

## KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

### Minutes September 11, 2017

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly meeting Monday, September 11, 2017. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:40 am. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Larry Kirchner, Alan Wissmiller, Tim McCorkle and Dave Peters, Resource Conservationist Emilie Janes and District Conservationist Trenton Rader. Absent were Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle and Associate Director John Settle.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Wissmiller made and McCorkle seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of Erosion & Sediment Service Update, NRI Approval, NLRs, Signature Resolution for AC, Summer Conference, Teen Conference and Website Update from Old Business. Conservation Cropping Seminar (CCS) was also added to Old Business. Motion passed five to zero.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Minutes of August 14, 2017 Board Meeting: O'Connor made and Peters seconded a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed five to zero.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Approval of Time and Travel: Peters made and McCorkle seconded a motion to approve the time and travel reports. Motion passed five to zero.

Approval of Financial Report: O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the financial report. Motion passed five to zero.

Approval of Bills: O'Connor made and Peters seconded a motion to approve the paying of the bills as presented. Motion passed five to zero.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Jason Bleich has accepted a new position as Conservation Specialist for the Eastern US. He will work to pursue and develop new habitat partnership opportunities, maintain existing partnerships and improve and promote high quality habitat standards and seed mixes.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Great Lakes Basin Railroad** – Kirchner stated that there was no new information released about the progression of the GLBR. The current proposal is more than likely dead – and it may be anticipated that there will be a reapplication for the project in 2-6 years.

**Future Solar Projects** – None.

**Conservation Cropping Seminar** – On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Kankakee will be hosting the 2018 Conservation Cropping Seminar at the Hilton. The K3SWCD will be promoting, attending and helping with the event.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**LUC 3 Funding Distribution** – O'Connor gave a recap of the last LUC3 meeting. During the meeting, those involved discussed and drafted an LUC3 funding distribution plan based on priority factors, which were approved and voted on. The draft will be sent out and a conference call will take place to discuss the plan.

**Cost Share** – Kankakee County SWCD has received \$4,500 for cost-share opportunities. The funds will be used for implementing a Well Sealing and Cover Crop Cost Share Program. It was decided that the Cover Crop Cost Share Program would provide \$20/acre, up to 60 acres, for those who want to plant cover crops for the first time. For Well Sealing, K3SWCD will cover 50% of the cost of well sealing, up to \$400.

Well Sealing Cap – 4 wells up to \$400/well = \$1,600 maximum

Cover Crop Cost Share Cap - \$20/acre up to 60 acres, with a cap of 180 acres total = \$3,600 maximum

If K3SWCD seals 4 wells and provides cost share for the 180 acre cap, the total cost would be \$5,200. The board stated that they are willing to pull money from the district funds to cover the extra \$700 of Cover Crop Cost Share, if limits are met. Kirchner made and Peters seconded a motion to spend the cost share funds as outlined above.

O'Connor and Janes will meet with Kankakee County Farm Bureau to see if they are interested in providing funds to place signage at the fields involved in the Cover Crop Cost Share Program.

**REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary**

**RC REPORT** – Nothing additional.

**AC REPORT** – Nothing additional.

**DC REPORT** – Trenton Rader stated that CRP re-enrolls are at a standstill.

**FSA REPORT** – None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS –**

The next regular District Board meeting will be October 16, 2017 at 7:30 am.

Peters made and Kirchner seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed five to zero. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.