

*Hybrid*  
**ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 17, 2021**

**Present:** Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, Dean Rink, Darrell Shover*; Staff: *Jim Hess, Lora Atkins, Todd Clark, Jenna Wait*; Associates: *Keith Miller*; NRCS: *Wes Krug*; ISDA Support Specialist: *Heath Hurst*.

**Absent:** Supervisors: Dale Leer; 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 5:35 pm.

The April 19, 2021 board meeting minutes was approved on a motion by *Rink/Shover*

**Agency Reports:**

**NRCS:**

*7 of 7 first round EQIP Contracts obligated*

*2 additional EQIP Contracts funded.*

*Civil Rights Checklist for USDA Partners was signed and verified by both NRCS and Board members.*

**ISDA:**

Division of Soil Conservation new Director is Trevor Laureys. CWI Grant Guidance comes out tomorrow May 18<sup>th</sup>. NE Region meeting will be on June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**County Surveyor:**

Not in attendance.

**Extension:**

Not in attendance.

**District Business:**

\*Open House/Field Options: Fall Meeting/Field Day at Morehouse Farm, then an Open House here at our new office both here in September.

\*2022 Tree Sale: We talked about our meeting with Mary Hesser earlier in the day, we will be going forward Lora is just waiting for the Nursery catalogs to come in the mail then she can finish the order forms.

\*Conservation Credits: Everyone Jim talks to about the Conservation Credits wants in, Jim would like to have something ready to go soon.

\*SWAMP Projects and Updates: Grassed Waterway's – Wegener's & Morehouse's

\*County Employee Stormwater Training: Jenna has been working with Jordan Shedd to put together a training for the MS4 for the County which is a requirement, Jenna spoke with Kelly Metzger to initiate the process.

\*Rule 5 Updates: 2021 – 56 plans so far this year. 2020 we had 24 plans at this point in the year. At this point we have 364 active site, 104 neighborhoods, Todd performed 40 inspections last month, he attended the Home Builders meeting, and he is planning to have a contractors workshop this summer, one for Elkhart & Goshen.

**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 *Shover/Wait*

Claims for the following were signed:

Common Ground Distributors (\$456.22 – IMN Books); INterra Credit Union (\$108.54 – 2021 IMN Class Books & Supplies) INterra Credit Union (\$255.16 – Office/Education Supplies/Postage/Gas/Special Projects/Vehicle Repair).

The board meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM *Wait/Rink*

**Next Board Meeting ~ Hybrid: June 21, 2020 - 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**