



MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
White County Extension Office  
December 9, 2025

**Board Members**

**John Fielding**

*Chairman*

**Rich Hines**

*Vice Chairman*

**John Demerly**

*Supervisor*

**Steve Cosgray**

*Supervisor*

**Larry Kilmer**

*Supervisor*

**Bruce Reynolds**

*Associate Supervisor*

**Staff**

**Katie Snowberger**

*District Administrator*

**PRESENT John F, John D. Marty H, Rich H, Katie S. Steve C.,  
Larry K. Courtney, Penny Titus, Phil H. Derek**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:59 am by John F

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**Motion By:** Rich

**Seconded By:** Larry

**Motion Carried**

**3. STAFF & PARTNER REPORTS**

*Staff/Office Update*

Katie gave her update and let the board know she will be taking vacation from Dec 26 through Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also had discussion about a Trust Indiana Fund. Penny is going to send Katie the information so she can look into it.

*NRCS Update*

Derek is back in the office. Wrapping up 2025 CSP Payments and has 14 EQIP and 12 CSP Contracts.

*ISDA Update*

Geneva didn't have an update. Courtney has a cover crop program through ISDA that was expanded out there for farmers to take advantage of more funding. Giving a discount of insurance for planting cover crops up to 750 acres. 5 dollars per acre. That was planted in the fall already to be eligible for it. Not eligible if you have EQIP for cover crops already.

*Extension Update*

Had their Annual meeting Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, it was the largest crowd they have had in a while. Has a few parp programs left for the month of December. Marty finished up their Farm Taxes program. Working on Grain Marketing Navigator. On Jan 6<sup>th</sup> he is having Weed and Disease Mgmt. Jan 12<sup>th</sup> is Corn and Soy Workshop that will also help qualify for PARP points. Working on a winter program Code Red was a favorite program selected by the attendees of the meetings in the previous months. Marty mentioned wanting to try to work on a project/event together with SWCD. Idea was to sponsor the meals that are put on at the events to help promote SWCD and get our faces out there.

#### *RC&D Update*

Regional Envirothon is open for signing up. March 11 and the State Envirothon is April 29<sup>th</sup>. The RCD meeting was on November 18; John F could not attend the Zoom call.

#### *Other Partners*

Penny T. announced that the president released 12million to farmers for help. They will start back on working on the farm bill first of the new year.

Phil H introduced himself to the group.

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS

##### *Annual Meeting*

The Historical Society emailed resources from new clippings from 1951 and 1952. Those were the only years that were easy to find information on. Katie is going to reach out to Grant to see if he would be willing to come to our annual meeting to give a presentation on Native American history in White County area. Need to see if Grant is going to want payment for attending since it is a drive for him. Katie needs to work on getting the Friends of Conservation Award started with Tom Walter like last year. Needs to invite the Mayor and Mitch.

**Motion: To cover the cost of up to \$200.00 for the cost of travel to the annual meeting.**

**Motion By: Rich**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: John D**

##### *Business Plan*

Plan meeting is Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at the extension office. Will have donuts and coffee available. Geneva is planning on being there depending on the weather coming in. Meeting to make sure we have a clear objective of how we want to run as a group.

##### *SBOA FINANCIAL AUDIT*

Katie finished sending the information that was requested by the auditor. She wants to make sure we have internal controls policies that are signed and from 2021 when we started up on internal controls. Katie asked the board if there was training for her to take for internal controls training. The board remembers taking something through the county might have been an online 30min video. Penny said when she was in Carroll County she had to watch it; it was sent from the HR Dept when she watched it. Katie is waiting for the auditor to contact to see if there is any other information that needs to be submitted. She let them know the cost of having an audit ran and is hoping that it won't be as expensive as it could be since it will be 950.00 per day that we are in the process. They are very understanding about how much time it has been taking to find the information because of being on shut down and being from the past before she started. Cash sales have been the hardest to find because if items are cash sales, we write a receipt but when you deposit the amount it's hard to see what amount the cash and deposit was separately. She is hopeful that was all they needed and will be able to get the exit interview finishing up. The board wanted to know if we could get a community email going so that if anything happens to Katie there will be a way for emails to keep going to the group and not miss because of not

getting transferred to a new person's email. Katie said she will check with the IT dept to see if that is something we can do.

#### *Prime Farm Ground Ordinance*

Courtney was able to give more information about the prime farmland map she sent over to be presented to the board. She was able to get the NRCS soils map that gives the classification from USDA if it is labeled as prime farmland. She was able to make a map to show them what prime farmland is in the county. There is another paper that shows statewide importance. Rich mentioned there is consideration that will come out of the master plan in white county to preserve prime farmland in the county. We don't make the policy but will be giving opinion if asked about the issue of what land is important to keep as farmland. What percentage of our prime farmland should be used as development?

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### *Uniform Budget*

Katie wanted to discuss with the board about getting the SWCD logo onto shirts that she already has on hand from her previous job. The polos she has are not for everyday use but more for events. She was going to help cut the cost of getting the shirts to just use hers and add a logo. The board is happy to allow that. Rich wanted to know if she had reached out to any shops yet. She hadn't. Rich isn't happy with the current logo we have because it isn't a distinguishing logo that sticks out as who we are. Rich would like to reach out to a professional developer for a new logo.

#### *Arrowhead Country Grant*

Katie presented the grant information that is due Jan 31<sup>st</sup> to the group and wanted to know if there was any project they would like to start and funding for. As of right now the board isn't sure of any project they are wanting to start. Katie did say we still have a little funding from the last grant to use and she will be using that this spring to purchase more native plants for the garden at the fairgrounds.

### **6. OTHER**

Larry wanted to make sure everyone was aware of what we would need to do to get information transferred from him to John F. For the banking account Katie will need to get a letter written on letterhead paper to let the Bank of Wolcott know that Larry will be removed from the account and John F will be added onto the account in his place. This will

be sent over to the bank for their board to review and approve. The letter will need to be signed by the new chairperson (John F) The supervisors have approved a name off and another name added.

Katie presented to the board about getting free seed packets over cover crops. This was something we could hand out. They are due by 12/23. There are a few other locations that have used this, but they have not been able to get rid of them quickly.

**7. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:51am.

Next meeting will be held on:

1/13/2026

Time: 8:00am

USDA