

Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District
54th Annual Dinner Meeting
Tuesday, March 2, 2021 beginning at 6:30 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Purpose: The Soil and Water Conservation District is responsible for the leadership in conserving and protecting soil and water related resources within Clinton County. The SWCD provides information about soil, water and related natural resource conservation: identifies and prioritizes local soil and water resource concerns; and connects land users to sources of education, technical and financial assistance to implement conservation practices and technologies.

Vision statement: The Vision of the Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District is to create an environment through leadership, cooperation, and education, in which citizens wisely use and enhance natural resources.

<u>Supervisors present</u>	<u>Associates present</u>	<u>Staff Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Other</u>
Clint Orr	Richard Moore	Leah Harden	David Beard	Katelyn Fagan, NRCS
Jerry Batts		Austin Green		Brittany Shephard, FSA
Matt Kelley				Adam Shanks, Purdue
Dustin Johnson				

On March 2, 2021 at 6:38 PM, EST the annual meeting of the Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Chairman, Clint Orr. Ten individuals were registered and in attendance. Chairman Orr welcomed those in attendance and extended thanks to Adam Shanks for hosting the Zoom meeting. A link to the Zoom meeting can be found at <https://purdue-edu.zoom.us/rec/share/IJxlaji5ulhug4QPRZqUy5D-6gZ97s0hllvp3ykEy54HKzfzWvmUt3jwmUev6MjT.h0LvQP9Gz0jMS5Nc>

The Election Committee of Dustin Johnson and Adam Shanks {Harold Marshall absent} presided over the supervisor election. Clint Orr's elected term was expiring. He chose to seek re-election. The nominating committee called for nominations from the floor. Having no nominations from the floor the election committee called for a motion to close the nominations. A motion was made and seconded {Matt/Jerry}. Eligible voters were asked to vote by a show of hands via the chat feature in Zoom with the majority of eligible voters being in favor. Clint was elected to serve a three-year term. The nominating committee certified the election process. Dustin issued the Oath of Office to Clint Orr. Jerry Batts was re-appointed after being recommended to the Indiana Soil Conservation Board. Dustin issued the Oath of Office to Jerry.

A presentation of the Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation Districts' 2020 financial report and accomplishments was presented by SWCD staff using Powerpoint. It was noted that the annual report in written format will be posted to www.clintonswcd.org to view or download.

Clint asked USDA staff to provide updates. Katelyn Fagan, District Conservationist, USDA, NRCS explained that the obligation deadline for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is late April. The new administration provided new guidance associated with office staffing due to COVID restrictions. The Phase(d) approach has been eliminated and occupancy is limited to 25% occupancy for all agencies.

Brittany Shephard, County Executive Director, Farm Service Agency explained that the FSA has received a significant number of inquiries about the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Primarily field board and filter strip practices. She further noted that there are fifteen pending offers in que for planning. Brittany further reiterated the government mandated policies concerning office policies surrounding COVID. There are concerns about dealing with high workload centering around sign-up and administration of disaster programs. Rural areas may require a higher percentage of individuals able to work in office versus telework. FSA is the lead on FPAC and they will pass down any information as it changes. An FPAC meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2021.

Chairman Orr provided closing remarks and asked for a motion to adjourn the annual meeting of the Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District. At 7:08 PM a motion was made to adjourn the annual meeting. Jerry/Dustin.

The regular business meeting of the Clinton County Soil and Water Conservation District convened at 7:08 PM.

Attendance: Jerry Batts, Clint Orr Matt Kelley, Dustin Johnson, Leah Harden, Austin Green, Richard Moore, Adam Shanks, Katelyn Fagan

The minutes of the February 2, 2021 business meeting were reviewed. Matt made a motion to approve. Seconded by Jerry. Motion carried.

The financial records were presented for review. Matt/Jerry. Carried.

Certificate of deposit ending in 340 reaches maturity on 3/19/2021. A motion was made to reinvest at the best rate and term at time of maturity. Matt/Jerry. Motion carried.

The following nominations were made to serve as officers of the SWCD and will serve until the 2022 annual meeting. Clint Orr to serve as chairman; Dustin Johnson to serve as V. Chairman and Leah Harden to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. The slate of officers accepted their nominations. A motion was made to approve the slate of officers. Matt/Jerry. Motion carried.

Dustin raised concerns about Supervisor David Beard’s participation in recent SWCD business meetings. Clint provided some insight as he had talked with David several months ago. He also noted that per a recent conversation that he and the District Administrator had had that if David’s circumstances no longer permit him to be involved that a letter of resignation is required. At that time action can be taken to fill the vacant position. Clint offered to reach out to David again.

Old business included annual employee reviews. Clint and Dustin will be scheduling those reviews soon. The status of Leah’s retirement has been put on hold for an undetermined amount of time.

Chairman Orr provided closing remarks and the regular business meeting of the CCSWCD adjourned at 7:25 PM. The next regular business meeting of the CCSWCD will be held April 6, 2021 and will be held at Purdue Extension or via Microsoft Teams beginning at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Leah Harden.

Minutes Approval

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Member

Member

Member