

# Montgomery County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes

## Thursday, December 5th 2024, 8:00 AM

### USDA Service Center Conference Room

In attendance: Raoul Moore, Daniel Bullerdick, Joyce Grimble, Jordan Gillenwater, Kenny Cain, Michael Hill, George Reger, Rachel Stine, Aron Rhoads, Sam Lovold, Lea Hickle

Jordan opened the meeting at 8:03 am

#### **Partnership reports**

Kenny- State soil board meeting last week of November. Talked about supervisor training and clean water Indiana. Discussed the difficulties with getting supervisors involved in the training put on by IASWCD.

George- ISDA is closing in on the end of the year. Soil sampling program will reopen back in the spring. Is a free sign up program for farmers of all types across the state. Pushed out a few waterways in the county this year. Tech team is at a low level of people right now which slows things down. George is here to help us as needed just let him know.

Sam- Grower's met last month and are planning to make a new connection in the community with Wabash's Latino Cultural Center. The women's learning circle was successful, attendees enjoyed themselves and learned more about soil health. We also came under budget thanks to the generous donation of space from the Cains.

**Consent agenda** Daniel moved to file, Raoul 2<sup>nd</sup>. Consent agenda approved to file as presented.

#### **Old Business**

IASWCD Conference – Jordan, Marc, and Sam are signed up and hotels booked for the annual conference. Jordan and Marc are signed up to be delegates at the business meeting as well. Will also forward message from IASWCD with the resolutions going toward the IASWCD this year for the board to familiarize themselves with before the annual meeting. We also need names for those interested in going to the legislative meet and greet on the last morning of the conference.

2025 Annual Meeting Planning – February 18<sup>th</sup>. Budget planning for the meeting is moving forward. We have identified a caterer, venue, and speaker. We have also identified a potential nominee for the Conservationist of the Year. Dave and one of us will go out and interview him at some point in the next month. Kenny suggested that we reach out and thank the county council for their support and invite them to our meeting. Lea will have a final budget to present at the next meeting.

CISMA Brickyard Project – Sam updates the board on his progress with this project. Parks and Rec decided that they would like to start with only planting one field, the 5-acre field. Sam has

provided a seed mixture that we plan on purchasing. Kenny Cain has generously offered to plant the seed. Sam would like to film the progress and use that video to promote on our social media and a sign that advertises our SWCD. As for the 10-acre field, Parks and Rec potentially wants to plant trees there. Lea reminds the group that we still have our \$20,000 CWI money. Sam requests a budget of \$5,000 of CWI money for the Brickyard Project. Raoul moves to approve the budget, Daniel 2<sup>nd</sup>. Budget approved.

319 Grant Feedback – We received feedback on our 319 grant. Jordan noted that a lot of the feedback minor, which suggested that there were no major issues with application. Kenny suggested we need a unifying target for our grant project going forward.

**New Business**


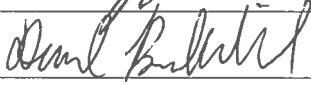

NACD Conference – Coming up February 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> in Salt Lake City. Lea has run the numbers, and it will run a bit pricier than the last one attended by us in Florida. Raoul motioned to approve \$5,000 for the trip, Aron 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

Internal SWCD Audit – Will schedule following the board meeting in February after the end of this year with Raoul and one other board member.

Upcoming Bills – Zoom (\$159.90) and Indiana Farm Bureau Membership Dues (~32.50) Daniel moved to pay the bills, Jordan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

Jordan adjourned the meeting at 9:07 am

Minutes approved 1/2/25, 2024

Submitted by Lea Hickie