



**FLOYD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, January 2, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**Present: The Board**

Tom King  
Melanie Palaisa  
Ron Wathen  
Matt Payne

**Office Staff:**

Angel Jackson, Director / Educator

**Guests:**

Rachel & Lucas Boucher / NRCS  
Laura Fribley / ISDA  
Eliza Hudson / NRCS

Chairman, Tom King, called the regular meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. in the district office.

Matt Payne motioned to approve the December meeting minutes. Melanie Palaisa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes approved.

The Treasurer's report was given: Savings Account: General Savings - \$17,235.77. Checking Account: General Checking - \$72,808.48.

Matt Payne motioned to approve the financial report. Ron Wathen seconded the motion. All were in favor and the financial report approved.

Guest reports started with Laura Fribley sharing follow-ups to questions about conflict of interest / nepotism. Reminding supervisors that any who participate in district sponsored cost share programs must sign COI forms. She also shared the South East region was awarded several Clean Water Indiana grants this past cycle. Eliza Hudson shared the news that the RCPP Farmers Helping Hellbenders application for 2026 funding was not approved, however there was still funding available for 2025 and applications were being reviewed. Eliza also shared that Eastern Hellbenders were being considered for addition to the national Endangered Species list. Rachel Boucher provided a hard copy of her talking points to share with board.

The only items revisited under Old Business was the Candidate for Election, Audit Team, and Recognition Awards at Annual Meeting. The board reconfirmed that Matt Payne would be the district's candidate for election at the Annual Meeting, and they confirmed the audit date still worked for everyone. There was discussion amongst the board about whom the district would recognize. While no decision was made, Angel encouraged the board to contact her with any suggestions.

The first New Business item discussed was the speaker for the Annual Meeting. Rachel Boucher is going to introduce herself and talk about her role working exclusively for Floyd County. She will speak for about 15 minutes then Angel will share her experience releasing Hellbenders over the summer. The next item to discuss was the meal to be served at Annual Meeting. All agreed that the menu from the previous year (Chicken, mashed potatoes, green



**SWCD**

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Floyd County, Indiana

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beans, mac-n-cheese, and rolls) received so many compliments that the same meal will be served again. The only deviation would be a change to the desert options.

Each board member will have a different role for the Annual Meeting. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the board members will receive the program for the evening outlining their respective roles.

Angel asked the board to cover her dues for the Indiana District Employees Association and they agreed to do so.

The board received a copy of the Annual Plan of Work and were encouraged to make additions / tweaks and bring ideas to the February meeting.

The board agreed to continue using PNC Bank and name it the district depository.

Under Other Business, Angel provided the board with the calculated amount of Indiana sales tax due. Melanie Palaisa suggested further talks about allocating funds for future projects and finding a higher yield on the district's savings account.

The following motions were made during the meeting:

Matt Payne made a motion to pay for the annual meeting catering up to \$675. Ron Wathen seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Matt Payne made a motion to pay for Angel's IDEA 2025 membership dues of \$50. Melanie Palaisa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Ron Wathen made a motion to designate PNC Bank as the district depository. Melanie Palaisa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Melanie Palaisa made a motion to pay the Indiana sales tax due of \$41.21. Matt Payne seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Claims presented to the board: Claims paid by District: -\$0. Claims sent directly to County for payment: - \$0. Claims paid by the District reimbursed by the County: -\$0. Grant: -\$7.30 – Angel Jackson –Reimburse postage. CWI Invasive: -\$42 – Angel Jackson – Reimburse banners for FCNHRT.

With no other business to discuss, the board moved to end the meeting.

Melanie Palaisa made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Wathen seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

Angel Jackson  
Director / Educator

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