

NOTES
STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING
10:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 9, 2009
Fireman's Building on Pike Lake
1009 E. Arthur Street
Warsaw, IN 46580

Members in Attendance:

Nola Gentry
Bob Eddleman
Warren Baird

Robert Woodling, Monroe Co. SWCD
Penny Collins, Wabash Co. SWCD
Kimberly Neumann NRCS
Dick Crowl, Allen Co. SWCD
Tom Crowe, Allen Co. SWCD
Matt Williams, TNC
Chad Watts, TNC
Jennifer Boyle Warner, IASWCS
Sam St. Clair, NRSC - Warsaw
Kevin Shide, NRCS – Warsaw
Darci Zolman, Kosciusko Co. SWCD

Others in Attendance:

Jerod Chew, ISDA
Kelly Gentry, ISDA
Sara Slater-Atwater, ISDA
Paul Hoffman, ISDA
Ted McCammon, ISDA
Jim Lake, ISDA

I. 10:10 AM: Call to Order

Due to official quorum not met, the SSCB could not complete official business.

Nola Gentry announced Robert Woodling, Monroe County, has been selected as the North Central regional winner for the American Tree Farm System's (ATFS) Tree Farmers of the Year. The National Tree Farmer of the Year will be selected from the four regional winners and announced at their conference in Washington, D.C. in September

II. Draft Minutes of April 2009 – Approval was tabled for next SSCB meeting

III. Leadership Development

- a. District Requests – Kelly Gentry - None
- b. CWI Requests – Paul Hoffman – Tabled until next SSCB meeting

IV. Division Report

- a. CREP Update – Sara Slater-Atwater – See Attachment
Slater-Atwater reported on June 1st the CREP Technical Committee met and the CREP Steering Committee would be holding a conference call later this month. She also explained the CREP assessments are done and the public notice was sent with a link to the assessment website.
- b. Clean Water Indiana Grants – Paul Hoffman – See Attachments
- c. Clean Water Indiana Update – Jerod Chew – See Attachments (maps)
Slater-Atwater also mentioned CCI contracts are due to expire the end of June. Chew stated discussion on what to do with the remaining funds will need to take place during the next SSCB meeting.

Discussion on State Budget.

- d. Technical Support Update – Jerod Chew
Chew reported with the weekly conservation survey we send out to our technical staff, we are currently protecting 4500 acres and working with 150-200 landowners.
- e. District Support Update – Jerod Chew
Chew stated the Division has applied for a training grant through the NASCA to help create a training program in Indiana for our district and technical staff. We have not heard if we will be selected.

Leadership Institute is also coming up this weekend in Monticello. We currently have 13 supervisors and staff signed up. The theme for this workshop is Communications.

Chew also gave an update on the State's policy for vacant staff positions. As of now all positions have to go through a state hiring committee. We are not sure how long this hiring freeze will last. To date we are short 2 DSS, 3 once Ken Eck leaves at the end of the month; 2 Team Leaders and 3-5 RSs.

- f. ISDA Update – Jerod Chew
 - i. ISDA Strategic Plan Update
June 25th is the roll out for the updated Strategic Plan. It will be held at Kelsey Dairy Farms.

V. SSCB Board Reports and Discussion

- a. SSCB Chairman's Report – Nola Gentry – SSCB will meet next month to discuss their business plan and CWI funding. Bob Eddleman also mentioned the hiring committee for the SCSI (Sustainable Cropping Systems Initiative) position received 7 or 8 applications and has selected 3 to interview. Interviews took place last Friday and then the committee made their recommendations to the advisory committee.
- b. SSCB Sub-Committee Reports and Recommendations
 - i. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations – Nola Gentry – No Report
 - ii. CWI Grants Committee Report and Recommendations – Warren Baird – No Report
 - iii. District Capacity Committee Report and Recommendations – Bob Eddleman – No Report

VI. Delivery System Workgroup Update – Jerod Chew – No Report

VII. Conservation Partner Reports

- a. DNR Report – Gary Langell – No Report
- b. IDEM Report – Marylou Renshaw – No Report
- c. Purdue Report – Gary Steinhardt – No Report
- d. IASWCD President's Report – Paula Baldwin – See Attachment
- e. Farm Services Agency Report – Gail Peas – See Attachment/News Release
- f. NRCS State Conservationist's Report – Jane Hardisty – See Attachment

VIII. Public Comment

The board would like to thank Darci Zolman and Jim Lake for their help on coordinating today's meeting.

IX. Next Meeting: July 14, 2009 at 9:00 AM. Location: TBA

X. Adjourn 11:20 AM

XI. Lunch followed by Conservation tour.