

**Minutes**  
**State Soil Conservation Board**  
**September 18, 2018**  
**NRCS State Office**

**Members in Attendance**

Brad Dawson  
Kenny Cain  
Bob Eddleman  
Warren Baird  
Robert Woodling  
Ray Chattin

**Members Not in Attendance:**

Larry Clemens

**Others in Attendance:**

Jordan Seger	Geneva Tyler	Nathan Stoelting	Tara Wesseler-Henry
Leah Harmon	Jennifer Thum	Laura Fribley	Joe Schmees
Meg Leader	Lisa Holscher	Jim Woody	Scheryl Vaughn

**I. 9:30 am.: Call to Order**

Robert called the meeting to order at 9:35 am

**II. Approve Minutes of July 2018**

Warren moved and Ray approved the minutes of July 2018.  
All in favor, motion carried.

**III. Clean Water Indiana**

a. Approve Clean Water Indiana Budget-Jordan Seger

b. Jordan spoke about funding and the two buckets. The first goes to CWI and the second to the Department of Agriculture. In addition, to those dedicated funds, the association and other partners have a general fund for another financial stream, this is something that we request every two years. Three streams, one dedicated, one general appropriations, and then the cigarette tax with the Department of agriculture.

Jordan switched to the Clean Water Indiana budget.

Jordan discussed the carried over portion from 2018. The \$4.32 million was the allotted for FY 19. The salary/fridge is for the DSS's and the CREP leaders. Jordan spoke about the surety bond that is used for the 460 supervisors.

Jordan then spoke about the CWI grants. Jordan proposed to move funds over the CWI grant portion to have around \$1.2 million to appropriate for the district and non-district projects. What portion goes to no-SWCD and led SWCD proposals is the discretion of the board.

For a motion, there are two parts that the board needs to make a decision on;

1. Approve the budget as is, as some items can be adjusted

a. Ray moved, and Brad second

All approved, motion carried

2. Second to approve that 1.2 million to go to districts and non-SWCD
  - a. Warren moved to go with the \$1.2 million, Brad seconded the motion.  
All in favor, motion carried

**c. Clean Water Indiana Grants –Leah Harmon**

1. CWI Grants - We received more applications that we had in past years, but the actual dollar amount dropped down by \$20,000. A map was provided to show what counties participated in the CWI grants. We are asking for feedback from districts, and partners on the grant process. Kosciusko and Monroe were audited this quarter, and things look good.
2. Delaware County SWCD- Leah Harmon
  - i. 2017 CWI grant, and they are seeking modification approval. Part of the project has stalled due to a landowner, and want to move funds to pay for two projects. In addition, they are seeking approval to add equipment modification to their cost-share list. The board discussed this and felt that they needed additional information on whether they could approve the modification request. Ray and Kenny had some questions on how the modification would benefit nutrients and sediment. They asked for further information from Delaware SWCD.

**d. Non-SWCD Led Program- Decisions**

These are not tied to districts.

1. IASWCD request

Robert asked if there any additional comments. Joe stated that CCSI is leading the state on soil health, and training as well. This supports the work that districts are doing. Lisa spoke about the training opportunities that they do offer.

Ray moved to approve \$69,450 for the CCSI proposal with the remainder being requested in 2019. Cain second.

All in favor, motion approved

2. SICIM Request

Cain moved to approve the grant in the amount of \$60,000. Dawson second.

All in favor, motion approved

3. Michigan City

Warren moved to not fund grant, seconded by Brad Dawson.

All in favor, motion carried

**IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business**

**a. Chairman's Report**

1. He attended the ICP meeting last week. There was good discussions, two big issues.

**b. ICP MOU**

1. Joe spoke about the MOU with districts, this was the cooperating working agreement previously. They did get a lot of comments from districts and their boards. There were specific comments from the districts, and from the association, that were passed on to NRCS. This process is different than in the past, as this is going through the national NRCS office.
2. Jerry Raynor, State Conservationist spoke about the agreements, and stated that they are looking at things differently. Every agreement does have to go through the national office. Their deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

**a. Sexual Harassment Training for SWCD Supervisors-Laura Fribley**

- i. As state employees we are required to take a sexual harassment training and we sought approval from the state to present that training to SWCD staff and supervisors employees. Our goal is to present this training at majority of the district, with a deadline of April 30, 2019. We are hoping that a memo can go out from either the SSCB or ISDA. The letter will come from the three parties, SSCB, ISDA and the IASWCD. This will be a proactive approach.
- b. Washington SWCD- Lara Fribley  
Fribley stated that Scott Vannoy resigned from Floyd SWCD. The district has recommend that Charles Elgin be appointed as a temporary replacement.  
Ray moved with the apportionment and seconded by Kenny  
All in favor, motion carried
- c. Dearborn SWCD- Tara Wesseler-Henry  
Tara stated that Brad Dawson had resigned from the board. The district recommend that Ken Gunkel be appointed as a temporary replacement.  
Bob moved to approve, and Warren seconded  
All in favor, motion carried.
- d. Ripley SWCD-Tara Wesseler-Henry  
Tara stated that Brian Evans passed away. The district has recommend that Thomas Gray be appointed as a temporary replacement.  
Brad moved to appoint Tom Grey, seconded by Kenny  
All in favor, motion carried.
- e. Warren SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Geneva said that Tim Davis had resigned from the board and the district recommends that William Tarkington be appointed to be a temporary replacement.  
Kenny moved to approve and Bob second  
All in favor, motion carries.

## **VI. 10 Minute Break**

## **VII. ISDA Updates**

- a. Director's Report- Jordan Seger  
Started a harvest safety media push.  
Staffing – Three main priorities within department, the first grain buyer warehouse licensing, they are in the process of second interviews, the economic development team has a few open positions, and then the soil division leader. There are some internal and external discussions on that position.  
Jordan spoke about rural broadband, and the industrial hemp.
- b. Technical Report- Jim Woody  
Jim presented his report, it showed the program assistance in the southwest.
- c. Soil Health-Meg Leader  
Meg presented her report. INFA is going on.
- d. Accountability and Technology- Jordan Seger  
No report.
- e. District Support-Laura Fribley  
See attached report.
- f. Water Quality and CREP- Julie Harrold  
See attached reports. Brief highlights presented by Jordan Seger.

## **VIII. Conservation Partner Reports**

- a. IASWCD Report –Joe Schmees  
PWQ went well, great participation from partnership. Legislative: general fund request to increase CWI funds. Working on the request and getting it out to the SWCDs. Passing along to legislative committee for a water usage fee, IASWCD putting time and effort into the idea. Thirty nine

counties participated in the RFF program. Most region meetings have been completed. NW rescheduled. Central cancelled due to low attendance. District Showcase awards have been chosen: Porter, Marion, Bartholomew, and Adams. Annual conference agenda is being wrapped up to be sent out at the end of September.

**b. IDEM Report**

**c. DNR Report**

**d. Purdue Report** –given by Ray Chattin. See the materials submitted.

**e. FSA Report**

**f. NRCS Report**-Jerry Raynor. See submitted report.

**g. CCSI Report**-Lisa Holscher. See submitted report

**h. IDEA Report**

**i. IANA Report**

**IX. Public Comment**

**PWQ Update-Nathan Stoelting**

Thanked the SSCB for the funds for the Pathway to Water Quality coordinator. Nathan gave an update to the board about what changes were made last year.

Meeting to adjourn, Ben moved and Kenny seconded it.

**X. Next Meeting:**

**2018 Meeting Dates**

October 23: Porter County

**XI. Adjourn**
