

**Meeting Minutes**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**  
**July 29, 2019**  
**Indiana Farm Bureau, Indianapolis, IN**

**Members Present**

Bob Eddleman  
Amy Burris  
Brad Dawson  
Kenny Cain  
Warren Baird  
Ray Chattin

**Members Not Present**

Larry Clemens

- I. **Call to Order** Brad Dawson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. All those who were present introduced themselves.
- II. **Approval of Minutes, May 2019:** Warren Baird moved, Kenny Cain 2nd. Motion carried.
- III. **Clean Water Indiana Grants** –Leah Harmon. 2017-2019 grant reports are due at end of month as well as Conservation Project Tracking. Leah will be following up with quality control. 2020 grant applications due Sept 6 for both SWCD and non-SWCD led grant applications. Leah Harmon and DSS's assisting with Districts currently. Grant reviews- Adam (2017) and Allen (2018) completed. Still working on grants management system.
- IV. **State Soil Conservation Board Business**
  - a. Chairman's report- none
  - b. FY 2020 Budget Review and Approval- Jennifer Thum  
Budget review- see Report and Estimated Expenditure report. Recommending the \$1.126 mil for grants, distributing \$1mil for \$126k for wiggle room. Jennifer went over the other budget items in the Clean Water Indiana Account, including CREP, matching \$10,000 and surety bond.  
Budget approval: Kenny Cain, moved. Bob Eddleman 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.
  - c. SSCB Business Plan- Ray recommends waiting until after region meetings to proceed with board meeting. Brad recommends sending out email to request input. Laura Fribley suggested compiling business plans in each region as feedback for SSCB to review SWCD priorities. Brad recommended facilitator for planning session and to send out survey to SSCB members for a date to do the plan. Confirm date and plans at September SSCB meeting.
  - d. Indiana Invasives Initiative Update- Troy Hinkle and Dawn Slack  
Troy: \$120,000 over 2 years, a little slow to get started. Currently have 5 regional specialists. Dawn is coordinator for the project and oversees 5 regional specialists. In June at closing of the books, all CWI funds will be allocated and they'll be applying for another grant.

Dawn: Since beginning 2 years ago: a logo was created, SICIM was organized and the CISMAs. In year 1- 10 new CISMAs created. Currently have 12 CISMAs around Indiana. Defined when a group becomes a "CISMA". Currently training to do landowner site visits. Working with State Council and other groups towards sustainable financing. Current funding is ~\$1.4 mil. Working with Laura to put together training for ICP staff. See report for more information.

**V. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**

- a. Cass SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Cass SWCD recommended Cameron Mills to be appointed.  
Warren moved to approve. Seconded by Ray. Motion passed.
- b. Cass SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Cass SWCD recommended John Acuff to be appointed.  
Ray moved to approve. Seconded by Kenny. Motion passed.
- c. Cass SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Cass SWCD recommended Brandon Shaffer to be appointed.  
Bob moved to approve. Seconded by Kenny. Motion passed.
- d. Dearborn SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Dearborn SWCD recommended Patrick Holland to be appointed.  
Kenny moved to approve. Brad requested a letter of resignation from Teresa.  
Seconded by Amy. Motion passed.
- e. Lawrence SWCD- Geneva Tyler  
Lawrence SWCD recommended Patrick Holland to be appointed.  
Kenny moved to approve. Seconded by Amy. Motion passed.
- f. Gibson SWCD- Nathan Stoelting  
Gibson SWCD recommended Mark Marvel to be appointed.  
Ray moved to approve. Seconded by Warren. Motion passed.

**VI. ISDA Updates**

- a. Director's Report: Jennifer Thum  
Jennifer Thum is Interim Director. Reviewed annual DSC staff meeting. NE DSC staff hosted State Chemist office to look at Adam's County lagoon and other areas of interest. Pathway to Water Quality looking good and set for opening day.  
Highlighted Beeb's Bench.
- b. Technical Report: Jennifer Thum  
Standard work going on. No written report.
- c. Soil Health Report: Jennifer Thum.  
Introduced Annette Manusevich, started end of July. INFA- working on a program to offer to the producers who signed up. Red Gold Stewardship- 5 interviews for the award. The winner will be announced on August 9<sup>th</sup> at their Field Day.
- d. Accountability and Technology Report: Jennifer Thum  
Deb is retiring end of 2019. Leah Harmon is taking on Sharepoing/Nutrient Story Maps. Trevor will take over maps and GIS. 3<sup>rd</sup> person will take on data quality control. New grants management system will also be put in place in near future.
- e. District Support Report: Geneva Tyler  
See report  
SSCB members attending Summer staff/supervisor trainings:  
August 20, Fulton: Larry Clemens? Jennifer Thum will follow up to see if he's available.

August 22, Orange: Ray Chattin

August 27, Delaware: Bob Eddleman

August 29, Putnam: Kenny Cain

ISDA will register SSCB members for the meetings and forward pertinent details.

- f. Water Quality and CREP- Julie Harrold. See report.

**VII. Conservation Partner Reports**

- a. IASWCD: Joe Schmees- see report

Annual Conference is January 12-14

- b. IDEM: No report

- c. DNR: No report

- d. Purdue: Walt Sells- provided packet of events, activities and articles.

- e. FSA report: Jason Kishton.

Susan Hovermale took a position in NW Indiana as a district director. Acreage reporting- as of last week, 950,000 prevented planting acres. Typical deadline to report crops is July 15. Due to spring, certification moved to July 22<sup>nd</sup> through end of this week. Expected prevented planting acres expected to raise by end of next week. For MFP (Market Facilitation Program), cover crops have to be planted by August 1<sup>st</sup> to qualify. CRP update- see report. Mid contract management for Sign Up 52 will be required, but no cost share is available for those activities.

- f. NRCS: Jerry Raynor. See report. Producers can receive both MFP and EQIP. Introduced 2 staff in the leadership program. PWQ- 2 trees planted in honor of Harold Thompson.

- g. CCSI, Lisa Holscher. See report.

Sheila Schroeder has started as new Northern Program Manager. Jessica Hoehn just finished facilitation training and has been there 6 months now. Joe has been mentoring new staff and working on trainings. Lisa will be speaking at Tri-Societies Conference (ASA, SSA, CSA?) with Eileen Kladvko in TX in November. CCSI busy with meetings through the summer.

- h. IDEA- no report

- i. IANA- no report

**VIII. Public Comment- none**

**IX. Next meetings**

September 17 @ NRCS State Office

October 29: TBD, District Showcase

- X. Adjourn, 11:57 Kenny moved to adjourn; Seconded by Warren.

*Ray Chattin*  
*Warren Baird*  
*Kenneth Cain*  
*Ry Chattin*

*Bob Eddleman*  
*Bradley E. Dawson*  
*Amey Beavis*