

ELKHART COUNTY SWCD BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 18, 2020

Present: Supervisors: *Tom Kercher, Alex Wait, 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; ISDA District Support Specialist: Jennifer Thum; ISDA Support Specialist: Heath Hurst; NRCS: Amanda Kautz; Elkhart County Surveyor: Phil Barker.

The board meeting was called to order by Tom Kercher at 5:40 pm.

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

Agency Reports:

NRCS:

USDA Service Center Operations During COVID-19

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Emergency Animal Mortality Management Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – CLEAR 30

Office is continuing to be locked with a drop box in the foyer

Amanda has accepted a position in Vigo County, Indiana starting on July 6th

District Business:

*2020 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence: Jim spoke about what they submitted to the state and looking to put it on our website soon.

*New Trends in Presenting Programs: Jim spoke about how we've been putting educational videos on our website. Jenna has updated our website with videos and lesson plans during the Covid-19 shutdown. We watched the "Soil Slump" educational video during the board meeting.

*CWI Grant Opportunities: Jim spoke about some ideas he had about education and Ag/Urban for a CWI Grant.

*Landfill Inspection: The inspections are coming up the 1st week of June, Jim asked the board if they were interested in attending, IDEM will come up for the inspections.

*SWAMP Projects and Updates: Tom Lechlitner on Schrock property has a Grass Waterway, Lowell Stoltzfus will be turning in more paperwork soon.

*2021 Budgets: We should be seeing the 2021 Budgets coming in soon.

District Business:

~Dates to Remember~

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

IASWCD Annual Conference January 11-12, 2021 - Westin, Hotel - Indianapolis, IN

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/Wait*

Claims for the following were signed:

Todd Binning (\$175.00 – 2020 IMN Class Registration Refund).

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

**Next Board Meeting: June 15, 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**