



Monthly Board Meeting Minutes:

August 8, 2023

Bluestem Nature Center

PRESENT

Larry Kilmer, John Fielding, John Demerly, Steve Cosgray, Haley Shaw, Colette Zeigler-Staley, Courtney McFall

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 am by Larry Kilmer.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JULY 11, 2023

Motion: To approve the minutes of July 11, 2023 Board Meeting as circulated

Motion By: John Fielding

Seconded By: John Demerly

Motion Carried

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Claims Report approved subject to audit at a later date.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Benton County Support Letter

A Support Letter has been sent to Benton County to assist with their 319 Grant. Support will be an in-kind match of up to \$10,000 over 3 years.

Purdue Field Days

Staff attended two Purdue Field Days in July and provided a report of what they learned.

EEAI Conference

The cost of EEA Conference was presented. The itinerary will be provided at the next meeting before a decision is made.

IASWCD Summer Summit

NNW Summit will be on August 31st. District Administrator, Katelyn Smith, and Supervisor, John Fielding will be attending. Cost is \$25 a person.

2024 Annual Meeting

The speaker for the 2024 Annual Meeting is Pat Williams, Tippecanoe County ANR Educator. Topic and venue will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Part-Time Job Description

Reclassification form for the part-time job description is to be submitted at Council Meeting on August 21st.

Airport Project

First invoices have been sent for LARE grant. DNR stated SWCD will not be responsible for any funds.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Budget Hearing

SWCD is scheduled for County Budget Hearing on August 22nd.

Rafting Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for the 2023 RC&D Rafting Expedition next month.

Local Working Group/September Meeting

The September Board Meeting had to be moved due to the Rafting Event and is now scheduled for September 5th at 8 am. Local Working Group will follow the meeting starting at approximately 9 am.

Staff/Office Update

District Admin, Katelyn Smith, provided an update on what days she will be out of the office and upcoming events for the District.

NRCS Update

Haley Shaw, Acting District Conservationist, provided the monthly updates from NRCS. Report attached.

ISDA Update

District Support Specialist, Geneva Tyler, provided her update from ISDA. Report attached. Courtney McFall, new Resource Specialist, was in attendance and introduced herself to the Board.

Extension Update

No Extension Update was provided due to the County Extension position being open.

RC&D Update

July and August RC&D Update were provided by John Fielding and Katelyn Smith. Rafting and the RC&D Annual Meeting dates were given to the rest of the Board.

6. OTHER

Report for Commissioners/Council

Board would like to have a report of the events and programs SWCD is assisting with to better the county so it can be presented to the Commissioners and County Council when we have our hearings the end of the month.

Bluestem Nature Center Tour

A tour of the Bluestem Nature Center was given after the adjournment of the meeting. The Nature Center just opened this spring and is still a work in progress. SWCD donated money to assist with completion of the project in memory of Sharon Watson, previous District Administrator.

7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am.

Next meeting will be held:
September 5, 2023 at 8:00 am
USDA Service Center

Local Working Group:
September 5, 2023 at 9:00 am
USDA Service Center

X Larry Palmer

X J. D. Zilly