

ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2020

Present: Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, Dale Leer, Dean Rink, Darrell Shover*; Staff: *Jim Hess, Lora Atkins, Todd Clark, Jenna Wait*; NRCS: *Kris Green (Acting)*; Associates: *Keith Miller*; ISDA Support Specialist: *Heath Hurst*.

Absent: Associates: David Bontrager, Joe Brown, Brian Campbell, Gary Kaufman; Purdue Extension: Jeff Burbrink, Robert Kelly; ISDA District Support Specialist: Jennifer Thum; Elkhart County Surveyor: Phil Barker.

The board meeting was called to order by Tom Kercher at 5:33 pm.

The June 15, 2020 board meeting minutes were approved on a motion by *Leer/Rink*

Agency Reports:

NRCS:

Kris Green introduced himself to the board, since taking over for Amanda Kautz on 6/30

FSA's Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – CLEAR30

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) requirements that the board and NRCS are required to sign

ISDA:

CWI Grant deadline is Sept 11, if you need assistance go to your DSS for help. Heath spoke about Grain Indemnity Failure.

District Business:

*2021 Budgets: Soil & Water budget was approved – Leer/Wait. Stormwater budget was approved – Rink/Leer.

*2021 Resolution Submissions for IASWCD Business Meeting: We are looking to draft a resolution to raise the per diem for the Supervisors, they have had the same \$35/per meeting pay since 1977.

*2020 IASWCD Dues: The board agreed to pay the dues Shover/Leer

*Conservation Farmer Award: We have chosen Woodsbrook Dairy/Craig Blough for our recipient of this award.

*Stormwater Partnership Mtg: Jim and Todd will be presenting their cost of doing business (fee structure).

*ERRA Support Letter: Nancy Brown is asking for a letter of support from the SWCD, they are applying for a 319 Grant.

*IMN Classes: So far we have 14 registered for our upcoming class.

*Rule 5 Updates: 3 new plans came in today, Jim and Todd have been meeting with the engineering firms and handing out the stormwater handbooks.

*2020 Governors Environmental of Excellence Award: Jenna showed the video that was presented to the judges, we should hear something in August or September.

District Business:

~Dates to Remember~

IDEA Fall Conference October 6 – October 8, 2020 - Muncie, IN - *Canceled*

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/Leer*

Claims for the following were signed:

Common Ground (\$944.12 - 2020 IMN Class Registration – Books); Bonnie Borger (\$175.00 - 2020 IMN Class Registration – Refund); Sheila Meinert (\$175.00 - 2020 IMN Class Registration - Refund).

The board meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM *Leer/Shover*

**Next Board Meeting: August 17, 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**