

SWITZERLAND COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Switzerland County SWCD
105 East Pike Street
Vevay, Indiana 47043

Phone: 812-427-3126 ext. 3
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Supervisors Present

Ken Briggs
Chase Kelso
Cheryl Furnish

SWCD Present

Katie Collier
Shawna Andrew

NRCS Present

Not Present
John Schroer
Cassie Carper

Previous Board Minutes

The minutes from the April meeting minutes were reviewed. Cheryl moved and Chase seconded to approve the minutes and all were in favor. Board members present signed the minutes.

Financial Report

The claims for April and May were reviewed. Cheryl moved and Chase seconded to pay the claims. All were in favor of passing the financial report as presented. Board members present signed the accounts payable voucher register.

4H Plaque Sponsor

Ken moved and Chase seconded to sponsor the Soil and Water Plaque at the 4H fair for \$15. All were in favor.

Silly Safari at the Fair

Silly Safari will be at the fair on Friday, July 7th at 7pm in the community building. The event is on the fair schedule and is being promoted by the Extension Office and Fair Board.

Conservation Breakfast

The Conservation Breakfast will take place on Friday, June 16th at the TEC Building. Breakfast will be served by the Rolling Pin at 8:30 and the SICM speaker will start at 9. They will discuss invasive species with an emphasis on Poison Hemlock as well as the Spotted Lantern Fly.

Lime Spreader—CWI Grant

Shawna shared quotes on lime spreaders with the board. There are several different options including ones that are specifically for lime and those that can do lime and fertilizer. The cheapest option that she has found so far is \$24,000. The board had a lengthy discussion on lime spreaders and community interest. They also discussed the option of looking into a 6ft no-till drill. Shawna will look for quotes on those drills prior to the August meeting. Katie and Shawna discussed the upcoming CWI grant cycle with the board. A grant can be written to help with equipment for the District. They will look into the grant more and discuss with the board along with quotes at the next meeting.

IASWCD Dues

Chase moved and Cheryl seconded to pay the 2023 dues of \$2000. All were in favor.

Sealed Bids—Brillion Seeder

Three bids were received for the Brillion Seeder by the deadline. Ken opened each bid and read to the board.

1. Mike Meisberger \$3750
2. Billy Pike \$4050
3. Elam Beiler \$5010

Cheryl moved and Chase seconded to accept the highest bid of \$5010. Shawna will contact Mr. Beiler on Thursday to let him know his bid was accepted and to make arrangements for payment and drill pick up. The two bids that did not get the drill will also be contacted.

River Friendly Farmer

Dan Hart is the Switzerland County nominee for the River Friendly Farmer Award this year. Katie interviewed him for the application and turned in the document to IASWCD. The program will be in August at the State Fair.

Cost Share Update—Added Funds

To date \$7556.61 has been paid for cost share and the remaining \$443.39 is waiting for John Miller's bills. Katie asked if the board would consider adding \$478 for Jenny Abbott who brought in bills the same time as she spoke to John Miller. Cheryl moved and Chase seconded to add that amount and end the program for this year and all were in favor.

Ag. Day Update—Ag in the Classroom—Farmer Appreciation

117 students were present at the fairgrounds for Ag. Day in May. All of the presenters were well received by the kids and the teachers. Silly Safari rounded out the day and was a huge hit. We will continue partnering with Extension, Farm Bureau and FFA in the future.

Katie and Shawna partnered with FFA to help with Ag in the Classroom with Jeff Craig Kindergarten classes. There were FFA members in each class that read a story to the kids and followed up with a snack. In the future, we will be going into the classes once a month and hopefully ending the year with a special event for the classes.

The SWCD is partnering with FSA for a Farmer's Appreciation Day on July 11th at the office. We will be serving a lunch and encouraging producers to certify their crops with FSA prior to the July 15th deadline.

Indian-Kentuck Watershed

There are three invoices that are being calculated for payment at this time. They cover fencing, HUAP and a watering system and pasture/hay seeding. A report of all the grant money that has been spent in Jefferson County was given to the Jefferson County SWCD to be shared with that board and for their county budget hearing.

Technician Report

Shawna shared the drill report with the board. To date, the no till has been used for 52.5 acres for a total rental fee of \$308. The Brillion was used for 7 acres for a total of \$50.

NRCS Report

Kim is in training at Pennsylvania this week. She sent out a report in the board packet for the board to review. Eight EQIP applications have been approved in two rounds for a total of \$101,481. One applicant declined funding due to the expense. Kim has been working with the county on EWP from the September storm damage and shared a press release with the board.

Other

Ken asked Katie and Shawna to look into starting a District Face Book page. They will look into making one with staff and supervisors as administrators. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 2nd at 7pm at the SWCD Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Collier