

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes March 11, 2019

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly meeting Monday March 11, 2019. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Alan Wissmiller, Larry Kirchner and Jim Frogge, Associate Director John Settle, Resource Conservationist Emilie Janes, Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle, Intern Crystal Sauder. Absent were Director Dave Peters and District Conservationist Trenton Rader. Guests in attendance were Ed Brown, Shannon Settle, Kelsey O'Connor and Evan O'Connor.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Kirchner made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Reorganization of the Board prior to the consent agenda. Motion passed four to zero.

REORGANIZATION OF BOARD:

Election of Officers: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the election of officers as follows - O'Connor Chairman, Frogge Vice Chairman, Kirchner Treasurer and Wissmiller Secretary. Motion passed four to zero.

Appointment of Associate Directors: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to appoint John Settle and Ed Brown as Associate Directors. Motion passed four to zero.

Restructure of Committees: O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to remove Tim McCorkle from all Committees, remove Salute to Ag from the list of Committees and remove Kirchner from Ag in the Classroom. Motion passed four to zero.

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes of March 11, 2019 Board Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

CORRESPONDENCE: O'Connor told the board that past board member Charles Cyr has passed away.

OLD BUSINESS:

NRI Approval – None.

Cost Share Programs – Janes stated that she has received notification that two cost share payments have been approved and two more are in progress.

Grants – Janes stated that the Community Works Grant application was submitted March 8th. Recipients will be announced in April or May.

Outreach & Education – Janes stated that she has sent out information regarding the education kits to local schools. She also stated that she has participated in Native Plant Seminars and Earth Day Program with Midland Bank. There were 70 parents, teachers and students that participated in the program.

Sales – No update.

Kankakee River Basin Commission (KRBC) – Janes stated that she will be attending their meeting on Wednesday.

S.T.A.R. Program – O'Connor explained that the program was Saving Tomorrow's Agriculture Resources and was a Champaign County initiative. The program was being used around the state. An agreement is signed with Champaign County to allow the use of the program. Wissmiller made and Frogge seconded a motion to sign an agreement with Champaign County to use the program. Motion passed four to zero.

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval to Increase Sauder's Hours – Janes stated that Sauder was on spring break this week and would like approval to increase her hours to 32 for the week. Kirchner made and O'Connor seconded a motion to increase Sauder's hours to 32 for this week. Motion passed four to zero.

Donnelly Grant – O'Connor stated that the Donnelly grant serves the Chicago area and lowland Carolina's. The AISWCD has made him aware that they have a foundation that helps with grants and that the Donnelly grant has additional funds that would be used for the Hawkins Prairie. The AISWCD Foundation will help write the grant. O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to pursue the grant. Motion passed four to zero.

Natural Resources of Kankakee County Book – Janes stated that there has been a book found that has great information from the 1960's on the natural resources of the County. It has now been copied digitally however it is not copyrighted. Discussion was held on making hard copies to also have available. O'Connor made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to cover the cost of binding up to \$250 and to use good quality paper. Motion passed four to zero.

Resolution for Iroquois County SWCD – O'Connor stated that there is a resolution from Iroquois County that will be presented at Summer Conference regarding the AISWCD initiative for nutrient loss and soil loss by use of no till, strip till and cover crops. O'Connor made and Frogge seconded a motion to support the resolution. Motion passed four to zero.

Annual Plan of Work Meeting – Discussion was held on when to have a meeting for the Annual Plan of Work. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 18th at 7:30 am.

Van Drunen Farms Update – O'Connor stated that Jason Paarlberg has been named as the Environmental liason with Van Drunen Farms.

K3SWCD Sponsors – O’Connor stated that Cabery Fertilizer has bought Herscher Grain who is one of our sponsors. AC Settle stated that Herscher Grain paid their sponsor renewal in December.

REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC REPORT – Nothing additional.

AC REPORT – AC Settle thanked the board for the gift from Hello Fresh while she was recuperating from knee replacement surgery. She also stated that she has paperwork for everyone to sign to get the bank accounts changed removing McCorkle and adding Frogge.

DC REPORT – None.

FSA REPORT – Brown stated that the new CED is Shannon Camfield who is also the Will County CED. He also stated that there is a tentative schedule for implementation of the Farm Bill.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – none.

The next regular District Board meeting will be April 8th, 2019 at 7:30 am.

Frogge made and O’Connor seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed four to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.