

DEKALB COUNTY SWCD
Minutes from March 15, 2022 Board Meeting

Supervisors:

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

ISDA:

Kate Sanders, RS

SWCD:

Nellie Peffley
Julie Knudson
Bill Ward
Cameron Bell

NRCS:

Derek Thompson

Absent:

Cody Burniston, Associate Supervisor

Chair Sarah Delbecq called the March 15, 2022 board meeting to order at 6:11 p.m

DISTRICT BUSINESS

- **Minutes:** Chair Sarah Delbecq asked if there were any additions or corrections to the February 2022 minutes that had been provided to the board members. Jeff Conrad moved to approve the February 17, 2022 minutes as written. Steve Provines seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.
- **Financial Report:** Sarah Delbecq asked for approval of claims 8586-8601 and deposits D702-D705. The board reviewed all claims and deposits. No corrections were made. Jeff Conrad moved to approve claims 8596 through 8601 and deposits D702-D705 as presented. Steve Watson seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Doc Coleman Landing:** Nellie informed the board she had attended a County Commissioners meeting to keep them updated on the pollinator plot and plans.
- **DCSP/Donation Letter:** Nellie asked the board if they had reviewed the draft letter asking for donations from local businesses. The board had reviewed and approved the letter. They advised the letter be sent right away.

NEW BUSINESS

- **DCSP:** Nellie presented an application from J. Canino representing Auburn Conservation Team for native tree planting. The planting would replace invasives that are being taken down in a City of Auburn park. The Auburn Parks Department has approved the planting and a letter stating such was attached to the application. Jeff Conrad moved to approve the application from J. Canino for participation in the District Cost Share Program. Steve Watson seconded. A discussion occurred where S. Provines and J. Strock were concerned about setting a precedent using DCSP funds for public lands instead of private individuals. After much discussion, Chair Sarah Delbecq asked for a vote. The vote was 4 nay 1 abstained. Motion dies due to lack of votes. The application from J. Canino on behalf of the Auburn Conservation Team was denied participation.
- **Finance:**
 - **Budget:** Nellie informed the board they will be receiving a budget breakdown each month. The budget report will be included with the minutes packet they receive monthly.
- **Backyard Conservation:** Nellie informed the board the staff would like to hold a composting basics workshop in August. She said there have been a few requests from the public for a workshop on composting. Nellie asked the board for approval to host a workshop and if they have any ideas on speakers, etc. to let her know. The board discussed the request for a composting workshop and approved to host. It was suggested to contact NE Solid Waste Management.

- **Drill:** Nellie and Bill Ward asked the board for approval to limit the use of the District's no-till drill to DeKalb only. Bill stated transporting the drill out of the county takes a toll on the drill and especially the tires. Also, with the gas prices on the rise it will become more costly. The board discussed the request and agreed to limit the use of the drill to DeKalb County only.
- **Supervisor Oath:** Since Judy Strock was not able to attend the annual meeting however was in attendance at the board meeting. Elected supervisor and Chair Sarah Delbecq performed the Oath of Office to newly elected Supervisor Judy Strock.
- **Election of Officers:** The election of officers took place. Jeff Conrad nominated Sarah Delbecq as Chair, Judy Strock as Vice Chair and Julie Knudson as Fiscal Officer. Steve Provines seconded the nominations. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Jeff Conrad moved to close the nominations. Steve Watson seconded. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. The board of supervisors officers for 2022 are as follows:
 - **Chairperson: Sarah Delbecq**
 - **Vice Chair: Judy Strock**
 - **Fiscal Officer: Julie Knudson**

OTHER UPDATES:

- **NRCS update: Derek Thompson, District Conservationist:**
 - Derek reported he has received approximately 48 EQIP applications with 29 funded so far. The final submission date for applications is Friday March 18.
- **ISDA update: Kate Sanders, Resource Specialist:**
 - Kate reported Sandra Hoffarth has been hired as the Northern Indiana District Support Specialist.

OTHER ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

- No other business was presented.

NEXT MEETING:

- Thursday April 21, 2022 @7:00pm

Jeff Conrad moved to adjourn the meeting. Judy Strock seconded. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.

Chairman: Sarah Delbecq _____

Judy Strock _____

Jeff Conrad _____

Steve Provines _____

Steve Watson _____

Recorder _____

Date: _____