

**Minutes**  
**Brown County Soil & Water**  
**Conservation District**  
**9/3/2020**  
**SWCD Office - 1:00 pm**

The meeting was brought to order at 1:05 pm by chair Scott Stephenson. Those in attendance were as follows: Jim Allen, Cara Bergschneider, Bonnie Closey, Keith Kirk, Courtney McGuckin, Allison Shoaf, Scott Stephenson, and Laura Young.

Scott made two edits to the August minutes. Laura made a motion to accept the August minutes with those changes. Jim seconded. Motion passed.

Laura made a motion to accept the August Financial Report and Claims. Jim seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

Annual Plan of Work: The BC SWCD staff and supervisors will hike Browning Mountain after the Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> board meeting as a group outing. The BC Youth Outdoor Adventure Series will have its first session on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>. This is during BC Schools' fall break. This series is held in partnership with BC SWCD, Purdue Extension, and BC Parks & Rec. The fall session will include a talk on water quality and kayaking the creek at Deer Run Park.

County Budget Hearing: Scott and Allison attended the budget hearing at the BC Music Center. They predict that the board will approve the same amount of funding that we received last year.

Al Weber Remembrance: Eagle Manufacturing is working on a sign for the garden behind the BC SWCD Office. The BC History Center is also making a sign and still considering holding an event in Al's honor.

Well Water Testing Program: Forty-three samples were submitted. The results have been sent to Allison who will send them out to the corresponding participants as well as an informational sheet on further steps.

**New Business:**

NRCS (Civil Rights and EO Discussion): Cara reviewed the Civil Rights and EO checklist required annually between NRCS and SWCD boards. The board signed the checklist. Cara has finished with EQIP and is now finishing CRP and end of year reporting. She has many site visits to catch up on as she can now meet in the field with landowners. NRCS is creating a permanent Soil Conservationist position for the Bloomington office. This position will serve Brown, Monroe, and Greene Counties.

IASWCD Virtuesday's Staff and Supervisor Trainings: Scott has participated in some of the trainings. The recordings are available online after the sessions. Other supervisors and staff plan to watch the recordings at a later time.

BCSWCD Business Plan: Scott, Amanda, Allison, and Courtney worked on the current business plan in the Spring for the 2021-2025 edition. Cara is going to review the document and send back her edits.

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BCSWCD Updated Mini Grant App: A subcommittee of our board made adjustments to the current Mini Grant application. The board reviewed it and discussed more possible edits to be made.

FoLM: The sampling blitz is on Sept. 18th from 9am to 4pm.

Manager's Updates: "We ended up having about \$500 worth of sales for our cover crop seed order. I have some extra garden builder mix and I put some out in our raised beds behind the office. I'm planning a youth workshop series in conjunction with the school breaks. I'll be partnering with Purdue Extension and Parks and Rec for this. We have 100 acres signed up for our CWI cover crop grant, yay! We could potentially sign up 50 more acres so I will reach out to some producers in the area to see if they are interested. The SCPG met for the first time in several years. The group voted me as chair and I will now start taking a more active role in the group. We have received one application for our 2021 mini grants, with 6 others interested. Applications are due Oct. 30 th . "

Manager's time off: I will be working remotely/taking some vacation time the week of Sept. 21-25

Educator's Updates: "I have created a work phone number that rings to my cell phone but will keep work calls and personal calls separate for me. The number is 812-720-3321. This can be used for S&W work as well as NW work. I have been coordinating the new 4th Grade Field Day format between the presenters and teachers. Patrick Haulter, Kara Hammes, Maggie Sullivan, and myself will be the presenters. We will present to each school separately through Zoom. The whole program will take 4 weeks with each school receiving a program once a week. This will allow our entire schedule to fit between Fall Break and Thanksgiving. Logistics are still being sorted out. I will be presenting on water quality in October for Allison's Youth Adventure Series program at Deer Run.

Nature Daze is a self guided, driving tour format happening from Sept. 1st to Sept. 13th. Participants will visit four different locations in that time frame, take their picture at the signs, and email them to the BCNWP email. I will randomly select winners for prizes. We are working to publicize this as much as possible. Each location sent us an informational video that I uploaded to the BCNWP YouTube page. I have also been collecting plant sale orders for the Native Plant Sale."

Rule 5: Allison visited the Brown County Humane Society and Salt Creek Trail project.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm. Motion was made by Laura and seconded by Jim. Motion passed.

Minutes taken and submitted by Courtney McGuckin.