

DEKALB COUNTY SWCD
Minutes from January 20, 2022 Board Meeting

Supervisors:

Sarah Delbecq, Chair
Jeff Conrad, Vice Chair
Steve Provines, Supervisor
Steve Watson, Supervisor
Judy Strock, Supervisor
Justin Hoover, Associate Supervisor
Cody Burniston, Associate Supervisor

SWCD:

Nellie Peffley
Julie Knudson
Bill Ward
Cameron Bell

NRCS:

Derek Thompson

Absent:

Kate Sanders, ISDA

Chair Sarah Delbecq called the January 20, 2022 board meeting to order at 7:00p.m

DISTRICT BUSINESS

- **Minutes:** Chair Sarah Delbecq asked if there were any additions or corrections to the December 2021 minutes that had been provided to the board members. Jeff Conrad moved to approve the December 16, 2021 minutes as written. Steve Provines seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Financial Report:** Sarah Delbecq asked for approval of claims 8569-8580 and deposit D699. The board reviewed all claims and deposits. No corrections were made. Jeff Conrad moved to approve claims 8569 through 8580 and deposit 699 as presented. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Audit:** Nellie reported she was informed by SBOA that the original invoice will be reduced by \$430 for a total of \$1718.00. SBOA reduced the number of days worked from 9.16 to 7 days, however would not be able to itemize the time line. Nellie informed SBOA payment will be made when a new corrected invoice is received.
- **Construction Storm Water General Permit (CSGP) Review Fee:** Nellie and Cameron attended a County Commissioners meeting to explain the CSGP review fee and ask for approval to move forward. The Commissioners discussed the request, asked questions and approved the fee structure presented.
- **IASWCD Annual Conference:** Nellie reported the staff along with supervisor Steve Watson and Sarah Delbecq will be attending the annual conference January 23-25, 2022. Nellie, staff and Steve Watson will leave from the office at 2:00pm Sunday. Sarah Delbecq will travel to Indianapolis on Monday morning.
- **District Tree Sale:** Nellie reported Associate Supervisor Justin Hoover was able to obtain a \$1000 donation from New Millennium to help purchase trees for the sale. The trees will be 3-4 feet and in 3 gallon buckets. The board discussed what price to sell the trees for. It was decided to charge \$20 per tree and limit to one tree species per household. Names will be taken for those interested in purchasing more than one and will be contacted if any trees are left after the sale is over. The tree sale is scheduled for April 30th in conjunction with the Auburn Parks and Rec tree giveaway.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Plan of Work:** Nellie had copies of the 2022 Plan of Work for the board to review. She asked they look it over and let her know if anything needs to be added.
- **Invasive Species Program:** Nellie reported the district was contacted by Elysia Rodgers from DeKalb Extension about working together on an Invasive Species Program. The program would consist of 4 sessions in the spring and 4 in the fall. They would be presented on a weekly basis either on a Monday

or Tuesday beginning the last week of March. There would be a cost of \$10 for the 4 sessions. Nellie will keep the board updated when more details are finalized.

- **District Cost Share Program (DCSP):** Nellie reported there are two requests for payment. They are Eckhart Library for an invasive tree removal and M. Sapp for a septic replacement. The board reviewed the files. Jeff Conrad made a motion to approve payment of \$225 to Eckhart Library and \$2500 to M. Sapp from District Cost Share Program funds. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Nellie presented one application for septic replacement from D. Hagar for participation approval. The board reviewed the application along with paperwork from the Health Dept. Jeff Conrad made a motion to approve D. Hagar's application for participation in the District Cost Share Program for septic replacement. Steve Provines seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

- **Cedar Creek Collaboration:** Nellie updated the board on the CC Collaboration group. The final report is done. Since it is such a large document the report can be found on the "board portal" website for the board to review. Nellie noted she feels the group has run its course as it is hard to get everyone together and get them active. She asked the board to look at the report and let her know what they think. She will bring back for discussion at a later date.
- **LARE:** Nellie reported she has applied for a Cedar Creek Construction LARE Grant. This is the next step from the Cedar Creek Design LARE Grant. This grant will cover \$100,000 towards the stabilization and construction of the creek. The grant was written with cooperation of the City of Auburn and County Commissioners. Nellie was informed by the grant administrators at DNR they have until May to figure out where the balance of the project will come from.
- **Finance:**
 - **IDEA membership** dues continues to be \$25/person. Nellie asked the board for approval to pay for all 4 staff members. Jeff Conrad moved to pay \$100 IDEA membership dues for all staff members. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
 - **Purdue U. Storm Water Drainage Conference** registration is \$125/person. Nellie asked the board to approve 3 staff members attend the conference and pay the registration fee for all three. Since the conference begins at 7:30am on February 10th she also asked for lodging and travel expenses. Jeff Conrad moved to pay the registration of \$125/person for Nellie Peffley, Cameron Bell and Bill Ward for the Purdue U. Storm Water Drainage Conference February 10, 2022 along with lodging and all travel expenses. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
 - **NE Indiana Grazing Conference** is held in LaGrange County this year on Friday February 4th. Nellie asked the board for approval to pay the \$35/person for 3 staff to attend. Jeff Conrad moved to approve payment of \$35/person registration for Nellie Peffley, Cameron Bell and Bill Ward attend the NE Indiana Grazing Conference on February 4. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
 - **Depository approval:** Nellie asked the board to approve using The Hicksville Bank as the District's depository. Jeff Conrad moved to approve The Hicksville Bank as the DeKalb County SWCD's depository. Steve Watson seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Nellie also asked the board if they had reviewed the Annual Financial Report (AFR) submitted for their approval. Chairwoman Sarah Delbecq asked that the AFR be brought to the budget retreat for further review.
- **Indiana Master Farmer Award:** Nellie had a copy of the letter for nominating the award. She asked the board to look it over and let her know of any edits.
- **Equipment: Drill-** The board discussed the possibility of selling the drill the district now owns and purchasing a smaller one. Bill Ward received 3 quotes for a smaller drill. The board discussed the 3 options. No decisions were made and tabled for the time being.

OTHER UPDATES:

- **NRCS update: Derek Thompson, District Conservationist:**
 - **NRCS Deadlines** are past now working on program changes.
- **ISDA update: Kate Sanders, Resource Specialist:** absent

OTHER ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

- No other business was presented.

NEXT MEETING:

- Board Retreat: January 28, 2022 @ 10:00am-2:00pm (Rieke Park Lodge)
- Thursday February 17, 2022 @ 7:00pm (DeKalb County Annex Conference Room)

Jeff Conrad moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Watson seconded. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Chairman: Sarah Delbecq _____

Judy Strock _____

Jeff Conrad _____

Steve Provines _____

Steve Watson _____

Recorder _____

Date: _____