

August 7, 2018

WHITE COUNTY SWCD SUPERVISORS MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Larry Kilmer at 8:00 a.m.

Also present were John Demerly, David Lachmund, John Fielding, Andrew Westfall, Sara Schellenberger, Sharon Watson and Mark Wright. Absent: Bruce Reynolds, Jaylen Hunt

Visiting: Ben Eaton and George Reger, ISDA employees. Introductions were made. George Reger, ISDA Team Leader for the Northwest Resource Specialist introduced Ben Eaton, the new Resource Specialist for the Northwest located in Lake County.

Minutes: The minutes from the July meeting stand approved as received. (John D/David)

Treasure's Report: Treasure's report for July was reviewed and approved subject to audit at a later date.

Claims: Approved. (David/John F)

Old Business:

CWI Grant 2019: Due Sept. 14. We will work with Starke and Pulaski Counties on a Pollinator Grant Project. We will ask for \$18,000 for the 3-year grant split between the 3 counties. Pulaski County will be the lead district. We will cost share with participants for an acre or less not to exceed \$500 per practice and will require certified seed per NRCS guidelines. Mark will have the grant wrote for the board to review by the end of the week. (John F/David)

Soil Health Workshop: The all-day workshop will be held on Dec. 6, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Flora Community Building in Carroll County. Registration fliers were distributed to board members. There be a limited number of participants so need to get registration in ASAP.

Women's Learning Circle: August 23, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Oxford. Invitations have been sent.

Other: John D shared photos of the Tri-County Middle School raised garden bed project that we help to fund with our Outdoor Education Grant. The project was well done and very successful.

New Business:

NRCS: Report is attached.

ISDA Update: Ben, our new Resource Specialist, offered his assistance with any programs in the future. Jordan Seger has been promoted to Deputy Director of the Department of Ag. A replacement for him will be appointed sometime soon.

Extension Update: Andrew shared several workshop and field day dates. The Ag Econ Report is out, and the August addition includes the cash rent survey. Annual Ag Outlook Breakfast is scheduled for Sept. 14. Master Gardener class will start the first week of Sept. The Ag Association post-fair public meeting will be Aug. 21. The Organic Field day was a success with approximately 170 in attendance.

Budget Hearing: Due to hearing being at 9:00 at the courthouse, we adjourned at 8:45 and continued the meeting when we returned. Meeting resumed at 9:30 a.m.

RC&D Update: The Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM) group has partnered with the RC&D to hire a Regional Specialist to set up management areas in the 10 RC&D counties over the next 3 years. The RC&D has pledged support of \$15,000 per year for 3 years. To help fund this position the SICIM group has also requested each of the 10 county Districts participate in a CWI Grant request with each pledging \$500 a year for 3 years to help fund this position. Each District will need to submit a letter of support if they plan to participate. The board signed the letter and pledged \$500 a year for 3 years. (John D/David)

John F also made a motion that White County will volunteer to serve as the lead for this grant. John D made the second and motion carried.

Office Manager/Education Activities: Report is attached.

Office Assistant/Technician Activities: Report is attached.

Partnership MOU: A draft MOU between NRCS, FSA, SCB, ISDA, Purdue Extension, and the White County District Board was sent to the board via email before this meeting for review. No change recommendations were made.

Supervisor Region Mtg: Aug. 30, at Fair Oaks. Flyer and letter from Region Director distributed. Board was encouraged to attend.

Local Working Group: Meeting needs to be conducted before Nov. 2.

Other: Due to rafting program being held during our next regularly scheduled meeting, the board decided to reschedule the meeting for Friday, Sept. 7, 8 a.m. followed by the Local Working Group meeting.

Adjourn: 10:55 a.m.

Next board meeting will be Friday, September 7, 2018, at 8 a.m. Followed by Local Working Group Meeting

Larry Kilmer, Chair

David Lachmund, Secretary