

**Montgomery County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 3rd 2024, 8:00 am**  
**USDA Service Center Conference Room**

In attendance: Marc Roberts, Daniel Bullerdick, Raoul Moore, Jordan Gillenwater, Hanna Garriot, Tricia Herr, Jessica Redman, Kenny Cain, Lea Hickle, Sam Lovold

Jordan opened the meeting at 8:00 am.

**Partnership reports**

Adam- ARC PLC contracts have been doing agricultural risk programs since 2018, paid out wheat in 2021 but have still not paid out. State says 5 counties in state will receive a wheat payment. No counties received payment for corn or soybeans in 2023. CRP payments will go out next week on Wednesday or Thursday. Jumpstart on prepayment report where info was collected from producers with missing info. Caught up on mid contract management and cost share. Now working on new CRP projects. Now we have CREP statewide available to producers. Same as CRP but more money. More payments for filter strips and trees. Still waiting for information on fact sheets and payments. Should be same guidelines as CRP, but this will be more directed to water quality practices like in floodplains, filter strips, etc. Monday there were calls for assistance with downed corn from wind from the storm last Friday. Adam has been putting feelers out for any producers with crop loss from corn. Marc thought there would be some things payable but nothing unrecoverable from the harvest. Most FSA software is currently down since the fiscal year ended on Monday. Currently FSA is updating POA records.

Adam brought up Platt books, typically folks come in and ask who aren't as tech savvy. Adam proposed to the board to buy some to keep on hand to give out to those folks who come to the office. Sam will see if they are available from the mapping department and if we can get some.

Jessica Redman- Homeowner from Lake Waveland. Concerned with water quality in the lake due to sedimentation. Interested in finding solutions to preserve the health of the lake from mass sedimentation. Raoul mentioned that Lake Holiday had addressed these issues 20 years ago. Might be able to reach out to those folks to look for additional Guidance. Hanna will make the connection to Parke County since the county is on the line. Jordan suggested that the staff put some time toward

Tricia- Master gardeners plant exchange is this Saturday 9am-12pm. People can come with plants or even empty handed and still leave with new plants. A new Succession planning class is to be hosted at Fusion 54. January 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, February 4<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>. Cut flower class January 20<sup>th</sup>-February 24<sup>th</sup>. For anyone wanting to start a cut flower business and how to manage it. Will start scheduling PARPS soon.

Kenny- SSB can only send 1 person to CWI grant ranking committee. 2025 grants total amount 2.2 million dollars from 23 counties, 34 total partnered counties. Kenny wants to spend some time explaining the process of the grants and selection with Lea to get her up to speed on that at some point in the future.

Sam- Upcoming weed wrangles on the 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup>. Speaking at FOSC Annual meeting on 17<sup>th</sup>. W4L registration is open, will be planning out logistics of the day soon, meals and tables and chairs. Will source tables and chairs from Ladoga Lions if available.

Hanna- 2 new techs for RITA. One for Indy area and one in the east side of the state. NRCS just posted an article about the RITA program, check it out!

**Consent agenda:** Marc moved to approve. Daniel 2<sup>nd</sup>. consent agenda approved as presented.

### **Old Business**

New Director- Lea has felt good about her first few weeks, she has most of the financials down. People have been helpful to her in getting her up to speed on how the district works. Partners in surrounding counties and agencies have been a huge help to her as she starts with the district.

RCPD Update- Seth says an answer on if the grant is accepted will be known by the end of this month. Nothing else to report at this time.

SBOA Audit- Nathan Stoelting reported to us that a board was able to appeal their audit and get some money back. SBOA issued apology to a county and removed that auditor. We would have to confirm that the rate and hours were correct for the years audited. The board decided not to pursue the matter further.

### **New Business**

Board Election Committee- Can only have one board member on the 3-person committee. The rest must be interested citizens. Dave and Heather Conner are available to sit on this committee. Election committee names are needed by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Jordan moves that the election committee be Marc, Dave Stanley, and Heather Conner. Daniel 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion approved. Lea also handed out info on board leadership program to the board with links to the website where the trainings are located.

CISMA Updates- Raoul motioned to add line to bank account for the CISMA. Marc 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motioned approved. Sam requested \$530 to buy new CISMA supplies for the weed wrangles and for the donated chainsaws. Marc motioned to approve the budget for supplies. Raoul 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Authorize Lea as signer at HHSB- Lea needs an authorized signer to officially add her as a signer to the bank account. She will need to take in minutes with the approval to add her. Daniel motioned to add Lea to Hoosier Heartland and TrustIN as a signer. Raoul 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

CDP Training- The Indiana District Employee Associations' new Career Development Program is starting up soon and Lea is interested in the additional training it offers. It is free but involves an all-day training once a month for nearly a year. Raoul motioned to approve Lea to participate in the Career Development Program. Marc 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

QuickBooks desktop to QuickBooks Online- Lea presented the options for QuickBooks online and suggested that the QuickBooks plus option for \$49.50/month. Marc motioned to subscribe to the plus account for \$49.50/month. Daniel 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

Woodland Steward Newsletter- The Indiana Woodland Stewards requested that the Montgomery County SWCD help fund the printing of their educational publication "The Steward" for subscribed Montgomery County residents for a total of \$250. Raoul motioned that we approve the request to pay \$250 for woodland stewardship owner newsletters. Marc 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

Upcoming Bills- Website domain and staff outlook account bills are due soon for the year. Marc motioned to approve to pay the bills for our website and Microsoft 365 accounts. Raoul 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

Jordan adjourned the meeting at 9:03 am.

Minutes approved November 7, 2024

Daniel B. Hill  
J. Miller  
J. Hill

Marc

Submitted by Lea Hickie

