

ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2020

Present: Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, Dean Rink, Darrell Shover*; Staff: *Jim Hess, Lora Atkins, Todd Clark, Jenna Wait*; Associates: *Keith Miller*; ISDA Support Specialist: *Heath Hurst*; Elkhart County Surveyor: *Phil Barker*.

Absent: Supervisors: Dale Leer; Associates: David Bontrager, Joe Brown, Brian Campbell, Gary Kaufman; NRCS: Kris Green (Acting); Purdue Extension: Jeff Burbrink, Robert Kelly; ISDA District Support Specialist: Jennifer Thum.

The board meeting was called to order by Tom Kercher at 5:35 pm.

The July 20, 2020 board meeting minutes were approved on a motion by *Rink/Wait*

Agency Reports:

NRCS: (Talking Points – Kris Green was unable to attend)

-Unsolicited seeds should be shipped to USDA APHIS PPQ in a sealed container

-USDA office in Goshen is still in Phase 1 re-opening status which means we're still closed to the public for the time being. USDA staff can meet clients outside of the office as long as mask and social distancing rules are followed.

-Other than that, we're wrapping up planning for the approved EQIP applications and starting site visits and planning for CRP.

ISDA:

2021 CWI Grant deadline is Sept 11. We are working on a District Showcase deadline is Aug 28. Summer Staff & Supervisor Training Workshops August 25/September 1/September 8.

County Surveyor:

It is budget season he has doubled his budget, part of it is SWAMP and he is wanting to purchase a LIDAR drone to make it easier to make maps.

District Business:

*Stormwater Education Equipment: Camera, wireless mic, phone mount, carrying case, screen protectors, usb port, microscope. Board approved up to \$650 Shover/Rink

*2020 Plat Books: The board approved the plat books to be printed, we are also asking for a digital copy. Wait/Shover

*2020 IMN Class: We are moving forward with our IMN class, we have 14-15 signed up as of now the class will run from Sept 8 through Oct 1. We will be practicing social distancing, stay at least 6' away from each other and wearing face masks, and all classes will be in an Elkhart County park.

*Rule 5 Updates: Todd is 100% caught up. He has 7 outstanding in the City of Elkhart. 3 outstanding in the City of Goshen. 1 outstanding in Elkhart County.

*SWAMP Projects and Updates: Jim has quite a few applications out, Lora has also given out a few and has received a few back in the office.

*Summer Interns: Today was Tanner Demien’s last day, and Friday will be Brandi Henderson’s last day they have been a big help this summer as they have helped us start to move the office, they will be missed.

District Business:

~Dates to Remember~

IASWCD Annual Conference January 11-12, 2021 - Westin, Hotel - Indianapolis, IN – *Now Virtual*

NACD Annual Meeting February 6-10, 2021 - New Orleans, LA

Financial Business:

The vehicle log was signed.

The rubber stamp was not used.

The monthly financial reports, claims and budgets were approved on a motion by *Shover/Rink*

Claims for the following were signed:

IASWCD (\$2000.00 – 2020 IASWCD Dues); Deborah Richards (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund); Cindy Hartzler-Miller (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund); Margaret Moor (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund); Becky Boston (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund); Charli Hurley (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund); INterra Credit Union County/District (\$619.75-Ed Supplies/Office Supplies/Vehicle Repair/IMN Books); Bob Webb (\$175.00-2020 IMN Class Registration-Refund-*He returned the check to us since his plans changed so now he can attend the class*).

The board meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM *Rink/Wait*

**Next Board Meeting: September 21, 2020 - 5:30 pm at the New SWCD Office,
59358 County Rd 7 Elkhart, IN 46517**

**SWCD Board Chairman
Tom Kercher**

**SWCD Board Vice Chairman
Alex Wait**

**SWCD Board Member
Dale Leer**

**SWCD Board Member
Dean Rink**

**SWCD Board Member
Darrell Shover**

**Recording Secretary
Lora Atkins**