



MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1/14/2025

USDA

Board Members

Larry Kilmer

Chairman

John Fielding

Vice Chairman

John Demerly

Supervisor

Steve Cosgray

Supervisor

Rich Hines

Supervisor

Bruce Reynolds

Associate Supervisor

Staff

Katie Snowberger

District Administrator

PRESENT Larry, Steve, Penny, John D, Bruce, Cayci, Derek, Marty,
John F, Rich, Katie

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:07am by Larry

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion By: John F

Seconded By: Steve C

Motion Carried

3. STAFF & PARTNER REPORTS

Staff/Office Update

Katie gave her updates

NRCS Update

Derek was present and talked about the different programs he is currently working on.

ISDA Update

Geneva was not present but submitted an update

Extension Update

Marty was present and gave his updates and different dates for programs he has coming up. Handed out a handout of what is coming up.

RC&D Update

No update

Other Partners

Penny with Congressman Baird was present, no update.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting

Supplies for the meeting(pots for the center pieces), went through the list of what Oliver's provides for our meal. Two meats were selected Grilled chicken and beef brisket, two hot sides of corn casserole and loaded mashed potatoes and 1 cold item of a side salad. Drink will be include in the menu of tea, lemonade, and water.

Setting up the structure of the meeting but going through the script from the past years layout and discussed with the board about not needing to work on a ballot since we only had 1 person to be voted on. Hand vote is allowed, but Katie is going to bring note cards to cover if there is another person to be voted on.

We have a past list of mailing addresses, Katie is going to send the 143 mailing addresses to the board members for them go to through to help eliminate address that are no longer active. They are going to send replies back to give their advice. Marty is wanting to meet with Katie either this week or early next week to go over the addresses he has to help reach out to a larger group. Once the addresses have been updated, Katie is going to update it to Vista Print to send out the invite to all addresses and also the membership affiliate post card also. Katie also provided the board with the proof of what the annual meeting invite would look like and they approved the post card. Needing to invite Tri County Soils Team and talk to Oaklawn teacher about

Motion: To allow Katie to purchase supplies for the annual meeting.

Motion By: Steve

Seconded By: John D

Motion Carried

Tree City

Was not able to have a meeting with Mitch about Tree City last week due to an illness. Katie let the board know that Ethan was able to create some rough logos for Tree City. Katie is going to email them to the board to get their thoughts on the logos. Rich wanted Katie to check with different sign makers to see if there is going to be any regulations that will need to be followed so we can remake it for other Tree Cities that can we worked later on. Rich also wanted to make sure we are staying on track to be ready for Arbor Day planting and sign display.

IASWCD Conference

Katie let John F know that everything is set up for the conference. The rooms have been booked for the conference for Monday night at the Westin. And there wasn't any other updates for the conference

NEW BUSINESS

RC&D Grant

Katie wanted to present to the board the idea of using the grant to help cover the expenses of the project Lil Farmer where SWCD will have a small section that will be a display or set up. Katie is going to work with Marty on writing up a grant and trying to figure out what the cost will be. The thought will be to use a portion of the grant to pay for some since we are unsure of our cost and don't want to seem greedy on our amount. Other ideas for help with funding is to check with the community foundation where they help with groups in the community. Also need to check with CWREMC for the grant they have. Katie will dig more into grants once we get a better idea of what the cost will be.

QuickBooks

Katie presented the board with a comparison of what the current QuickBooks covers now and what the lower levels offer. This is being brought up because the special rate of \$50 has expired and the current rate with the same level is now \$235. Katie had mentioned to the board that upon looking over what we use now and we are not using everything the current level offers and Katie doesn't see the need to continue at this level as we will not be using as she sees. Requested a motion to be able to decided what was needing to be done.

Motion: For Katie to review the QuickBooks levels and make the decision on what level we should move too for our QuickBooks online.

Motion By: Steve

Seconded By: Rich

Motion Carried

5. OTHER

Plat Books

Don with Mapping Solutions reached back out to Katie to discuss working on plat books. Katie mentioned talking to Don about what the lead time would be for the books and she was told 6months. So plat books would not be able to ready for March meeting. It was discussed how many plat books we would want to purchase since we do have a few left over from 2023. What has been purchased in the past has been 50 at a time. Purchasing more was

brought up, thinking maybe we start with 75 books to maybe get us through more time and not over buy them.

Motion: To order 50 plat books for 2025 but if mapping solutions allows more to purchase 75 books.

Motion By: Rich

Seconded By: John D

Motion Carried

Wabash Watershed

Larry talked to Seth about what he is planning on discussing at the annual meeting. Larry wanted to check with the board to see if they would like him to have Seth come to our next board meeting so he can discuss more with us than he will be able to talk at the annual meeting as not everything will be public till April which is after our annual meeting. Question that the board is wanting to verify with Seth is what is going to be the workload on our local office with the watershed. The main point of the watershed is about the sediment going into the lakes. Larry is going to reach out to Seth with the invite to our Feb 11th meeting.

Plan Committee

Rich presented the board with a opportunity for Soil and Water to be represented at area plan committee to be able to present their opinions. White County is doing a new master plan on zoning. Rich volunteered to represent SW on the committee unless someone else would like to be the rep. He is going to write up a recommendation letter for Larry to send to Jenilynne Kybutz.

Motion: For Rich to be the representative for White County Soil and Water on the plan committee.

Motion By: steve

Seconded By: John F

Motion Carried

Ag Day

A motion was requested to get an idea of how much Katie would be able to spend on swag fillers such as papers, bookmarks, pencils ect. This was tabled until Katie hears back from Cass County SWCD to get a better idea of what it could cost and where she was able to get her items from for their ag day.

6. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:37am.

Next meeting will be held on:

2/11/25

Time:8:00am

USDA Office