

IN ATTENDANCE: Whitney Schlegel, Georgia Davis, Justin Conard, Dallas Conder, Cara Bergschneider, Allison Shoaf, Hannah Martin and Martha Miller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES & APPROVAL TO PAY CLAIMS

No changes noted – minutes and claims to pay stand approved as presented.

MS4 PLAN REVIEWS:

It was shared that a MS4 is a Multiple Stormdrain Sewer System area. There are 5 of these areas in Monroe County: The county as a whole, City of Bloomington, IU Bloomington, Ivy Tech Bloomington and Town of Ellettsville. The village of Stinesville does have its own stormwater area but is not an official MS4 as noted by the State. These MS4 areas are responsible for overseeing, reviewing and monitoring the stormwater construction and sediment movement within their specified area. An MS4 however can not self inspect their own projects. This responsibility by default falls to the local SWCD, at a minimum to acknowledge the project and provide a letter of no review.

The Resource Specialist met with the regional IDEM Stormwater Specialist and wanted the board's support for this position to begin doing an actual review of these plans – on average there might be 10-12 a year. To date MCSWCD issues a no review letter. The IDEM SS confirmed that in no way would the SWCD be taking on a regulatory or enforcement role. If action needed to be taken, that would be issued by IDEM. MCSWCD Staff would simply serve as a local reference and review point of contact.

If the board would want to visit this in the future – MCSWCD has the authority to charge a fee for this review service.

MOTION: After discussion a motion by DC was made to support the Resource Specialist in the review of MS4 owned SPPP / 2nd by GD – motion passed

ACTION: Staff will send out an email and written letter to the MS4's and let them know of this new service.

LEGISLATIVE FUNDING:

Staff wanted to make the board aware of a call/request for action by the IASWCD and SSCB for local support and outreach to the State Legislature for the addition of the 8 million dollar request for additional funding for SWCD and Conservation work in the state.



ACTION: For the Board to create an action plan for supervisors and staff to address this need with the local state legislators.

PARTNERSHIP GRANT APPROVAL

CRS recommends the approval of application 22-18

MOTION: to approve application 22-18 by GD / 2nd by DC - Motion passed

WATERSHED ACTIVITY:

Lower Salt Creek

Application for implementation has been submitted. If this funding source comes through MCSWCD will be involved predominantly with the education and community connection portion of this project. NRCS will be involved from the landowner application portion of this project.

Beanblossom

Application for plan revision has been submitted. If this funding source comes through MCSWCD will assume the duties as lead agency on the plan development with monthly or bi-monthly steering committee meetings.

INVASIVE REMOVAL/NATIVE LANDSCAPING AT OFFICE

This project is moving forward as staff have meet with the Building Manager and Grounds Crew. SPEA Fellow will assist staff in developing a plan and providing budgets. Staff will also look into various sources of funding to complete this pilot/demonstration project.

ACTION: Staff will pursue grant funding opportunities, and continue forward with this project.

SOIL EDUCATION REQUEST TO PURCHASE

The staff have been developing a standardized soil health display with a focus on soil health for healthy food production. To add to this program staff requests to purchase teaspoons to be given away at these events that say "1 teaspoon of soil holds 1 billion active bugs" or something along that line - maximum spend would be \$1000.

MOTION: DC made a motion to purchase teaspoons for Buggie Fest / 2nd by JC / Motion passed

ACTION: Staff will purchase teaspoons

SEED SPREADER RENTAL DETAILS

After discussion the following was decided for rental of the new seed spreader:

Rental rate is \$25 per day



Full rental is due at the time of rental

Rentals will be scheduled through the office

Pick up / Return will be coordinated with staff to Dallas or Justin

MOTION by JC to use the above listed guidelines and charge \$25 per day rental / 2nd by DC / Motion passed.

ACTION: Staff will work up the forms and promotional information about this new opportunity

ADDITIONAL ITEMS - NOT ON ORIGINAL AGENDA

CRITICAL AREA SEEDING PROGRAM FOR SPRING 2023

Martha noted that last year the seed dealer let us know he could get a better rate if we ordered in the fall. After discussion a **MOTION** by GD to let staff work to get seed ordered and keep all details the same as last years program / 2nd by JC / Motion passed

ACTION: Staff will work with seed dealer to get the seed ordered and work on a promotional flier to be ready to go out in late December and then again in mid February with a deliver target of early to mid March

OFFICE CHAIRS

Staff new 2 new office chairs - will try to purchase through the county supply line but if not will purchase from district funds

WEBSITE

A few months ago staff brought it to the board that the County had a space for the SWCD on their main County website. This would be a free option. Now that we are a few months into this - it has become clearly aware that there are a few bumps in this plan.

Only Martha (the county employee) can access the website to make changes.

The heavily published www.monroecoswcd.org domain can not be pointed toward the county site.

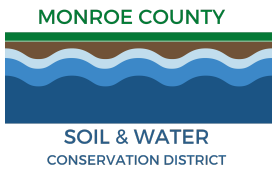
So staff will keep the information on the county site and update that as needed but will also rebuild our weebly site to "match/mimic" the county site and use this as the official Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District website.

These Minutes were approved on October 13, 2022

Whitney Schlegel, Chair

Dallas Conder, 2nd Chair

Georgia Davis



Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District Board Meeting
Minutes of September 8, 2022
In person Meeting

Keith McConnell

Justin Conard