



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

March 11, 2021

5:30 PM – Purdue Extension Dearborn Co

Supervisor

Ken Gunkel - Chairman
Eric Callahan – Vice Chair
Darla Alford – not present
Mr. Pat Holland
John Kruse

Associate Supervisors

Brad Dawson – not present
Tom Klump
Rocky Schroeder – Teleconference

SWCD Staff–

Jessica Rayburn
Vickie Riggs

Jennifer Hughes

Watershed – Heather Wirth

NRCS – Matt Jarvis

Extension – John Hawley

FFA – East Central – not present

South Dearborn – not present

ISDA – Not present

The board meeting was called to order by Ken Gunkel, Chairman, at 5:30 PM.

Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting, February 11, 2021, were reviewed, a change to the Annie's Project motion was made, motion to approve was made by John Kruse, seconded by Mr. Pat Holland, motion carried.

Financial Report

The claims voucher for February was presented to the Board for review. A motion to approve the claims vouchers was made by Mr. Holland, seconded Eric Callahan, motion carried.

Extension

- John Hawley gave an update on current events going on and coming up. He was very pleased with the Ag Outlook event that took place March 9th. It was a hybrid event that had a total of 43 people in attendance. He plans to host this event annually. He said the 4-H Fair this year will be in-person. He mentioned the Master Gardner program that is currently taking place is going well. He mentioned the upcoming Weed Wrangle that is scheduled for April 10th at Bright Meadows Park.

FFA

- Neither FFA was present.

ISDA

- Not present.

NRCS

- Matt Jarvis is working on finishing up EQIP applications. He said that plans are being sent back for corrections. He did reach out to Tim Greive, Dearborn County Highway Department, asking them to mow the pollinator plot, which they did. He said he will be



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conducting Cover Crop Transects March 15th, 16th, and 17th. He said FSA and NRCS will be partnering on sending out a monthly newsletter and welcomed SWCD to include articles too.

Old Business

- Update- Ken is still working on finalizing the employee evaluations. Currently no update on Senate Bill 389, as the status has not changed since last month.

New Business

- AFR Audit- Ken and Tom Klump met with Jessica Rayburn to review the Annual Financial Report Audit (AFR). Ken mentioned that the meeting went well, and everything checked out as it should.
- Business Plan- It was discussed that a date needs to be set to update the current business plan. We tabled it until the April meeting.

Staff Reports

- Vickie Riggs sent her report. She did 27 conservation plans for EQIP, 24 for Dearborn County and three for Ohio County. She will be hosting a virtual pond clinic on April 23rd, partnering with Purdue Extension.
- Heather Wirth sent her report. She did receive an extension for the Hogan Watershed Grant. She mentioned several people have asked her if there are any plans to revive watershed projects that were active in the past. Those projects would need an updated watershed management plan before cost-share money would be available.
- Jennifer sent her report. She met with a landowner to apply for the Backyard Composter cost-share. She mentioned the native plant sale is currently taking place with orders due May 3rd.
- Jessica Rayburn sent her report. She reported that Historic Hoosier Hills sent over the notice that dues are due April 1st. A motion to pay the \$500.00 dues fee was made by John Kruse, seconded by Eric Callahan, motion carried. She said on February 26th she received a call from Jennifer that the catalytic converter has been cut off the 2017 Ford F-250 district truck. Jennifer called the police and made a report. Jessica reached out to Sue Hayden, County Administrator, to get the county incident report and check on insurance coverage. The insurance deductible is more than the cost of repair, but it was still reported to insurance. Jessica called Hagg Ford, Cronon Ford, and Struckman's Ford to get over the phone estimates for repair cost on March 1st. Struckman's Ford had the best rate at approximately \$1660.00, providing they don't find additional damages when they start the repair. She sent an email to all Supervisors and Associate Supervisors asking if it was okay to go ahead and have the truck towed to Struckman's Ford. She received replies on March 1, 2021 from Supervisors Ken, Eric, and John all in agreement to go ahead and have the truck towed to Struckman's Ford. She said that once the truck is repaired and returned to the office, we should maybe discuss options on trying to hopefully prevent something like this from happening in the future.

Supervisor Updates/Comments



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- John attended the virtual OKI planning meeting. He said he is the Treasurer for OKI and that Dearborn County would be the host in 2023.

Adjourn -Meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 8th, 2021 at 8:30**, at St. John Lutheran Hubbells Church.

Jessica Rayburn
Treasurer

Approved:

