

STATE SOIL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Monthly Meeting Minutes, March 2, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
Quality Inn & Suites Starlite Village and Conference Center, Ames, Iowa

SSCC

Sherman Lundy, Chair
Dale Farnham
Jean Eells
J. Kelly Tobin
Paula Ellis
Vance Hjelm
Tim Palmer
Jody Kerns

DSC

Jim Gillespie, Director
Vince Sitzmann
Jake Hansen
Tarrita Spicer

Partners

Courtney Slagle, CDI
Mahdi Al-Kaisi, ISU
Dave Shanahan, Army Corp of Engineers
Steve Hopkins, DNR
Jay Mar, NRCS

Additional Attendees

Jennifer Terry, Iowa Environmental Council

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m.

2015 – 8 Dale wanted to make an addition for a brief discussion on naming of "State Soil." Kelly made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2015 – 9 Jody made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2015, meeting. Kelly seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Bureau Chief Reports

Field Services – Sitzmann (copy of report with file)
Water Resources – Hansen (copy of report with file)

- RFP demo projects announced March 2, close April 10, 2015.

Mines & Minerals (copy of report with file)

Director's Report – Gillespie (copy of report with file)

- SSCC on agenda for the ISAC spring meeting.

Partner Reports

Conservation Districts of Iowa – Courtney Slagle (copy of report with file)
Engineers – Shanahan

- Dale (Urban Conservation rep) will work with DSC staff (Wayne Petersen) to develop a letter.

2015 – 10 Jody made a motion to create a letter regarding the removal of the 4 inch rule. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Hopkins (copy of report with file)
Iowa State Extension – Lawrence/Al-Kaisi (copy of report with file)
*Leopold Center – Farnham
Natural Resource Conservation Service – Mar (copy of report with file)

Old Business

Waiver Request for Vegetated Subsurface Drain Outlet (739) Installations – Mar

- Further discussion will take place between Jay and Jon, IDALS/NRCS.

SSCC Research & Demonstration Grant Updates – Spicer (copy of report with file)

Leopold Board – Jody has accepted the appointment.

2015 Iowa Water Conference

- Briefly discussed order of events.

Summer Tour Update

- Isle Hotel and Casino Resort in Waterloo
- UNI, Urban Conservation, Backbone Beach, Forestry Tour, Edgewood Locker
- Conference call being scheduled to discuss invite list, finalize tour agenda.

New Business

Workload Concepts - Resource Assessment/Workload Analysis – Mar

- DC's working on analysis happening next month during the State Address partnering with field offices and partnerships: contacts, consensual timing permits and resource driven, putting those tools together based on each office to see what the workload and manpower necessary.

State Technical Committee

- Quarterly meetings at NRCS
- Jean and Kelly will remain on the committee as representatives of WFAN and producer after their SSCC terms end 4/30/15.

2015 – 11 Kelly made a motion to approve the appointment of Vance to represent the SSCC on the State Technical Committee and Paula as an alternate. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

State Soil Discussion – Dale

- Should the committee support the naming of Iowa's State Soil.
 - Jean discussed with Dr. Miller who has had conversations with John Wills and he would be interested in advancing this next year.

2015 – 12 Dale made a motion that the SSCC should contact the Secretary of Agriculture or Legislature and discuss the naming of a State Soil for Iowa. Kelly seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Subcommittee Reports

District Operations

- a. SSCC Research and Demonstration Grants 2015
- b. Grant Modifications:
 - i. Johnson SWCD – would like to switch “travel expenses to expand existing “analytical analysis.”
 1. Impacts of Permeable Pavers on Soil and Water in Iowa
 2. Comparing and Contrasting the Use of Bioretention Practices in Iowa

2015 – 13 Jody made a motion to approve the request to transfer of funds from travel expenses to analytical analysis. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. ISU Science & Technology: Reducing Soil and Phosphorus Loss with Surface Runoff from Corn-Soybean Rotations by No-till, Cover Crops and Improved Phosphorus Management. – would like to extend to an additional 2 yrs.

2015 – 14 Jody made a motion to decline the request to request additional funding and extend the project. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Soil, Water and Mineral Resources

- a. REAP Priority Watershed Application – Louisa SWCD: Long Creek

2015 – 15 Kelly made a motion to approve with the recommendation they discuss with the Washington SWCD to collaborate to better utilize funding. Jean seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Vacancy

Delaware SWCD – Would like to accept the resignation of Eric Wahl and recommend the appointment of Chris Eibey to the vacancy left by Mr. Wahls resignation.

Iowa SWCD – Would like to recommend the appointment of Vanessa Spratt to fill the vacancy left after the passing of Robert Scoville.

Iowa SWCD – Vacancy – Robert Scoville passed away on January 11, 2015.

Floyd SWCD – Vacancy (failure to elect)

Mitchell SWCD – Vacancy (resignation)

2015 – 16 Jean made a motion to approve the resignations, appointments and recognize vacancies for all districts listed above. Dale seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SSCC Member Reports

Jean: Presented the WFAN Research and Demonstration Cover Crop pamphlet; facilitated a watershed meeting.

Dale: will attending the Leopold Board meeting on March 15th.

Vance: Working on taxes and will attend Regional meetings.

Jody: Attended Regionals, planning the summer tour; discussed the State Forest Nursery closing possibly.

Paula: Attended the Iowa Soybeans On-Farm Conference.

Tim: Attended the Regional meeting in Council Bluffs and worked with committee's on a National level.

Sherm: Attended the Iowa Soybean conference, Crop Advantage, Cover Crop presentations, Flood Center WQI and Upper Cedar River Coalition.

Kelly: Attending Regional meetings and State Technical meeting.

Future Meetings

March 2nd & 3rd 2015 Iowa Water Conference in Ames

April 2nd Thursday 10:00 a.m. Wallace Building
9:00 a.m. for a sub-committee meeting if needed
**AML Presentation – Mines & Minerals Bureau

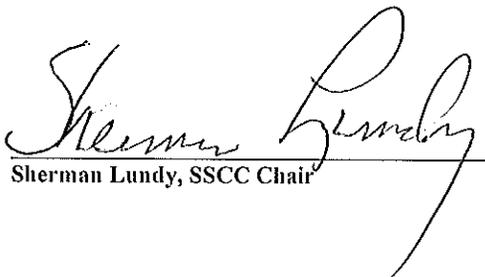
May 7th Thursday 10:00 a.m. Wallace Building
9:00 a.m. for a sub-committee meeting if needed
**Non-Point Source Presentation – Allen Bonini, DNR

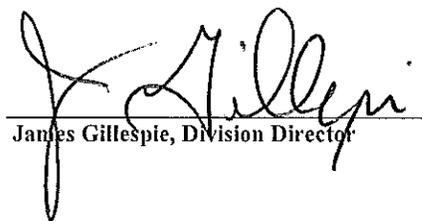
June 22nd to 23rd State Committee/CDI tour & meeting,
Location: TBD

Dale

*No Report

**Presentations


Sherman Lundy, SSCC Chair


James Gillespie, Division Director

