

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes February 8, 2021

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 7:30am. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:40 am. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Jim Frogge, Larry Kirchner, Alan Wissmiller and Ed Brown, Resource Conservationist Emilie Watkins, and Educational Coordinator Crystal Sauder. Absent were Associate Director John Settle, Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle, and District Conservationist Trenton Rader.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Motion passed five to zero.

CONSENT AGENDA: O'Connor made and Brown seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as printed. Motion passed five to zero.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Minutes of January 11, 2021 Board meeting

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Approval of Time and Travel
Approval of Financial Report
Approval of Bills

CORRESPONDENCE: N/A

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

PFC Cost-Share – Watkins shared the District has around \$6,000 left of FY2020 funds to spend by December 2021. There was a discussion to promote strip till cost-share within the county. Watkins said she will reach out to Heritage FS, Cabery Fertilizer, and other local businesses to promote the strip till cost share opportunity. Watkins also said the FY2021 cost-share funds have not been released yet.

Grants – Sauder shared there are two grants the District is looking to apply for in March. The Donnelley Foundation General Operations Grant is due March 26, 2021. Frogge, O'Connor, Watkins, and Sauder held a meeting on February 5th to discuss the plan and application moving forward. Watkins emailed Judd with the District's proposal idea and is waiting to hear back. Sauder said we will also be applying to the ComEd Green Region grant for the Manteno Habitat

Project at Rock Creek Estates. The funding will be used for walkways and signage. The grant application is also due March 26, 2021.

S.T.A.R. Program – Watkins shared the 2020 S.T.A.R. Raffle is still going on. For every S.T.A.R. form turned in, the person entering will receive one entry into the raffle. The forms are due to the office February 12. There is a grand prize package, as well as 2 runners up prize packages. The board suggested to try and create a more user-friendly forms for the applicants to fill out. Watkins also promoted the S.T.A.R. raffle on the radio, Farm Bureau paper, target emails, one-on-one phone calls, and Facebook.

Sales – Sauder said she is working on the spring 2021 sales. Tree and fish sale pick up will be on April 16th with the native plant sale pickup being June 5th. It was suggested to include pond tips and the pond webinar information along with the order forms.

RCPP – Sauder stated that she sent out the Easement agreement to the board for their review. Frogge shared a discrepancy in the document and reached out to Emy Brawly for clarification. Brawly will be reaching out to NRCS to clarify the part of the document. The board will decide on if we want to partake in RCPP at the March board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business reported.

REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC Report – Nothing additional

AC Report – Nothing additional

EC Report – Nothing additional

DC Report – None

FSA Report – None

Committee Reports – None

The next regular District Board Meeting will be March 8, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Frogge made and Kirchner seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 am.