



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

January 12, 2023

8:30 AM Purdue Extension-Dearborn County

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

FFA – East Central

Bradley Kolb
Lloyd Derringer

South Dearborn - Not present

ISDA – Tara Wessler-Henry

The board meeting was called to order by Ken Gunkel, Chairman, at 8:40 AM. Ken welcomed everyone at the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves.

Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting, December 8, 2022, were reviewed. John Kruse made a motion to approve, and Chris Powell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report

The claim vouchers for December were presented to the Board for review. A motion to approve the claim vouchers was made by Eric Callahan and seconded by John Kruse. The invoice from Amy Work with IASWCD for a previous Friendly Farmer claim has not been received yet. An invoice will be sent when Liz Rice starts.

Supervisors and Associates will be paid their per diems when all paperwork is turned in. Ken Gunkel wants all Supervisors and Associates to turn in all Direct Deposit forms,



Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District

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

Personnel Records, and W-4's. A motion was made by John Kruse to accept John and Jane Lech, Kim Wolfert and Tom Gaynor as Associate Supervisors. Chris Powell seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Extension

Jeff Hermesh is holding a Virtual Beginning Farmer Course that will start on January 12 and end on March 9. It will be 8 sessions and will be held on Thursdays from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

The Southeastern Indiana Agriculture & Natural Resources has a Lunch & Learn Webinar Series, and include Growing Bigger Fish and Frost Seeding Pastures in January, Home Lawn Care and Gardening 101 in February, Forage Quality, and Soil Health in the Garden in November and Winter Care of Trees & Shrubs in December. Register for one or all at bit.ly/3fGf32m

Jeff and his wife will be having their baby at the end of March.

FFA

Bradley Kolb and Lloyd Derring said the District Welding Team placed first in the state on the 28th.

Fruits Sales had \$52,000 in December and they received \$11,000 in profit.

ISDA

- Tara Wesseler-Henry attended and presented the Supervisor Training at the end of the meeting. Matthew Johnson, Chris Powell, Ken Gunkel, Tom Gaynor, Matthew Johnson, John Kruse, Matt Jarvis and Beth Terrill all attended.
- Beth Terrill passed out updates that Tara had sent.

NRCS

- EQIP has 35-40 applications and has several field visits to make.
- There are 1900 state program applications that did not get funded for the past couple of years.
- Jerry Raynor has accepted a position in Washington D.C.
- Chris Lee is the new Southeastern Area Conservationist for Field Operations.

Old Business

- At the State Conference there were four resolutions presented. All counties present voted on the resolutions. Those topics included (1) Jennings County resolution to secure funding for closed landfills was not adopted. (2) Inclusion of



Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District

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

an SWCD office Supervisor on general ballot from Knox County was not adopted (3) SICIM was adopted; and (4) Pike Counties resolution of SWCD stakeholders to have a voice on the Conservancy Boards was not adopted.

- Rhett Dennerline came to the January meeting and brought maps to discuss Link 101
- Flower Fund was asked for donations for Linda Ickenroth.

New Business

- Invoice – National Association of Conservation Districts
- Flower Fund still needs \$\$\$\$. A blanket was sent to Rocky from McCabe's Greenhouse and Floral for his wife, Debbie in the amount of \$65.00. Checks cannot be written from the SWCD account and Visa cannot be used. Only cash can be used.
- Auditing Committee for AFR needs to be determined.

Staff Reports

- **Vickie Riggs** sent her report. She has put tarps on Equipment and has received a Forestry Grant for \$500.00
- **Heather Wirth** sent her report. She has a meeting coming up to finalize workshops on February 23, 2023.
- **Beth Terrill** sent her report. She will pay Supervisors and Associates their per diems for October, November and December when all paperwork is turned in. The County will be approving a new ordinance on January 26 for a meal expense for all travel while conducting business for Dearborn County and shall be \$60 per day plus a gratuity up to 20% for a maximum of \$72.00 per day. Receipts will have to be turned in for reimbursement. All mileage reimbursement must be supported by a mileage calculator such as Google Maps, Apple Maps, Waze or the like. Mike Perleberg, Executive Director for One Dearborn, Inc. has been invited to attend the DC SWCD Board Meetings but hasn't been to come at the scheduled times. He is planning to attend the Annual Meeting.
- **Kyla Dick** sent her report. She attended the Watershed Academy on January 4th & 5th. She has 15 second Eagle Country ads paid for advertising her plant sale. There will be a Grant Writing Workshop in March and April in Wayne County sponsored by Purdue. John Kruse made a motion for Beth and Kyla to attend, and Chris Powell seconded the motion. Motion passed. Kyla will be attending the Dearborn County Home & Garden Show at the Lawrenceburg Event Center, February 3, 4, and 5th.



Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District

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

Supervisor Updates/Comments

- John Kruse, Eric Callahan, Matthew Johnson, John and Jane Lech, Tom Gaynor had nothing to else to add. Kim Wolfert said Rhett Dennerlein was supposed to attend meeting and Kim said he was on his way. Tom Klump asked if there was a website for the Link 101 information. Chris Powell was appreciative he was able to go to State Conference, and wants his email changed to Chris.Powell.SWCD@gmail.com . Ken Gunkel pointed out he wants to honor birthdays each month from the board members.

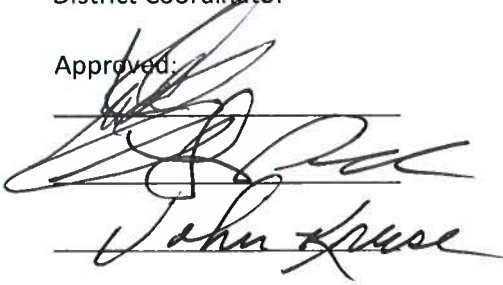
Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned at 10:34

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, February 9th, 2023, at 8:30 AM**, at the Purdue Extension Dearborn County Office, 229 Main St, AURORA, IN

Commissioners Meeting will be held **Tuesday, February 7th at 9:00 am**. Beth Terrill will contact Sue Hayden to be put on the agenda. Ken Gunkel and Kyla Dick will be attending.

Beth Terrill
District Coordinator

Approved:



John Kruse

