

## Montgomery County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 1st, 2024, 8:00 am USDA Service Center Conference Room

In Attendance: Dave Stanley, George Reger, Joyce Grimble, Adam Beck, Raoul Moore, Jordan Gillenwater, Marc Roberts, Aron Rhoads, Kristen Latzke, Sam Lovold

Jordan called the meeting to order at 8:10am.

### Partnerships

Dave- CRP has opened back up. Dave will be working on those as soon as he receives them. EQIP contracts have been ranked. CSP will be rolling out in the next month. Both standard CSP and IRA CSP. This program incentivizes landowners and producers who are already managing their resources responsibly to improve upon what they are already doing. Can be used on traditional ag, non-traditional, and forestry land. NRCS would like to see land managed through EQIP to roll into CSP so that it can continue to be managed. Anyone who is interested can call or come in to see Dave.

George- ISDA Division of Soil Conservation Director has changed. Trevor Laureys left to go to DNR. Jennifer Thum starts on Monday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>. ISDA has been doing free soil sampling across the state. There was an overwhelming amount of people interested so they had to temporarily close, soil sampling will open back up later this month. Many sites have been pastures and hayfields. George has been working on that and paperwork and will be attending annual meetings in the counties he oversees.

Adam- Opening for vacant Program Technician position closed last Thursday. 13 applications in total with a handful of local ones. Will plan to have interviews next Thursday. FSA can also hire a temporary employee and will seek to fill that position as well. ARC/PLC is close to 60% complete, folks are filtering through to get them signed. CRP has opened back up nationwide. Roughly 90 individuals have signed up for new contracts. Payments are being issued out still for 2023 payments, once those are through then FSA will move on to the new contracts. ERP payments have become available and those who qualified will receive some additional funds. Facility loan rates have come down a bit for those interested in loans for grain bins, dryers, etc.

Kristen- Nothing to report on RCPP yet. Board will need to ponder match since TNC is leading this grant. If we want to apply for 319 the deadlines should be the same this year. Notice of intent due June 1st with final application due September 1st. Small edits to the application would be all that is necessary. Would also need updated letters of support. Kenny is the new Assistant Director for our region of IASWCD.

Consent Agenda- Marc moved and Aron seconded motion to approve. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report- Jordan motioned to transfer \$20,000 from Hoosier Heartland to TrustIN. Raoul seconded motion. Marc motioned to file treasurer's report as presented, Aron seconded. Motion approved.

### Old Business

Annual Meeting 2024- 50 folks have RSVP'd for the meeting so far. Jarrod Zachary was chosen for 2023 Conservationist of the Year. Maybe Morgan Smith for consideration in the near future.

**New Business**

Upcoming Bills- Our Canva (\$119.99), Rahm tech (\$302.40), and IDEA dues (\$50) are up. Canva is our graphic design program and Rohm tech is our virus protection software. Marc motioned to approve payment of those bills, Aron seconded. Motion approved.

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

Minutes approved March 7, 2024

David Buhil  
J. Miller  
Marc De

Ronald Moore

Submitted by Kristen Latzke