

Minutes
Brown County Soil & Water
Conservation District
12/5/18
SWCD Office- 5:00 pm

The meeting was brought to order at 5:20 pm by chair Laura Young. Those in attendance were as follows: Scott Stephenson, Charlie Shaw, Cara Bergschneider, Laura Young, Keith Kirk, Allison Shoaf, Amanda Perkins, Courtney McGuckin, Al Weber, Jeanne Shaw, and Bonnie Closey.

Allison added "Sexual Harassment Training" to agenda.

Al made a motion to accept the November minutes. Amanda seconded. Motion passed.

Charlie made a motion to accept November Financial Claims and Statements. Al seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business:

CWI: no updates

Annual Plan of Work: There are no events remaining in 2018.

2019 BCSWCD Annual Meeting: The date for the annual meeting has been changed from March 6th to March 7th, 2019 at 6pm. The history center is available to hold the meeting. The BCSWCD monthly board meeting will be held at 5pm, immediately preceding the annual meeting. Allison offered a few presenter recommendations to the board and received input on which talk to pursue.

2019 IASWCD Annual Conference: Allison and Supervisor Amanda will be attending the IASWCD Annual Meeting.

Supervisor Outing: The outing happened after another reschedule due to rain. The group enjoyed a nice hike at Trevlac Bluffs guided by our Vice Chairperson Scott Stephenson.

New Business:

NRCS: The EQIP deadline is coming up on Dec. 21st. A letter from the State Conservationist on the PSS/CRP Agreement was sent out. The agreement expires at the end of 2019. It was considered a success and is planning to be offered again. A Soil Health Trailer is currently being built for NRCS. It will hold educational materials that can be transported and used at events. SWCDs can reserve and use the trailer.

2019 Mini Grants: Van Buren Elementary School has been notified of their approved proposal. The Getty proposal was updated upon receiving a second cost estimate from a new contractor. The proposal included a heavy use pad and cistern. The board discussed the necessary steps to complete this project and the outcomes. After collaboration, Al made a motion to decline funding for the cistern portion of the project. Scott seconded. Motion passed. Amanda made a motion to fund the HUAP project at the amount of the lower of the two cost estimates. Scott seconded. Motion passed. The

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Reece proposal was approved when presented. It was recommended that the Barth project should include a HUAP in their plan. They submitted a new cost estimate that included a HUAP which doubled the total cost of the project. The cost of the HUAP was perceived as higher than reasonable attainable. Scott made a motion to approve the project at \$300 less than submitted cost, and to also provide Barth with resources to find HUAP materials at a lower price. Al seconded. Motion passed. The board was concerned whether the Holsapple project would be accomplishing natural resource management goals. Charlie made a motion to decline the proposal. Amanda seconded. Motion passed.

IASWCD Annual Conference Delegates: Amanda and Al will represent BCSWCD as our delegates at the IASWCD Annual Conference.

2019 IASWCD Resolutions: The BCSWCD delegates will vote on these resolutions at the IASWCD Annual Conference. Knox County is proposing a part-time position to be created for IASWCD. The position would be funded through an increase in county dues to IASWCD. A proposal has been submitted to amend a by-law to allow the annual meeting minutes to be approved at a following monthly meeting rather than at the next annual meeting. Another proposal requests the change of SWCD region names to prevent confusion; either the directional words in the names would be switched or the names would be changed to numbers. The last proposal requests uniformity for position titles and pay throughout all counties.

Internal Audit Committee: Amanda, Al, and Scott volunteered to be a part of an internal audit committee in February to review 2018 finances.

Sexual Harassment Training: The board is required to participate in sexual harassment training. It will be a webinar scheduled by Nathan and happen sometime at the beginning of 2019.

2019 Annual Plan of Work: A 2019 APoW draft was shown. A few new workshops were added for 2019.

Manager's Updates: "Our 2018 county budget was fully used up and I anticipate the same in 2019. I went to the new Wellness Clinic that is open to County Employees as part of our insurance package, it was very nice. It has been somewhat slow in the office so I'm catching up on a lot of office stuff. Next I'll start to focus on end of the year financial stuff. I've tentatively set a date for the Ag Day Breakfast: Saturday January 26th. I'll hopefully work with Extension and Farm Bureau to help plan the event."

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

Educator's Updates: "It has been working well for me to come in to the office once a week to meet with Allison. We are staying in good communication. I have completed a Mini-Grant handout. We will be ordering these soon to use to spread the word on our annual Mini-Grants. I have started a booklet that will contain conservation practices relevant to the Brown County area. This could be used to further

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give landowners ideas for grant projects. I am also working on the winter newsletter and will have that ready to send out in January.”

PSS/CRP Contribution Agreement: We received our 2nd quarter payment.

Rule 5: no updates

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. Motion was made by Charlie, and seconded by Scott. Motion passed.

Minutes taken and submitted by Courtney McGuckin.