

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes December 10, 2018

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly meeting Monday December 10, 2018. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 5.22 pm. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Larry Kirchner, and Alan Wissmiller, Tim McCorkle, Associate Director John Settle, Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle, Resource Conservationist Emilie Janes, District Conservationist Trenton Rader and FSA County Executive Director Ed Brown. Absent were Director Dave Peters and Associate Director Jim Frogge. Guests in attendance were Evan O'Connor, Trevor Watkins and Rob Shurman.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Wissmiller made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the agenda with addition of approval for 2019 Board Meeting schedule and personnel committee report. Motion passed four to zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of November 13, 2018 Board Meeting: Kirchner made and McCorkle seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed four to zero.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Approval of Time and Travel: Wissmiller made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve time and travel reports. Motion passed four to zero.

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE: Invitation from Pheasants Forever to the Pheasants Fest on February 22-24, 2019.

OLD BUSINESS:

NRI – Janes stated that she has one NRI for approval. NRI 2018-050 Benoit Greenhouses, has a low LESA score, recommendation is to send a no effect letter. Wissmiller made and Kirchner seconded a motion to follow the recommendation. Motion passed four to zero. Janes stated that she has a request for an NRI on Lehigh Rd. She also stated that the lottery for picking the solar farm sites is January 15, 2019.

Partners for Conservation Cost-Share – Janes stated that there is no information right now.

Grants – SWCD Educational Grant – Janes stated that the grant is currently approved for \$1500 and she would like to raise it to \$2000. She would like to use the grant money to purchase equipment kits, there are 5 different kits at \$400 each. Teachers would apply for the kits which are targeted for High School classes and the RC would hold workshops in the fall and spring.

Community Works Grant – Janes stated that she is partnering with Herscher School District to plant a 3-acre prairie.

Compeer Financial Grant – Janes stated that Compeer has an educational grant available for a High School Ag Department. The grant is for up to \$3000 for Ag Education or classroom equipment.

Spring Intern – Janes stated that apps were released to ONU and KCC for a Spring Intern. She has received a few back, they are due by the end of the month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Consent Agenda – Discussion was held on the use of a consent agenda. O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to use a consent agenda at future meetings. Motion passed four to zero.

Personnel Committee – Personnel Committee recommended end of year bonuses for AC Settle and RC Janes. O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the bonuses. Motion passed four to zero.

Office Laptop & Software – Discussion was held on the need for a laptop for use in the office by an intern and what software should be put on it. AC Settle stated that she had checked with Intuit regarding the cost of our QuickBooks program being added to a second computer. It would be a one-time \$250 to add a second user. Renewal fees would remain the same.

AISWCD FY19 Dues – Wissmiller made and McCorkle seconded a motion to pay the FY19 AISWCD dues. Motion passed four to zero.

Approval of payout of AC personal/vacation time - O'Connor made and Kirchner seconded a motion to approve the payout of accumulated personal/vacation time for AC Settle. Motion passed four to zero.

Approval of payout of RC comp time - Kirchner made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the payout of 21 hours comp time for RC Janes. Motion passed four to zero.

Approval of 2019 Board Meeting Schedule – O'Connor made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to hold the March, June and September meetings at 7:00pm, the December meeting at 5:30pm and all other meetings at 7:30am. Motion passed four to zero.

Approval for Chairman to sign election notice and petition to hold election at Annual Meeting - Board consensus was to have the election notice signed by the Chairman and the petition signed by all the Directors.

Newsletter – Janes stated that reports were needed for the annual report/newsletter as soon as possible.

REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC REPORT – Nothing additional.

AC REPORT – Nothing additional.

DC REPORT – Rader stated that all programs are on hold until the new farm bill is passed.

FSA REPORT – Brown stated the farm bill is still being worked on. There is an agreement in principal now but still has to be approved by both the Senate and House.

IDOA REPORT –

COMMITTEE REPORTS – None.

The next regular District Board meeting will be January 14, 2018 beginning at 7:30 a.m.

O'Connor made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed four to zero. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.