



Dearborn County Soil and Water Conservation District

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

**MINUTES OF THE DEARBORN COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2014**

SUPERVISORS PRESENT

John Kruse, Chair

Brad Dawson

Terry Hall

Randy Ickenroth

NOT PRESENT

Marshall Alford

EXTENSION

Mike Hornbach

GUEST

David Todd

FFA Members

Keith Batta

Tyler Gutapfel

SWCD STAFF

Rita Cutter

Jennifer Hughes

Vickie Smith

WATERSHED STAFF

Heather Wirth

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chair John Kruse at the Soil and Water Conservation office. Minutes were discussed. Brad questioned the statement about weather related office closure. The Board then agreed to follow the County guidelines for weather related office closures. If Commissioners close the office, staff is not to report to work, but will be paid. If additional time off is needed because of bad roads, benefit time may be used. This was approved on a motion by Brad Dawson, seconded Terry Hall and carried. The minutes were approved on a motion by Randy Ickenroth, seconded by Brad Dawson and carried. Rita Cutter presented US Bank and Dearborn Savings Bank as depositories for the SWCD for 2014. These two were approved as well as Rita as Fiscal Officer for 2014 on a motion by Randy Ickenroth, seconded by Terry Hall and carried. The financial report was approved on a motion by Randy Ickenroth, seconded by Brad Dawson and carried.

Annual Meeting – The annual meeting will be March 13th, 2014 at the Dearborn Adult Center at 6:30 p.m. with Rolling Pin Catering. Tickets are available for sale at \$6 each. This date is our normal monthly meeting date. Board will decide in February when the March meeting will be.

Annual Conference – John Kruse and Brad Dawson attended. Marshall Alford and Rita Cutter were unable to attend due to illness and weather. Rooms were cancelled. Resolutions were discussed: IASWCD transparency did not pass as all information is already available now; and funding for a No-Till study by SWCDs finally passed with additional information being gathered thru Universities. A third resolution was presented from the floor and passed for the Legislative Committee to research alternative funding for Clean Water Indiana thru a tax or some charge on natural resources like coal, timber, aggregates, soil, etc. due to decreased funding from cigarette tax.

Tech/Educator Report – Vickie Smith sent her report. Max from Miller Equipment gave a trade in value of \$5000 for the 2007 Brillion Seeder. A new one would be \$16,050. The Board decided to get the Seeder fixed. Vickie will see if Zimmer can get the parts and give an estimate for repairs.

Extension Report – Mike Hornbach reported on a Farm Management series being held at SEPAC from Feb until April. The Indiana Small Farms Conference will be Feb 20-22 at the Hendricks Co Fairgrounds in Danville.

FFA – Keith and Tyler reported on Forestry Contests, Fruit Sales making \$45,000, Drive for PAWS, FFA Week will be Feb 17-21st with events at the school, District Contests will be March 11th and 2014 calendars were distributed to sponsors.

Rule 5/13 – Jennifer Hughes had sent her report. She explained problems with the current design for the Rain Garden at the PAWS location.

Hogan Creek Watershed – Heather Wirth sent her report. She would like to attend the Leadership Institute session on Feb 7-8 at Wabash. Brad Dawson strongly urged all supervisors and staff to attend these sessions.

Whitewater River Watershed Grant – The Grant began on Dec 9th. The first quarterly report will be due in February. The Board will remain after the meeting to discuss applicants for the WWR positions and set up interviews.

NRCS – Shasta Woodard asked Rita to let the board know about the new web-based postage system FSA and NRCS will be using. An SWCD account cannot be included, so SWCD will use postage stamps. Vickie Smith reported that Area staff will be here tomorrow doing Quality Review.

Administrative Issues – Rita Cutter sent her report. Rita revised the Contingency Plan for the procedure if the office closes for shut down. Staff will work from Extension Office or other office. Brad Dawson made a motion to adopt the new contingency plan. This was seconded by Terry Hall and carried. Monthly office activity report was presented to all. Rita will be assisting Ohio Co SWCD with end of year financial reporting in Gateway.

The following vouchers were approved for payment on a motion by Terry Hall, seconded by Randy Ickenroth, and carried.

US Postal Service (Bulk Mailing Annual Reports)

General Graphics (Printing Annual Reports)

The Office Shop (December Color Copier Usage)

DC Sheriff's Dept (November Fuel Usage)

Wal Mart (Supplies)

Cardinal Office Products (Supplies)

Heather Wirth (Mileage) \$28

John Kruse (Reimb for Annual Conference Expenses)

Brad Dawson (Reimb for Annual Conference Expenses)

2 Hogan Creek Cost Share

IN League of RC & Ds (Leadership Institute Reservation) \$125

Charlie Creek INN (Lodging for Leadership Institute) \$110.88

Rolling Pin Catering (Annual Meeting)

Additional Comments – Heather presented 4 Hogan Creek conservation plans for signature.

The next meeting will be February 13 at 8:00 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Rita Cutter

Secretary

Approved by:

_____ - _____ -
_____ - _____ -
_____ -