

4/6/23. SWCD April board meeting

In attendance: Kristen Latzke, Dave Stanley, Adam Beck, Joyce Grimble, Tricia Herr, Marc Roberts, Raoul Moore, Aron Rhoads, Daniel Bullerdick, Jordan Gillenwater, Kenny Cain

Partnerships

Dave- NRCS in field finishing waterways from last year. 1/2 Brown township to do. EQIP 6 are in. Grazing lands in and 2 high tunnels, 2 more in waiting. Heather is learning ropes, good job.

Adam- Heather Conners is in 6th week. She is good; computer, talking on phone, explaining programs and for the northern part of county has connections. General signups are ongoing. Can reenroll total field grasses. General CRP bidding process list in June are ranked from Washington DC. However, those continuing are a local decision. Chemically burn and replant for quail v pheasants require shorter grass and different seed producers. Now more maintenance is required for quail. Year 3 and 4 plant sunflowers and LET OFFICE KNOW. Next week 6 people for 3 days from head office are coming for file reviews and in field practices. Producers need signed waiver to allow some practices. Tracking paper is important. Montgomery County has the 1/3 most CRP contracts in USA. Stark County has more acres. 3400-page map is to be printed and in mail end April or 1st May. Can be marked and drop off v sitting in office. PARP Program is not easy to understand. Compare revenue from 18 or 19 to 20, to show loss in 2020. Shall be digitally submitted and then signed on pad. One done so far. We do not know what % the payouts will be if any. Farmers.gov. Tax returns after subtracted out non-eligible are used. Need a 20% loss unless otherwise qualified.

County Council- will have several upcoming meetings on salaries.

Extension- AG Days are coming up. 2019 was the last year for them. Dave and Kristen are speaking. Classes are on diversify garden and diet. Food sampling will occur. Details on Facebook. Check web site for upcoming events. She has demand for soil tests.

Kristen SWCD update- Canceled plant sale due to Megan leaving. Some people are interested. She will contact local nurseries for natives and then list them on socials. CISMA is going to do an exchange, native for removed invasive. She is meeting with Sara Peel for 319 implementation grant planning. Community Growers and invasive meetings are ongoing.

All Motions Passed without decent unless noted.

Consent Agenda. 1st Marc 2nd Dan

Treasurers Report; Marc 1st, Aron 2nd.

Old Business

Annual Meeting. \$225/hour for Stone Creek, 3 hours. Good speaker. Audio was weak on top of poor acoustics. New venue? Fusion? Project for Sam to investigate.

Job Descriptions: Need to go to ERPS Committee. Same as last meeting. Do we want to add a salary bump for #2 SWCD job. 31,100 now. Request and then they may approve. The cost of living increase each year is 2%. Dan 1st, Marc 2nd moved to approve job descriptions.

Business Plan: Nathan will sit down with the board to review. He needs 2 hours to explain to us. Rainy day or lunch good. A minimum of 3 of 5 supervisors needed. Review before meeting and bring ideas.

The IDEA annual conference for this year will be at French Lick resort and is being planned by our region (the South Northwest). Lali Hess will be speaking. Susannah Hinds will also be speaking. \$1000 contribution to the conference. Jordan 1st, Aron 2nd for support. Kristen will distribute.

New Business

Sue Lucas, Crawfordsville Main Street- talked about pear removal. We have an extra \$2000 coming in Monday from State as an experiment. They want to see how the extra \$ is being spent. At least one pear is in a spot that could be a rain garden. Many have been removed so far. Some are in ROW and property owners' responsibility. Some of those are not being properly pruned. The committee was established in 2017 and has planted 23 trees. Jordan 1st \$2000 leveraged by CMS if possible, 2nd Raoul.

Program Coordinator. Sam will do some fieldwork in his first few days. CWI funds are running out just in right time. His email will be programs@montgomerycoswcd.com

Board Officers. Currently Jordan Chair, Marc vice, Raoul Sec/Treas. New for 2023: Jordan, chair, Dan, vice and Raoul sec/treas. Kristen financial officer.

IASWCD awards are awarded at annual conference. 6 different awards available. MC has only been represented once in 2013- Earth team volunteer award. The District Showcase award might be an option to pursue. Application is due in July. Things we might use- the transferring of Program Coordinator to permanent position from grant, number of CRPs, 1st to do many, many things. "Bettering environment by our examples." We need to create a list of our achievements.

Kenny sent out CWI funding info. Coming up for funding deadline, crunch time, 4/15. 4.5 M dollars now asking for 9.6 million. Contact your legislators. Senators are waiting for constituents contacts. HB1001

July board meeting Kristen will be out of town. July 12th is the new date for now.

10:02 ajourned.

Minutes approved May 4, 2023

A. Rhoads
Jordan 1st
Dan Burkett

Raoul

Submitted by Kristen Latzke