

ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2022

Present: Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, Dale Leer, Dean Rink, Darrell Shover*; Staff: *Jim Hess, Lora Atkins, Todd Clark, Jenna Wait*; Associates: *Keith Miller*.

Absent: Associates: David Bontrager, Joe Brown, Brian Campbell, Gary Kaufman; Purdue Extension: Jeff Burbrink, Robert Kelly; NRCS: Wes Krug, Elkhart County Surveyor: Phil Barker.

The board meeting was called to order by Tom Kercher at 5:30 pm.

The December 20, 2021 board meeting minutes was approved on a motion by *Leer/Wait*

Agency Reports:

NRCS:

EQIP Application deadline was 12/17/2021

Most of new applications are within the categories of Nutrient Manure Management and Manure Storage Facility Closures.

EQIP CIC is a new program designed to be a 5 year plan. Limited to Nutrient Management Cover Crops and etc. Million dollars funded in this program for the whole state. January 21st is the deadline for this.

Forestry Technical assistance has been delayed for the past 4 months but through some emails and discussions IDNR is now catching up to the workload that has been requested.

2,296 acers of cover crop where paid for through EQIP and CSP

4 CSP Renewals were approved this year

CSP applications need to be submitted by January 28th.

ISDA:

Not in attendance

County Surveyor:

Not in attendance

Extension:

Not in attendance

District Business:

*Annual Meeting Info: "Farm Babe" Michelle Miller will be our speaker, the menu has been decided. Conservation Farmer of the Year – Mark Brookins; River Friendly Farmer of the Year – Woodsbrook Farms; Urban Conservationist of the Year – Panzica Building Corp – Greg Jones; Educator of the Year – Elkhart Environmental Center – Jeff Zavatsky, we just need to pick a Friend of the SWCD.

*Tree Sale Update: We now have 99 orders in as of today with over \$7,800 in sales.

*Winter Cover Crop Workshop: "Capture the Credits" on March 16, 2022 10 am – 4 pm with lunch served \$10 at the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds.

*Rule 5 Updates: Construction Stormwater General Permit – Todd started the process of what is inspected with Mark Lucas (City of Elkhart) & Mattie Lehman (City of Goshen) for PermiTracks.

*Education Updates: She has been working on the website & organizing the IMN class.

*SWAMP Projects: 2 stage ditch close to Keith Miller's property.

*LaGrange Co. Gazing Meeting: February 4-5 at the Shipshewana MEC

*IASWCD Annual Conference: Lora passed out the hotel confirmations to the board members who will be attending.

*2021 Finance Audit: January 12th at 9:00 is our audit with Penny Stroup, Lora will send a reminder text to the board members who are assisting.

*IDEA Dues: 2022 Dues are due again @ \$25 each = \$100 for our office. *Wait/Leer*

Financial Business:

The vehicle log was signed.

The rubber stamp was not used.

The Gateway Reports have been uploaded and reviewed by the Board.

The monthly financial reports, budgets were approved on a motion by *Leer/Shover*

Claims for the following were signed:

Indiana Sales Tax 2021 (\$342.78); INterra Credit Union (\$224.41 – Special Project Supplies/Postage/Educational Supplies/ Other Supplies-Boots).

The board meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM *Shover/Wait*

Next Board Meeting: February 21, 2022 - 5:30 pm
SWCD Office
59358 County Road 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