

Bond County Soil & Water Conservation District
1111 E. Harris Ave., Greenville, IL 62246
Regular Monthly Board Meeting, Wednesday, December 13, 2017

The regular monthly meeting of the Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at the USDA Service Center. Wes Pourchot called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Directors present: Wes Pourchot, Karen File, Kyle Johnson and Denny Kirkham. Also present: Emily Hartmann, Roger Marcoot, Gary Gaubatz. Associate Director. Absent: . All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

Directors reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting File moved for approval of the minutes, Johnson seconded the motion; motion carried. Last month's time sheets, financial reports, current bills due, and delinquent accounts were reviewed and discussed by the Board. File moved to approve the timesheets, pay bills, and approve financial reports; Johnson seconded. Motion carried. File moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Johnson seconded. 10:30 a.m.

The board reconvened from Executive Session at 10:50 a.m, Kirkham moved to approved the Christmas Bonus and 2018 salary increases for Hartmann & Marcoot discussed in Executive Session. Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: The SSRP Project in Pocahontas is complete and passed inspection. The final receipts for payment were approved by IL Dept of Ag. The check is issued and being signed today. Check will be mailed to the Pokey Village office. The EPA319 project is moving forward. Payment for administrative services was received today. The intergovernmental agreement for the LUC funds will be signed later today by the Chairman and submitted to Montgomery County SWCD. Payment could happen before the end of the year for the operations & CPP money. It is vouchered at the comptroller's office.

New Business: Hartmann reported that she is working with the NRCS staff to maintain coverage at the SWCD office as much as possible with the goal of having someone in the office all the time. When scheduling conflicts are known in advance Hartmann will work with J. Frey and J. Koertge (AITC Contractors) to cover the office during times when Emily/Annette aren't in. Hartmann requested permission to purchase a wall mounted lockbox to handle bill payments, fish orders, etc. during times when the office may be closed. The landlord gave approval to the FSA staff to mount on the wall, not doors. The estimated cost is \$35.00. Kirkham moved to approve the lock box purchase not to exceed \$40.00. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

The board discussed the CPP cost-share funding we're expected to receive. Hartmann and Marcoot proposed a marketing push to encourage landowners to adopt cover crops. A meeting will be planned in March to promote cover crops with a speaker and producer panel. Hartmann & Marcoot will work with Denny Kirkham to develop a ranking criteria for prioritization of the CPP spending for cover crops. Options discussed were focusing on HEL fields and cover crop mixes. Kirkham moved to prioritize CPP applications for cover crop seeding. Johnson seconded. Motion approved.

Hartmann presented a newsletter she & Marcoot developed. Plans are to send a quarterly e-newsletter. The board discussed filing an application with IL CMS for federal surplus property. File moved to approve a resolution regarding the federal surplus funding and submission of the application. Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the CMS Holiday schedule for 2018. She also reminded the board that several years ago the board voted to allow staff to use Lincoln's birthday as a floating holiday to use at their preferred time.

Hartmann notified the board of a public hearing regarding a telecommunications tower being constructed on property adjoining the SWCD property. The area is behind the recycling center. After discussion there were no objections.

Administrative Coordinator's Report: Hartmann reported on AITC activities, NRCS contribution agreement, invoicing, and upcoming events. Hartmann asked about attending a Master Gardener class if IDOA will reimburse for fee. The board suggested Hartmann get a list of Bond County Master Gardeners to provide to people seeking assistance on such

matters. They declined sending her to the Master Gardener course. See attached for additional report.

Conservation Associate's Report: Marcoot continues to service drills and deliveries. Drill rental was just over 4000 acres and Turbo Max acres were up this year as well. He is working with Hartmann on the e-newsletter and planning the cover crop meeting. All drills are cleaned and stored with exception of one.

Future Meetings: The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Emily Hartmann, Exec. Director

AC Report for Dec 2017

Submitted by: Emily Hartmann

Primary Projects:

- EPA 319 Grant – all CNMP Projects approved by EPA
 - All construction projects have been approved for funding by IL EPA, payment received for Admin through Sept. 2017 and for Albers CNMP
 - Ratermann \$ 257099.75
 - Meyer VMS \$ 46871.99
 - Thole \$ 167,014.31
 - Timmerman \$ 43862.61
 - Henrichs \$ 33465.27
 - All grant money has been obligated and there are NO FUNDS AVAILABLE
 - Meeting with Timmerman, Henrichs – Tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.
- IL Forage and Grassland Council Facebook Page and Website Maint.
 - Currently working on IL Forage Institute
- Bond AITC Facebook Page
- Bond SWCD Equipment & Soil Sampling Invoicing
- Assisting NRCS with:
 - CSP Program evidence interviews, payments and folder updates
 - CSP – 3 new applications
 - Finalizing year end contract requirements
 - Landowner calls & file updates
 - HEL 10% status review letters, maps, etc.
- Completing FOIA Requests for Bond County SWCD
- AITC lessons and planning

Upcoming & Recent Meetings

- Nov. 21 – LUC meeting in Litchfield
- Nov. 28 – Randy Dowdy meeting with Book Barn
- Dec. 5 – AISWCD Winter Training in Springfield, IL
- Dec. 14 – Meeting in Breese with EPA319 applicants
- Dec. 15 – leaving early vacation
- Dec. 25 – Office closed
- Jan. 13-14 – Bond County CEO Outdoor Show at FHM
- Feb. 9 Annual Meeting