



ROCK ISLAND COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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RISWCD Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 4th, 2020 5:00 p.m. USDA Milan Service Center (outside)

PRESENT

Dawn Temple, AC
Gary Blanchard, Chair
Sally Ferguson, Associate Director
Wyatt Junis, NRCS
Rich Stewart, RC
Twila Cederstrom, Director
Joe Gates, Conservation Specialist
Nathan Oak, Treasurer/Secretary
Marcus Thomas, Public
Bob Westfahl, RI County Board Rep.
Julie Voelker, Director
Jarín Rudsell, Public

ABSENT

Marty McManus, IDOA R.R.
Brian Parkinson, Vice-Chair
Jason Hessman, NRCS

1. Call to Order

Chairman Gary Blanchard called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM. Roll call was taken.

2. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda including Timesheets, Bills & Staff/Partner Reports

Ferguson reviewed and reported everything in order. Oak made a motion to accept the consent agenda items. Cederstrom seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2 guests were in attendance that are possibly interested in associate board director positions. Marcus Thomas and Jarín Rudsell.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Recruitment of Directors & Associate Directors

Ferguson stated she has 2 possible board member potential directors that are interested. Chris Nordic (not in attendance) and Jim Coyne (not in attendance). Marcus Thomas is interested in joining as associate director.

2. Copperas Creek Grant

Stewart provided an update on current and pending projects:

Parchert Jr.- Streambank- Completed, submission of invoice to IEPA by Temple completed

Parchet III- Streambank- Designed, IPA permit obtained, Cultural Resource Specialist review needed

Gerdes – Streambank – design completed by Chris Haring

Parkinson – WASCOD – waiting on design from NRCS

Reed – Streambank – waiting on design from Chris Haring

Langman – Streambank – waiting on design from Chris Haring

Parchert III – Dry Dam and Waterways – waiting on design from Joe Gates

Temple mentioned that one of the outcomes in the grant includes a bioreactor and/or saturated buffer and there are currently no applications for those. Temple made a request of the directors to mention these projects to community members that may be interested.

3. **FY20 Audit**

Current auditor not working with Conservation District in FY20 due to COVID.

Temple reached out to board chairman of Nahant Marsh for recommendations regarding an audit. Ferguson suggested using Kent Klauer CPA for a financial review instead of an audit for FY20. Oak made a motion to accept a financial review.

Cederstrom seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

4. **Quarterly Financial Analysis**

Ferguson presented the quarterly financial analysis along with a financial overview of the previous quarters. Ferguson mentioned the \$13,000 loss throughout the fiscal year with an adjusted budget of about \$300.

Ferguson explained the decrease in expected income from native seed sales of \$10,400 was the most detrimental. The expected income comes from average seed sales over the past 3-5 years, where outliers have increased the average in this case.

Ferguson mentions the potential to budget for a new employee to lower workload of current employees. She also mentioned the possibility of hiring out lower skilled tasks. Temple mentioned the potential of hiring watershed manager through 3-year grant which will pay half of employee salary. Ferguson suggests to add watershed manager plans and job description to budget regardless of grant status.

5. **PFC Allocation of Funds**

All funds for FY20 have been spent.

\$10,000 expect for FY21.

Hohenboken- Grassed waterway & bioreactor (extension)

Skinner- Well

Thomson- Well

Cederstorm- Cover Crop

Delsaille- Cover Crop
 Anderson- Cover Crop
 Derrer- Year 2 Cover Crop

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Rock Island County Forest Preserve District Education MOU**

Suggested to not renew education contract due to COVID-19 taking an effect on public outreach. Oak made a motion to not renew the contract. Blanchard seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

2. **Nahant Marsh Conservation Education Program**

Suggested to work with Nahant Marsh to make an ag. conservation program. Brian Ritter will be invited to the next board meeting to present a potential plan.

3. **FY21 PFC Cost Share Rate Approval**

Due to lower allocation of funds, Stewart suggested to focus funds on increasing cover crop usage throughout the county at 60% cost share approval. Oak made a motion to accept list at 60% cost share approval. Cederstrom seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

6. **Next Board Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 1st, 2020 at 5:00 pm. We will likely meet outside again.

7. **CLOSED SESSION**

A motion was made by Blanchard to enter closed session at 6:16 pm, to discuss— PERSONNEL- Performance Reviews and Compensation in accordance with (5 ILCS 120 Section 2(c)1. A roll call vote was taken. Blanchard- Yes, Cederstrom- Yes, Oak- Yes, Voelker- Yes. A motion was made by Blanchard to end closed session and return to regular session at 8:05 pm.

Closed Meeting Ended, Regular Meeting Resumed

8. **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Oak and seconded by Cederstrom to adjourn at 8:07 pm. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Nathan Oak, Secretary/Treasurer