

**WHITE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**July 18, 2023**

The regular monthly board meeting of the White County Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 7:18 a.m., July 18, 2023, by Chairman Bryan Tomm in the conference room of the USDA building.

***DIRECTORS PRESENT:*** Brandon Barbre, Bryan Tomm, Mark Colbert, Kent Williams and Laura Whitsitt.

***DISTRICT PERSONNEL:*** Jewel Brooks, Administrative Coordinator, and Heidi Uselton, Resource Conservationist.

***NRCS PERSONNEL:*** Tyler Pokojski and Paige Steber, Soil Conservationists.

**MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Mark Colbert, seconded by Kent Williams, to approve June 13, 2023, board meeting Minutes as printed. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Motion was made by Kent Williams, seconded by Laura Whitsitt, to approve the Treasurer's Report for June and year-end FY 2023 Financial Statement and Quickbooks Profit/Loss and Balance Sheet Comparison. Motion carried.

**SWCD STAFF REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR'S REPORT:** Jewel Brooks, Administrative Coordinator, presented a report as attached. Brandon Barbre made a motion, seconded by Mark Colbert, to approve the reports; motion carried.

**RESOURCE CONSERVATIONIST'S REPORT:** Heidi Uselton, Resource Conservationist, presented a report as attached. Mark Colbert made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Kent Williams; motion carried.

**NRCS REPORT:** Tyler Pokojski, Soil Conservationist, informed Directors he has returned to the Carmi group office most days, after serving as Acting DC in the Salem group. An update was given of USDA-NRCS program applications funded in the group and staff additions, with introduction given for Paige Steber who provided a brief introduction.

**EMPLOYEE TIME SHEETS / TRAVEL REPORTS:**

Motion was made by Brandon Barbre, seconded by Kent Williams, to approve employee timesheets and a travel/expense report for Heidi Uselton. Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- IDOA – County Cropped Acreage Report for the Ag Lands Productivity Formula was signed by Chairman Tomm; motion to approve by Laura Whitsitt, second by Brandon Barbre. Motion carried..
- IDOA – AIMA for Pawpaw Solar Farm was reviewed.
- IDOA- the new FY'23 Quarterly Reporting form was discussed. Motion was made by Brandon Barbre, seconded by Kent Williams to approve the report as completed; motion carried..

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- IDOA FY'22 Operations Quarterly report was reviewed. Motion was made by Laura Whitsitt, seconded by Kent Williams, to approve; motion carried.
- NRCS Administrative invoice for June work was reviewed.
- TNC Grant Independent Contractor Agreement was discussed. Rita Becker Forler provided notice through Carrie Palmetter that she will be unable to continue providing services past September. Replacement options and possible SWCD staff overtime were discussed. Motion was made by Mark Colbert, seconded by Laura Whitsitt, to approve payment to Rita Becker Forler and reports provided for Lower Wabash WREP assistance for May and June; motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- NACD 2023 Outreach and Technical Assistance Grant was discussed. Directors would like to pursue the opportunity to submit requested information to AISWCD prior to August 1.
- FY 2024 SWCD/NRCS Client Service Plan was discussed. Motion was made by Brandon Barbre, seconded by Mark Colbert, to approve the plan; motion carried.

### **NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

The next board meeting will be held on August 15, 2023, at 7:15 a.m., in the conference room of the USDA Service Center building. Motion was made by Brandon Barbre, seconded by Laura Whitsitt, to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues; motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

After exit from Executive Session, motion was made by Laura Whitsitt, seconded by Brandon Barbre, to authorize staff overtime as needed/desired until December 31, 2023, with employee choosing 1.5 times hourly pay or comp time off; motion carried. Without further business, motion was made by Brandon Barbre, seconded by Laura Whitsitt, to adjourn. Motion carried; meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m.

**Minutes prepared by Jewel L. Brooks:**

**Jewel L. Brooks, Administrative Coordinator**

Jewel L. Brooks  
Signature

**Approved by:**

**Brandon Barbre, Secretary-Treasurer**

Brandon Barbre  
Signature