

**MINUTES**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD MEETING**

**July 19, 2022**

Indiana Farm Bureau Building  
225 S East St, Indianapolis, IN 46202  
MS Teams

- I. 9:38am: Meeting started. No motion to officially call meeting to order due to lack of quorum. No votes or board action was taken during this meeting.**
- II. Clean Water Indiana**
- a. Clean Water Indiana Grants- Tara Wessler-Henry – Tara on vacation, Geneva reported that CWI reports are due at the end of the month, DSS's are working with districts to get reports in on time.
  - b. Deb Barnett – Vermillion grant modification – Due to covid, the contractor has not used all the hours requested, \$14,000 left over, would like to transfer \$1,000 to education and \$13,000 to cost share for livestock practices (heavy use areas, etc.) or cover crops with a priority for livestock practices. Ray asked if 2 more months to wait would be a problem, Deb claims they can get projects in line and ready to go after the approval in September. **No quorum, cannot make final vote until next meeting.**
  - c. **Laura Fribley – Warrick County grant modification** – technician is looking for outside work, might leave before the end of the grant. Asking for contingency plan if technician leaves to transfer remaining funds to cost share funds for cover crops. They are working with their county to try and get the technician position to be a full time paid position by the county.
- III. State Soil Conservation Board Business**
- a. IASWCD Resolution- Trevor – formed a committee & met May 23 to set a policy for term limits and to be more proactive in recruiting new members. Maximum 2 terms then a member can rejoin after 4 years off the board. SSCB doesn't have associate members, discussion at committee on adding associates to the SSCB.
  - b. Deadlines and Election Committee Policy- Kenny Cain – tabled to next meeting due to no quorum, cannot vote. Some discussion held on ideas for policy and how to get the word out better.
  - c. FY23 Budget – Trevor – **see written report** carryover of \$474,974 from open position not being filled, CWI leftover and ISDA funds. **Back of report has proposed FY23 budget.** Trevor discussed process of requesting our budget be put back to what it was in 2020 before the 15% cut in 2021.
  - d. FY23 Division Staffing Plan – Trevor – will stay as it was FY22 unless we receive grant funding for staffing.
  - e. IDEA proposal – Martha Miller IDEA president & Brandi Frazier IDEA vice president, development of an employee training program. **Report from Eric** Would like to pilot starting in January, asking for \$5,000 from SSCB to cover training costs. Staff is the roots in the soil, holding the plant together. **Cannot vote, tabled to next meeting.**
- IV. Soil and Water Conservation Districts**
- a. Temporary appointments
    - i. Ohio SWCD- Tara Wessler-Henry – tabled to next meeting
    - ii. Fayette SWCD- Tara Wessler-Henry – tabled to next meeting
- V. ICP Reports**

- a. ISDA – Julie went over Indiana science assessment status. Report is completed, she has a copy and it is on the website. Hypoxia task force putting together budget that will cover .... Soil sampling expansion within priority watersheds. **See Julies report**
- b. IASWCD – Joe – see full written report -
- c. CCSI – Lisa Holscher – adding 2 new program managers. With agreement with Purdue adding soil health agronomist. Chief Cosby called out Indiana, CCSI, and the Urban Soil Health Program at the summer NACD meeting. Pilot training program about communicating conservation September 8<sup>th</sup> by invitation only then will expand the program in 2023.
- d. Purdue – Walt Sell – many field days coming up, check out and participate if schedules allow. On Farm research pilot is being launched by Purdue University. Draught website to assist in managing the draught situation (the kernel...)
- e. NRCS – see written report – Joint meeting with association, staff, and NRCS will be virtual.
- f. FSA – no report given
- g. IDEA – no report given
- h. Other- no report given

**VI. Public Comment**

**VII. 2022 Meeting Dates**

- September 20 – Indiana Farm Bureau
- October 25 – in conjunction with the district showcase, so location TBA

**VIII. SSCB Business Plan – Geneva is asking if the board would like to meet in November to look at current plan and review the progress.** Kenny requested that the business plan be sent to the board members.

**IX. Adjourn 11:11am. No motion to adjourn meeting due to lack of quorum, no votes.**

<b>Attendance in Person:</b>	<b>Attendance via Teams:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gene Schmidt</li> <li>• Kenny Cain</li> <li>• Brad Dawson</li> <li>• Geneva Tyler</li> <li>• Sandra Hoffarth</li> <li>• Trevor Laureys</li> <li>• Julie Harrold</li> <li>• Joe Schmees (IASWCD)</li> <li>• Brandi Frasier (IDEA)</li> <li>• Martha Miller (IDEA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walt Sell</li> <li>• Jennifer Thum</li> <li>• Nathaniel Warenski</li> <li>• Bob Eddleman</li> <li>• Ray Chatlin</li> <li>• Leah Harmon</li> <li>• Laura Fribley</li> <li>• Deb Barnett</li> <li>• Sheryl Vaughn</li> <li>• Nathan Stoelting</li> <li>• Lisa Holscher</li> </ul>