

## KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### **Minutes August 16, 2021**

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly board meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Jim Frogge, Alan Wissmiller and Ed Brown, Associate Director John Settle, Resource Conservationist Crystal Sauder and Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle. Absent were Director Larry Kirchner and District Conservationist Trenton Rader.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Continuation of Intern added to new business. Motion passed four to zero.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Frogge made and O'Connor seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed four to zero.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes of July 12, 2021 Board Meeting

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:** N/A

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**PFC Cost Share** – Sauder stated that there are 3 cost share applications for cover crops that she and Watkins reviewed and are presenting for approval. One is an extension on an application from last year for 50 acres for the \$1,600 maximum. The second is for 78 acres for the \$1,600 maximum. The third is for 76 acres at the \$1,600 maximum. Brown made and Frogge seconded a motion to accept the applications presented. Motion passed four to zero.

**Grants** – Sauder stated that the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation was awarded to the District on July 13<sup>th</sup>. The Conservation Champions grant application was submitted on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Winner is to be announced the week of August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Education & Outreach** –Sauder stated that the Bio Blitz will be held August 27<sup>th</sup>, 3pm - 11:30pm and August 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am – 3pm at the Bourbonnais Township Park District.

She is asking for a budget of up to \$175. The park district is covering the cost of the raptor show but for an additional fee the raptor organization will also bring a bald eagle. She would like for the District to cover that expense. Brown made and O'Connor seconded a motion to budget a maximum of \$175 for the Bio Blitz expenses. Motion passed four to zero.

Sauder stated she is also working on a winter habitat workshop to be held the first week of December. There would be a morning and an evening session. Presenters being planned are FSA, NRCS, CREP, Pheasants Forever and USFWS-Private Lands.

**S.T.A.R.** – Sauder stated that applications for the 2021 crop year are now being accepted. Operators who participate in the District cost share program are required to complete a S.T.A.R. application.

**Life & Disability** – Decision was made to table any decision on offering Life & Disability until December when employee evaluations are completed.

**Budget** – Budget will be finalized in September.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Conservation Coordinator Job Posting** – Sauder stated that the information for the Conservation Coordinator Job is being given to local colleges and Ag businesses, an ad is being put in the Daily Journal and in e-newsletters. There has been 1 application to date and applications are being accepted until September 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Continuation of Summer Intern** – Sauder stated that she would like to offer an extension to the Summer Intern through the Fall semester. The Intern would work a combination of remote and office. O'Connor made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to extend the Intern position through the Fall semester. Motion passed four to zero.

## **REPORTS – in addition to printed reports, if necessary**

**RC Report** – Sauder stated that an NRI has been received and will be ready for approval at the next board meeting. She also told the board that she will be on vacation September 22-27.

**AC Report** – AC Settle stated that she will be getting some bank style boxes from Staples to make some space in the filing cabinets. Files will be stored in the storage room.

**Outreach Coordinator** – Nothing additional

**Grant Writer** – Nothing additional

**DC Report** – Nothing.

**FSA Report** – Nothing.

**Committee Reports** – None

The next regular District Board meeting will be held on September 13, 2021 at 7:00 PM.

Frogge made and O'Connor seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.