWCD Staff–**

Beth Terrill

Vickie Riggs

Kyla Dick

**Watershed** – Heather Wirth

**Associate Supervisors**

Brad Dawson – not present

Tom Klump

Robert Schroeder – Not Present

Pat Holland – Not Present

Kim Wolfert

John & Jane Lech

Tom Gaynor

**NRCS** - Matt Jarvis

Alejandra Gonzalez-Lopez

**Extension-**

Jeff Hermesch – Not Present

**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 10:30 AM. A welcome and introduction was given to the new members, and members of the board introduced themselves.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the previous meeting, November 10, 2022, were reviewed. John Kruse made a motion to approve, and Eric Callahan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Financial Report**

The claim vouchers for November were presented to the Board for review. It was noted that the claims for Clean Water IN should be changed to White Water. A motion to approve the claim vouchers, with changes was made by Matthew Johnson and seconded by John Kruse.



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### **Extension**

Jeff Hermesh was not present at the meeting.

### **FFA**

No one present. Ken has not heard back from Roy Johnson about students speaking for Annual Meeting but will try and receive information by January meeting.

### **ISDA**

- No one present. Beth Terrill will contact Tara Wesseler-Henry about doing Supervisor Training at January meeting.

### **NRCS**

- EWP Project has not been started on Bonnell Rd.
- There have been 45 potential applications for EQIP.
- Tom Klump asked about EQIP for removing Invasives. Matt Jarvis explained it is a practice in the EQIP program, very competitive for funding. It's a 3-year practice payment, if funded.

### **Old Business**

- Updates were given on Pat Holland and Rocky Schroeder. Pat is very weak and can't get out of his chair very well, Rocky's wife has COVID
- Resolutions to be considered at the Annual Meeting were discussed. Ken Gunkel is the Delegate and John Kruse is the Alternate. 2 staff members are going, 4 board members are going and 1 board member will be going for one day. All counties that are present will be voting on the resolutions. Vickie Riggs was asking about State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM). It is a resolution from Knox County. Vickie explained the SWCD had a weed committee that Jennifer organized. John Kruse said he will get more information on this from the Annual Conference. At the time the SWCD board will decide once the information is received.
- Board members were opposed to the resolution from Knox County for the proposed solution for inclusion of an SWCD office Supervisor on general ballot. The board agreed that each county needs to have a representee available to "reconstruct the gaps."
- Board members seemed to be in favor of the resolution from Jennings County for the state to set aside funding for assisting counties for closed landfills.



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- Board members were opposed to Pike Counties resolution of “SWCD stakeholders to have a voice on the Conservancy Boards” as this is something we already have.
- Ken Gunkel will be working on a resolution to have a supervisor be on board if they own property in that county and told the board not to hesitate to bring up anything if they thought a change needed to be made.
- John Kruse said there was a state bill that needed to be paid from 2020 for the River Friendly Farmer. Beth Terrill will call Amy Work about this.
- Beth has tickets for all board members to sell for the Annual Meeting. So far Ken Gunkel, John Kruse and Chris Powell has taken 5 and Matthew Johnson took 20. The Commissioners, Courthouse staff and politicians will receive complimentary tickets with their invites.
- Eric Callahan has signed the Savings Account card at Friendship State Bank.

#### **New Business**

- Kim Wolfert has a friend that is exploring avenues to fight a second highway being ran through his family farm and is collecting signatures to oppose it. He will be going door to door to collect those. Kim will have Rhett Dennerline come to the January meeting and will bring maps and handouts to discuss this.

#### **Staff Reports**

- Vickie, Beth and Kyla all have vacation day requests to present to the board asking permission to carry those days over to 2023. Requests were made available and passed around for board approval. John Kruse made a motion to approve and Matthew Johnson seconded the motion.
- Heather has a revised grant application for Salt Pike.
- Kyla asked about advertising on Eagle Country for her Native Plant Sale. Ads will be \$575 for forty-two 15 second radio ads and a tile ad for the month of March. Eric Callahan made a motion to approve, and Matthew Johnson seconded the motion. Applications are due in April for plant sales.
- Kyla has written a new ordinance for the old Rule 5 ordinance.

#### **Supervisor Updates/Comments**

- Matthew Johnson, Tom Klump, John Kruse, Eric Callahan, Chris Powell, John and Jane Lech, Tom Gaynor and Kim Wolfert had nothing to else to add



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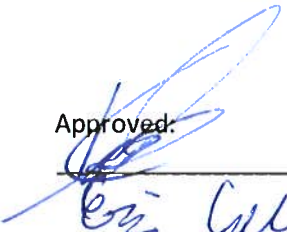
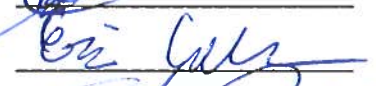
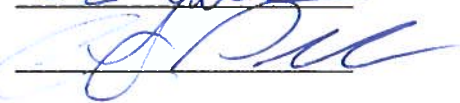
**Adjourn** - Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

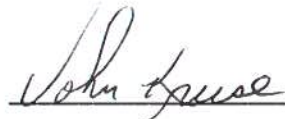
The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 12, 2022, at 8:30 AM**, at the Purdue Extension Dearborn County Office, 229 Main St, AURORA, IN

*Beth Terrill*

District Coordinator

Approved:

  
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