

Minutes
Brown County Soil & Water
Conservation District
9/5/18
SWCD Office- 5:00 pm

Friends of Lake Monroe (FoLM) Presentation- Richard Harris, Treasurer of the FoLM, came to present on the group's mission, their recent 319 Grant application, and how they would like to partner with Brown County SWCD. FoLM had requested a letter of support by August 25th. The board reviewed a draft letter by email and approved it. Laura Young signed it and it was submitted to them." They will be notified of funding in spring 2019. FoLM is asking Brown, Monroe, and Jackson county SWCD for: their support in promoting events, reaching out to appropriate landowners, and input on applicable BMP's to be put in the watershed plan. Guests of the FoLM presentation were: Alyssa Besser, Jim Schultz, and Richard Harris plus SWCD reps listed below.

The meeting was brought to order at 6:03 pm by chair Laura Young. Those in attendance were as follows: Scott Stephenson, Al Weber, Jeanne and Charlie Shaw, Cara Bergschneider, Laura Young, Keith Kirk, Bonnie Closey, and Allison Shoaf

Charlie made a motion to accept the August minutes. Al seconded. Motion passed.

Charlie made a motion to accept August Financial Claims and Statements. Scott seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business: So far, CWI payments made in Brown County total \$1,715.35. Upcoming events on the Annual Plan of Work were discussed. An updated copy of the 2018 APoW will be distributed at our next board meeting. Our county budget hearing was held on August 21st and the majority of the board was able to attend. Overall they think it went well. Our request to increase our "professional services" line to \$5,000 was tabled. County council will vote on it Sept. 17th. IASWCD resolutions are due on 9/7.

NRCS Update: NRCS is no longer under a hiring restriction and therefore Indiana will be able to hire 225 new employees. There is no new news on the 2018 Farm Bill. We are supposed to get word by October 2nd but that is not guaranteed. NRCS partners now have access to FSA data. This will be helpful to PSS work because they can now easily access client information. The Urban Soil Health/Urban Working Group callout meeting in Bloomington went really well with great attendance. This is stemmed from the USHER Agreement and the idea is to have a regional group to address urban Ag issues. The Bloomington group would service all Brown County. Immediately before our October 10th board meeting we will have our Locally Led meeting. Cara explained the benefits of renewing the Joint Chief's proposal. Brown County SWCD has been asked to be listed as a partner once again.

Part-time position: we have received 3 applications and interviews will be held on September 13th. The hiring committee is tasked with making the decision on behalf of the rest of the board. They will let the board know by next meeting or sooner.

Supervisor outing: will take place Sept. 25th at Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve.

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October board meeting: Allison is unable to attend because she will be at the IDEA Fall Conference. The board decided to push the meeting back one week to Oct. 10th.

NAAC registration: Allison has been asked to present at the Natural Area's Association Conference in Bloomington on Oct. 25th. A conference registration was required and the one day cost is \$285. Al made a motion that we fully fund this registration. Scott seconded. Motion passed.

District manager annual evaluation: Allison's annual evaluation was conducted on August 22nd by Laura. She passed the evaluation and anyone who would like to see a copy of it is encouraged to ask.

2019 Mini Grants- so far we only have one application but many folks have expressed interest to Allison. In the hopes of getting more applications, we are going to extend our deadline to October 19th.

Manager's Updates: Our first SBOA monthly reporting upload is due September 15th. The NPSC ended two weeks ago and all 16 students passed the test. They will receive their certificates at ND and be BCNWP members. Nature Daze is this Saturday Sept. 8th. Fourth Grade Field Day is Friday Sept. 21st. Please let me know if you would like to help out and if you have preference for which station you're at. I've been busy planning the Women4theLand workshop which will take place October 16th. We've been asked to promote and help out with this year's IFWOA conference. It will take place on Nov. 2-3 at the Abe Martin Lodge. I plan to put it in our newsletter, website, FB, etc.

District manager vacation time: 10/12, 10/19, 12/26-28

PSS/CRP Contribution Agreement: Quarter 1 of 2018 has been paid \$3,117.38.

Rule 5: no update

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM. Motion was made by Charlie, and seconded by Al. Motion passed.

Minutes taken and submitted by Allison Shoaf.