

MINUTES
Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting
Thursday April 16, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.
Kirkendall Nature Center

The meeting was called to order by Shane Campbell, Chairperson at 12:03 p.m. Those attending were Calvin Hartman, Susan Kirkpatrick, Michelle Gilbert, Sarah Brichford, Mell Nevils, Paul Marcellino, Glenn Stephens, Steve and Emma Byrum and Rene' Weaver.

Steve made a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting as written, seconded by Michelle and carried. Minutes were signed by supervisors.

NEW BUSINESS:

The May meeting is set for Tuesday May 19 beginning at 8:30 a.m. This is a half an hour earlier than the normal meeting time. We will be reviewing the business plan.

Rene' reported that we have received the CWI grant contract for operating. She has signed the contract and sent it back. Once we receive the completed signature page a claim voucher must be submitted for the \$10,000.

AGENCY REPORTS:

Paul gave the Extension report. Extension is currently fully staffed. All vacancies are now filled. He reminded anyone that will have livestock at the fair must register on-line this year.

The Hort Lite workshops have been well attended with an average of 20-25 individuals. Lindsey Pedigo is doing a fantastic job. She is currently doing a session entitled dining with diabetes. Paul thanked the district and Stormwater for their assistance with Ag Day. There were approximately 430 kids.

Sarah reported on County Stormwater. The homebuilder's workshop was very well attended with 30 people. There was a lot of good discussion. Rob Beck from IDEM attended and re-enforced the information that Mell and Sarah continue to disburse to these homebuilders.

The RCPP grant has been dropped at least for the time being. A town hall meeting was held for landowners within the Henry Gilbert ditch watershed to discuss the opportunities for two-stage ditch with cover crops and water monitoring along the ditch. There was a lot of push back from the landowners on this opportunity so it was decided not to pursue that area. Greg is currently looking for another site that would be suitable to participate in the RCPP with Notre Dame.

Sarah will be doing Hoosier Riverwatch training in May for the Deer Creek-Sugar Creek 319 grant. Sarah let the district know that Stormwater now has a Nitrate Probe that may be used by the district. If we would like to utilize it let Sarah know and she will schedule a time for her to do the test for us. She would feel more comfortable if she was the one performing the test.

Mell has received several new plans and there are new projects starting. He currently has six plans that are out of compliance in some way or another. One is of particular concern and he has been trying to work with the builders to get the site in compliance.

Calvin has been able to complete several designs working with the engineers and plans to begin surveys and design work. No construction has started. He is also going to be looking at CRP re-enrolls.

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

RC&D will be conducting the Water Blitz, water testing tomorrow April 17.

We are in the final stages of the CWI grant from 2012. Soil test are being taken and the final report is due April 30. However we have until May 30 to get all of our information put into sharepoint. Josh will be completing the final report once he receives all of the soil test results. This report will not be completed by April 30. Plans are to have it printed and copies distributed to each SWCD, landowner, and the State Soil Conservation Board.

Rene' learned that Carroll County has decided not to continue with this testing program. With the expenses attached to the project and each district will have to pay out for the test, they have decided to not continue. Clinton County has not made a decision as of this meeting and Tippecanoe has lost the field that was participating due to an ownership change. Tipton has agreed to continue. Susan moved to continue the testing program on the current field to obtain additional data. Glenn seconded and motion carried. **(NOTE: On 4/20/15 Tipton County has decided to apply for a local grant and may not be continuing).**

Upcoming education events: Earth Day is Wednesday April 22 at the civic center all day. We will be partnering with Extension as one station. Summer Reading Library Kickoff is June 1 at the South Branch. Michelle, Susan, and Rene' will be handling that. The 4-H fair is just around the corner. What will our topic be? Any suggestions are welcome. Discussion held about planting something, soils, etc. Susan and Michelle will work to come up with some type of interactive activity.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Rene' presented the claims for payment. Shane moved to approve and pay all claims as presented. Susan seconded and motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded and written by Rene' Weaver _____

WE AGREE THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE ACCURATE.

DATE: _____