

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION & WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting, December 2nd 2021, 10:00 A.M
Zoom Meeting

Minutes for December 2nd, 2021

SSCWQC Members Called In

Colleen Miller, Matt Bormann, Paula Ellis, Dale Farnham, Patti Ruff, John Tuthill, Dennis Carlson

DSCWQ Staff

Susan Kozak, Will Myers, Will Myers, Jake Hansen, Nicky Gubbels, Rob Davis

Partners Present

John Whitaker (CDI), Catherine Delong (ISU), Scott Cagle (NRCS), Steve Hopkins (DNR)

Other Called In

Carlee Sabus (CDI), Nate Kilburg (CDI), Adam Schnieders (DNR)

Miller the meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

2021-63 Tuthill moved to approve the agenda; Bormann seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2021-64 Ellis moved to approve the November 4th, 2021, meeting minutes; Farnham seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Bureau Chief Reports (Reports on file)

Field Services –Myers

Myers highlighted the following topics in his report;

- IFIP provided 1,059 practices with funding
- POL a subprogram of IFIP, implemented 34 practices in 13 watershed in SFY 2021
- Currently there are 5 open positions and there have been 2 positions recently filled

Mines and Minerals – Kozak

Kozak highlighted the following topic on Sitzmann' s behalf in the report;

- Congress has approved re-authorization of the AML program as well as the Biden infrastructure bill. It is anticipated that the budget will increase from \$3M to \$9M

Water Resources - Hansen

Hansen highlighted the following topics in his report;

- The next WRCC meeting will be December 17th
- A new Environmental Engineer Senior, Sara Smith, has been hired to assist with wetland and edge-of-field practice design and construction observation

Director's Report - Kozak

Kozak highlighted the following items in her report;

- The November employees of the moth are Daryl Boulware and Rob Sproat
- Sign ups for the 2021 \$5 cover crop program will be open on December 1st
- There were 7 RFP applications received for WQI projects

Presentation

- Adam Schnieders – Cover Crop Initiative

Partner Reports (Reports on file)

Conservation Districts of Iowa - Whitaker

Whitaker highlighted the following topics in his report;

- CDI has decided to not hold an in-person Partnership Day at the Capitol in March 2022
- The Private Wetlands position is currently vacant, applications will be closing on December 6th

Engineers – Bjerke

- No report

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Hopkins

Hopkins highlighted the following topics in his report;

- DNR Comprehensive Water Quality Planning Grant applications are due on December 30th, 2021
- SRF Sponsored Project applications are due March 1st, 2022

Iowa State Extension – Delong

Delong highlighted the following topics in her report;

- The popular pocket sized “Cover Crop Field Guide” new edition has been released
- The integrated Crop Management Conference will be held on December 1st & 2nd

Leopold Center – Farnham

No Report

Natural Resources Conservation Service – Cagle

Cagle highlighted the following items in his report;

- There are currently 22 active RCPP projects
- NRCS is conducting a preliminary investigation & Feasibility report for Linn County to assess the need for flood mitigation and prevention
- EWP has one more agreement to complete for the 2019 flood recovery agreement

Business

- SSCWQC Research and Demonstration Grant Updates – Gubbels
 - Gubbels shared a brief update on current grants

Subcommittee Reports

- DO Subcommittee report:
 - 5 year plan review: Des Moines and Hamilton

2021-65 Ellis moved to approve the plans listed above. Carlson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SWCD Vacancies/Appointments

- Vacancies
 - Dickinson – Recommendation to appoint Emily Boettcher to fill the unexpired term of Ty Adams

2021-66 Tuthill moved to approve the appointment of Emily Boettcher. Ellis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Visitors/Guests

- Aaron Gerds with LSA joined the meeting and had no additional comments

SSCWQC Member Reports

- Bormann- Kossuth County Soil and Water field day went very well
- Farnham- Harvest is done as well as tillage. Some dry fertilizer and anhydrous is being put down
- Tuthill- Wind damaged cord is finally tilled. Seeing some fertilizer going on. Things are very dry again
- Dennis- A lot of anhydrous and lime seen. Crop yields were very good. The tree farm sold out of tree in 2 weekends
- Ellis- Finished up harvest finally, now focusing on book work
- Miller- Harvest is complete. Received a little rain, not enough

Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.