

MINUTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING

March 15, 2022

Indiana Corn and Soy

8425 Keystone Crossing #200, Indianapolis, IN 46240

MS Teams

Present

Amy Burris (Member)
Brad Dawson (Member)
Ray Chattin (Member)
Larry Clemens (Member)
Joe Schmees
Lisa Holscher

Stan Moore
Trevor Laureys
Geneva Tyler
Julie Harrold
Sandra Hoffarth
Nathan Stoelting
Joe Rorick

Present (virtually)

Leah Harmon
Laura Fribley
Tara Wesseler-Henry
Walt Sell
Nathan Warenski

- I.** 9:42am: Meeting was called to order by Ray Chattin
- II.** Approve Minutes of January 2022: motion by Larry, second by Amy, motion passed.
- III. Clean Water Indiana**
 - a.** Clean Water Indiana Grants- Tara Wesseler-Henry- see report
 - b.** Clean Water Indiana Training Dollars- Geneva Tyler shared a spreadsheet of applications that have been submitted and reminded the board that today is the final day for applications. Geneva also requested a board decision on reimbursements for annual conference for districts that were not able to attend. Larry asked Joe Schmees on the Association stance on reimbursements. Ray Chattin discussed that this year had unusual circumstances and that this year they should reimburse districts even though they did not attend. Larry agreed with Rays thoughts.

Larry made a motion to approve training reimbursements for this year only due to Covid and safety concerns up to the allotted \$30,000. Ray Chattin 2nd the motion.

Brad then discussed the motion further by asking to be reminded of the deadline and number of districts effected. Discussion then turned to how often these trainings were confirmed that districts did in fact attend. Joe was asked if the association could confirm attendance. Brad then said that since districts did lose money from operating budgets and could not attend because of health and safety concerns he is leaning towards a vote in favor. He then asked for discussion to be closed and for a vote.

Motion carried unanimously.

- c.** Clean Water Indiana Budget- Trevor Laureys Trevor recommended that the board table this discussion due to some board members not being able to attend today. Tara and Trevor had an update on the budget to provide the SSCB with the most current money available to fund additional grant request.

Lisa and Joe both then agreed to make presentations and request today even though action won't be taken by board until the May meeting.

Joe began with a request as a representative from the Pathway to Water Quality. Joe explained the current budget situation the Pathway to Water Quality Steering Committee is currently dealing with. He explained the committee has put request into 3 categories, high priority, medium priority, and low priority. Details were then given to the board.

Stan Moore then led the discussion for CCSI as a monetary request. Lisa Holscher also presented on what CCSI is doing for conservation in Indiana. A packet of materials were provided to all attendees on CCSI.

Geneva then made a request for funding as well to provide a speaker for a training on grant writing later this year.

Brad asked if there was any additional funding available to fund smaller projects at the boards discretion. Trevor gave a budget breakdown to the board that they were then able to review.

After some discussion Brad made a motion to approve the \$300 for a grant writing speaker. Amy seconded. Brad provided further discussion that he like the idea of investing in the districts to approve grant writing skills. Motion passed.

IV. State Soil Conservation Board Business

- a. IASWCD Resolution- Discussion was then held regarding term limits for the State Soil Conservation Board. Stan clarified that the intent of the resolution included term limits for both SSCB Members as well as district supervisors. Brad and Ray agreed to sit on a sub committee to look into this topic further. Topic generated a lot of discussion and questions. The resolution will be looked at further and discussed in more detail a later date.
- b. Plan of Work review & Election Committee Policy- Plan of work and election committee policy agenda items were tabled until more board members can join discussion.

V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts

- a. Temporary appointments
Nathan Stoelting submitted request to the board for approval of temporary appointed supervisors. First, was Knox County.

Brad made a motion to approve Jennifer Holscher to replace Andy Like. Motion was seconded by Larry. Motion Passed.

Nathan then gave the request for Putnam County. Brad made a motion to approve Jim McGaughey to replace Scott McCormick. Motion was seconded by Larry. Motion Passed.

Finally, Nathan submitted information for Montgomery County. Marc Roberts needed to be temporarily appointed following missing the deadline for a normal appointment. Brad made a motion to approve that appointment. Seconded by Larry. Motion passed.

Sandra introduced herself and read the details on a temporary appointment in Marshall County. Motion was made to approve the appointment by Brad. Seconded by Larry. Motion passed.

- b. Laura then discussed Workplace and Sexual Harassment Training information to the board. Larry made a motion to approve this. Amy seconded. Motion passed.

VI. ICP Reports

a. ISDA

Trevor gave the directors report.

Julie then gave an update of CREP. Science Assessment was requested by the board. Julie provided a packet of slides of a presentation she had given earlier this year and asked for questions. The topic generated a lot of discussion and further questions.

Leah then provided an update on moving the Annual Financial Report to an online form. We are hoping this adjustment will result in a more efficient process of getting this information into the system and getting the funds to districts faster.

b. SICIM- Ray Chattin gave an update as director of SICIM

c. IASWCD- Joe Schmees gave an update. See report.

d. CCSI- Lisa Holscher gave an update. See report.

e. Purdue- Walt Sell gave an update on Purdue Extension.

f. Joe Roerick then introduced himself as a new staff person with Purdue.

g. Some updates were provided on offices reopening to allow more capacity and returning to work in our USDA Service Centers.

VII. Public Comment

No public comment

VIII. 2022 Meeting Dates

The board will look for an available time to meet ahead of the normal schedule.

Standing meeting dates are:

- May 17
- July 19
- September 20
- October 25

IX. SSCB Training

SSCB Training for CWI was tabled.

Geneva provided an update with Public Access for SSCB Members with the public health emergency being lifted.

Meeting locations were discussed for future dates

X. Adjourn: Brad made a motion to adjourn at 12:09. Larry seconded. Motion carried.