

DEKALB COUNTY SWCD
Minutes from July 19, 2023 Board Meeting

Supervisors:

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

SWCD:

Nellie Peffley, District Director
Julie Knudson, District Coordinator
Cameron Straw, Resource Technician
Bill Ward, Conservation Technician

NRCS:

Derek Thompson

Absent:

Kate Sanders, ISDA

Chair Sarah Delbecq called the July 19, 2023 board meeting to order at 8:04am.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- **Minutes:** Sarah Delbecq asked if there were any additions or corrections to the June 2023 minutes that had been provided to the board members. No additions or corrections were made. Justin Hoover moved to approve the June 19, 2023 minutes as written. Steve Provines seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Financial Report:** Sarah Delbecq asked for approval of June claims 8782-8792 and deposits D787-D789. The board reviewed all claims and deposits. No corrections were made. Steve Provines moved to approve claims 8782 through 8792 and deposits D787-D789 as presented. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **LARE:** Nellie reported the two bids received were rejected by the Commissioners due to the cost and proposed changes. They will petition for bids again in the fall after the Maumee River Basin board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Financial:**
 - **Signatory for Checks:** Nellie requested she be added to the signatory card for checks. At this time Julie Knudson is the only person on the card allowed to sign bank checks. Having Nellie on the card would help with writing checks when or if Julie Knudson is absent for a significant period of time. The board discussed the request. Justin Hoover made a motion to approve adding Nellie Peffley to the bank signatory card for checks. Judy Strock seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Women Learning Circle:** Nellie reported she met with the Maumee Watershed Alliance (MWA). They were asking if the district would be interested in partnering with them and Steuben County SWCD in holding a Women Learning Circle on September 21st. The MWA would provide the funds and marketing of the event, just asking for support. They are currently looking for a venue. The board agreed to support the event.
- **Agronomy Field Day:** Nellie reported the field day is scheduled for August 2nd at The Andersons. There will not be any tents this year as all presentations will be in the warehouse. Nellie is working with CCSI on securing \$500 for the event. Steuben County SWCD has also committed \$500 towards the field day.
- **Save the Lake Luncheon:** Nellie had a flyer for the event to be held on July 27th. She asked if anyone is interested to let her know. Cody Burniston is interested in attending.
- **Open Discussion:** Nellie asked for ideas on projects/programs...

- **Invasives:** Sarah Delbecq mentioned an education event would be beneficial for those who do not know what invasives they may have on their property. A discussion was held on the problem of finding someone to actually do the labor in removing invasives. Justin Hoover suggested acquiring a grant to help pay FFA students studying crop management to do the labor.
- **Native Plants:** discussed holding a workshop on native plants in conjunction with the native plant sale.
- **Hague Nature Area:** Judy Strock suggested using Hague Nature Area for education on invasives and native plants.
- **Wood-Land-Lakes:** Jeff Conrad reported WLL will be holding an information meeting on August 10th 10am-11:30am at the Ligonier library. The meeting will be on what the group is about.
- **Well Capping Workshop:** Steve Provines reported the contractor has contacted him and is good for the September 20th workshop.
- **Cedar Creek Cleanup:** Nellie reminded the board the clean up will take place on August 26th. Other agencies/groups will have booths set up for the day.

NRCS Update: Derek Thompson, DC

- CSP and EQIP are wrapping up.
- CRP in good shape thanks to Bill Ward and Kate Sanders.
- IRA funds have been received...not sure how that will affect programs.
- Still looking to fill State Conservationist position.

ISDA Update: Kate Sanders, RS absent.

- Nellie reported for Kate Sanders the NE Summer Summit is scheduled for September 7th 6pm-8pm at ParGil Learning Center in LaGrange. Nellie will send a flyer when available and to let her know if anyone is interested in attending.

NEXT MEETING:

- Monday August 21, 2023 @ 8:00am

Jeff Conrad moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy Strock seconded. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:43am.

Chairman: Sarah Delbecq _____

Judy Strock _____

Jeff Conrad _____

Steve Provines _____

Justin Hoover _____

Recorder _____

Date: _____