

Montgomery County SWCD Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 6th, 2025, 8:00 AM
USDA Service Center Conference Room

Board Members

Jordan Gillenwater
Q1 2025 – Q1 2028
Elected

Daniel Bullerdick
Q1 2024 – Q1 2027
Elected

Raoul Moore
Q1 2023 – Q1 2026
Elected

Aron Rhoads
Q1 2024 – Q1 2027
Appointed by SSCB

Rachel Stine
Q1 2025 – Q1 2028
Appointed by SSCB

In attendance: Lea Dick, Sam Lovold, Raoul Moore, Jordan Gillenwater, Tricia Herr, Fawn Johnson, Daniel Bullerdick, Kenny Cain, Hanna Garriott, Michael Hill, Rachel Stine

Absent: Aron Rhoads

Jordan opened the meeting at 8:03 AM

Partnership reports

Tricia – Extension had their first invasive species class last evening at the library. 6 in attendance, with 2 more classes the next 2 Wednesday s at the library from 6-8pm. PARP season is here. There will be one at the extension office on November 21st and December 12th at the Beef House. At the 4H building on December 2nd there will be a seed starting workshop. Monica has a health and diabetes class starting at the beginning of the year.

Hanna – RITA is fully staffed now. The onboarding for the last two positions has happened and now RITAs cover the whole state. RITAs are still working.

Raoul – Annual meeting of Indiana Woodland Foresters Association was last weekend. Hosted some folks on his property to see a young forest stand.

Next Generation Leadership Institute was suggested as something we send up to 3 board members towards.

Kenny – SSB awarded over 1 million dollars to 14 applicants of 32 who applied. 10% of the CWI funds goes to CREP. State Soil Board has new members, Jeff Healy from Hendricks County, Chris Lee is also taking a position on the board.

Lea – Lea concluded with the IDEA Career Development Program in September. It was a great learning and networking opportunity. In the last session, she learned that meeting minutes must list which board members are present AND absent from the meeting. We will practice this going forward. She also learned that bank statements must include the front AND back of checks. She has made this change. Bank reconciliations must also be signed by the board. Going forward, bank reconciliations will be among the other documents that board members sign at the end of meetings.

Part of the end of year tasks will be employee evaluations. Lea will perform Sam's evaluation and report it to the board members in January in executive session. The board will need to perform Lea's employee evaluation in that executive session as well.

Fawn Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director, nominated the Brickyard Prairie Project for the Indiana Parks and Recreation Conservation award and we won! The award luncheon will be November 13th. Lea and Sam will attend, representing the District. Parks and Recreation has generously offered to pay for our luncheon tickets.

Our County Budget has been approved by the county and is now submitted to the State for approval.

District Apparel has arrived! Now, SWCD board and staff can wear their district tee shirts and hoodies to events.

Sam – Collaborated with USH to hold compost workshop in late September. Was well received and plan to hold another one in the early summer. USH will be rebranding and keeping on 3 staff members for their new focus on small farm soil health. Yesterday we held our quarterly CGMC meeting and began planning for next years events. A site visit request was made to test a small square of soil behind the Table Spoon.

Held Weed Wrangles in October with Wabash College at the Brickyard Park. 2 afternoons worth of work led to lots of honeysuckle removed from the park. Participated in Tricia's extension Invasives workshop, which will be Wednesdays this month at the library from 6pm-8pm.

Consent agenda Daniel moved to approve, Raoul 2nd. Motion carries.

Old Business

Election Committee – Originally the committee for this year was Daniel, Marc, and Kenny. Lea learned that associate board members cannot be on it, so Lea has replaced Kenny and Marc with Adam Beck and David Stanley. Raoul is the only board member who is up on their term for this year.

New Business

Revision of Internal Controls and Policy Manual – Lea has adapted internal controls from Monroe County for our own district. We did not have internal controls beforehand, only district policies. Lea has added a line in our policy for our CISMA fund to be the same as how we handle CGMC funds in the district bank account. The board decided to table the matter of approving these internal controls to next month's board meeting.

CISMA MOU – Raoul moved to approve, Daniel 2nd. Motion carried.

Brickyard Nature Park (Eco Logic Survey) – Sam, Lea, and Fawn have been collaborating on invasives removal in the Brickyard Nature Park. It was suggested that Parks and Soil and Water should approach the Roy Whistler Foundation to fund a contracted removal project. Sam, Lea, and Fawn met with Matt Fox of Ecologic and scheduled a site visit to form a quote for woody invasive species removal at the park. Sam and Lea walked the park with Matt and received a

quote. They will now fill out an application with the attached quote to the Roy Whistler Foundation in the next couple of weeks before their December 2nd meeting.

Annual Meeting Planning – It is that time of the year to begin annual meeting planning. The 2026 Annual Meeting will be February 17, 2026 (rain date will be February 19th). Lea will get quotes from venues Stone Creek Lodge and Hidden Hollow Farm and present them at the next month's meeting. Lea will get quotes from caterers Juniper Spoon and Swicks BBQ as well. We will begin looking for speakers and have a list to pick from at the next board meeting. Michael suggested looking towards some of our local community partners for sponsorship for our annual meeting. We will also be on the lookout for potential conservationists of the year.

Upcoming bills – Daniel moved to approve, Jordan 2nd, motion to pay bills as listed carried.

Jordan adjourned the meeting at 9:36 AM

Minutes approved December 4, 2025

Neil Wood
Paul Bellini
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Submitted by Lea Dick