

# Montgomery County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes

## Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8:00 am

### USDA Service Center Conference Room

In Attendance: Kristen Latzke, Sam Lovold, Raoul Moore, Jordan Gillenwater, Aron Rhoads

Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:25am.

#### Partnerships

From Kenny on 12/7- Meeting on Nov 27<sup>th</sup> of the State Soil Board. Planning session to ID ways to improve board certification programs. The primary purpose of SSB is to coordinate within the ICP partnership. They discussed how to envision the future of the SSB. House Bill 1639 watershed development commissions passed. Basically, gives broader ability for the development of watershed development commissions. Potential for formation of one for Sugar Creek. These commissions are governed by the Natural Resources Commission and DNR.

Raoul- Raoul has been asked to be on the woodland steward board to be a conduit to SWCDs. He will be drafting a letter to send out to the state SWCDs seeking input.

Kristen- The county is doing a compensation study on all county employees. This study will rewrite all the job descriptions in the county. A draft of these descriptions will be returned to us at a later date that we will review. Kay Sowder is retiring, and we will be hosting an open house for her on the 19<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. The Boone County SWCD board has eliminated the district coordinator position, now they only have a resource specialist position. There is potential for customers from Boone to approach us for assistance with things.

Consent Agenda- Raoul moved to approve with one typo correction (IFWA to IFWOA), Aron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

November Financial Report. Aron moved to approve. Raoul 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

#### Old Business

Board per diems and Reimbursements- County will have the board per diems out soon.

Annual Meeting 2024- Kenny suggested Tyler Hedge as a potential nominee for conservationist of the year. Need to determine a recipient by the next meeting. Stone Creek will once again be the meeting space. We are going to use their equipment and speaker system this year. We have a menu estimate from the Juniper Spoon.

IASWCD conference- We have registration and hotels booked for the conference for those that were interested. If anyone wants to go just for the awards luncheon, they can reach out to Kristen to find out more. We get one free ticket per award, one for showcase and one for Farmer of the Year. Raoul moved to approve a budget to send 4 Cain family members to the awards luncheon, Aron 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion approved.

Grants Update- Kristen submitted our last claim for the 319 grant. All the money has been spent; it will take a while for the rest of it to come through. Kristen will have a final report sent out. LARE grant is also almost done. The pollinator plot just needs seeded by the end of the year. It will be hand seeded. That will wrap up.

**New Business**

2024 Board Meeting Dates- We will continue with the first Thursday of the month with the exception of July since that would fall on July 4<sup>th</sup>. That meeting will be moved to the following Thursday- July 11<sup>th</sup>. All meetings will still start at 8AM in the USDA service center conference room.

Jordan motioned to adjourn meeting; Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 am

Minutes approved Jan 4, 2024

David Bullock  
Mark M  
Rachel Moore

J. P. Boade

Submitted by Kristen Latzke