

Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting  
Wednesday, Nov. 22nd, 2023 @ 8:00 am  
MEETING HELD IN PERSON and VIRTUALLY via ZOOM  
9602 Coldwater Road, Suite 108, Fort Wayne, IN 46825

**Supervisors; Present: Chad Shaw, Tom Miller, Tyler Steiglitz (virtual), Tom Crowe**

**Absent: Jain Young**

**Associate supervisor: Don Rekeweg, Dick Crowl**

**SWCD Staff: Greg Lake, Courtney Taylor, Rhiannon Lake, Gabe Curtis, Mikila Cook, Jesus Rosario**

**ISDA: Lindsey Bluhm (virtual)**

**NRCS:**

**SJRWI:**

**MWA:**

**Purdue Extension:**

**County Council: Don Wyss (virtual)**

**Others:**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 8:16 AM by Chad Shaw

**Approval of Minutes**

- October minutes reviewed. Tom Crowe moved to approve minutes, Tom Miller seconded, all in favor

**Approval of Claims and Treasurer's Reports**

October:     Accounts Payable totaled: \$33,385.83  
                  Visa Charges: \$1962.00  
                  Deposits Totaled: \$13,241.89  
                  Accounts Receivable: \$3,800  
                  First Source Bank: \$220,900.29  
                  Current Asset Balance: \$224,700.69  
                  CD: \$1,357.37

Tom Miller moved to approve claims and Treasurer's report, Tom Crowe seconded, all in favor

**1. Old Business**

- Submittal of SWCD Supervisor Candidates
  1. Currently just Chad Shaw. Board will get names to staff prior to Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> of any additional candidates are interested in running
- Date / location for 2024 SWCD Annual Meeting
  1. Board agrees to hold Annual Meeting on Saturday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. Speakers could include Les Zimmerman, Allen County Sheriff, amongst others. Location is TBD.
- 2024 Farm Show plans
  1. Farm Show is mostly finalized and we need volunteers.

- Report on JA Job Spark -November 7-8, 2023 booth display
    1. Job Spark was successful.
  - Annual Conference registration & 2024 IASWCD Legislative Breakfast
    1. Tom Crowe, Tom Miller, and Chad Shaw are registered for the Legislative Breakfast. Tom Crowe is the Allen County SWCD delegate.
  - Potential sale of additional SWCD equipment
    1. Greg is encouraging the sale of the Great Plains TurboMax, Valmar Seeder, Phillips Harrow, Remlinger StipTill, and Thunder Creek tank. The District's current interseeder is difficult to use. If the tractor is sold it is proposed that the interseeder is also sold as we will have nothing to pull it with. The District brought in roughly \$5,100 in rental income in 2023 with an additional \$5,000 expected before year in.
    2. The board agrees with listing the TurboMax, Valmar Seeder, Remlinger, Thunder Creek DEF Tank, and Phillips Harrow with mount. Tom Miller made a motion to sell above items, Tom Crowe seconded, all in favor.
  - District interest in acquiring cover crop roller crimper
    1. Adams County has a roller crimper and it is gaining traction. The purchase is tabled until the sale of equipment and receipt of actual quotes on the crimper.
2. Ongoing Projects/Grants
- NACD Contribution Agreement -New application (C. Taylor)
    1. Still waiting
  - Demonstration Farm Contribution Agreement with NRCS (C. Taylor)
    1. Met with other Districts. Next meeting is set for January
  - NRCS Contribution Agreement for Urban / Small Farms (J. Neff)
    1. No new updates, Joelle is training Jesus on reporting and deliverables.
  - Auglaize Watershed (G. Lake)
    - No New updates
      - Presentation of Flatrock stream flow profile
      - Proposed Auglaize Watershed Steering Comm. Mtg.
  - Development of SWCD Mobile Education Trailer and Displays (J. Neff)
    - Watershed display design with New Tech Academy update
      - Mikila and Joelle are meeting with New Tech next week for a progress update. Mikila will be overseeing the project.
    - Update on municipal and residential sewer display repairs
      - Displays are being fixed currently at Exhibit Farm
  - Soil Carbon Research Project with IUPUI (G. Curtis, J. Rosario)
    - Project update
      - Project is finished.
  - CRP Contribution Agreement with NRCS (G. Curtis & C. Taylor)
    - Down to just a handful of checks that need to be completed.
  - USGS-GLRI Project (G. Lake)
    - Edge of Field project update
      - East side of road only. Equipment will be there through the spring. USGS is looking for one more sample after significant rainfall.
    - 2-stage Ditch project update

- Working on putting together a program for a new multifaceted two stage ditch program. Recently met with USGS from Wisconsin, she is looking for a site that can monitor water quality and edge of field. Currently getting more information on locations that might fit the needs.
    - Agricultural Nutrient Resource Recovery Project (G. Lake)
      - Proposed next steps
        - H2Ohio Technology Advancement Project (H2Ohio TAP)
          - Have a call today with subcontractors, AES and Kurts Brothers.
        - Proposed 2024 summer demo project
          - Looking for a demo site. Looked at system last month but it is not applicable to this project.
        - CIG Classic grant application submission
          - CIG has been submitted, no update.
0. Other Reports
- WLEB Livestock Group
    1. Part of the RCPP, doing a feasibility study based on the WLEB. Looking at data from 2008 and how to move forward with updating the information. Indiana Pork/Dairy, IN Farm Bureau, ISDA, SWCDs are involved in this project.
  - IJC Manure Nutrient Management Collaborative
    - Project update (no report)
0. Partner Reports and Updates
- ISDA: Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> virtual webinar on manure management. RCPP signup deadline is Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>
  - MRBC: No updates
  - UMWA: December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting scheduled,
  - Save Maumee: Annual meeting is scheduled for Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>
  - IASWCD: Dues are increasing
  - SJRWI: Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at Metea Park, \$30.00 per person
  - MWA: Pics w/Santa Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>
  - NRCS: Having an early Equip sign up due to IRA funds. NRCS has a new State Conservationist.
  - Purdue Extension: No update
  - [FW Parks Dept.](#)
0. New Business
- Hiring Watershed Project Manager to replace Joelle Neff
    1. Currently accepting applications.
0. Upcoming Events
- Next Board Meeting –December 20<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Meeting Adjourned 9:55 am