



**FLOYD COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**
Thursday, October 23, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m.

Present: The Board

Ron Wathen
Matt Payne
Melanie Palaisa

Office Staff:

Angel Jackson, Director / Educator

Guests:

Eliza Hudson / NRCS
Cole Flatt / R.I.T.A.

Vice-Chairman, Ron Wathen, called the regular meeting to order at 3:04 pm. in the district office.

Matt Payne motioned to approve the September meeting minutes conditionally with the noted mistake corrected. Melanie Palaisa seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes approved.

The Treasurer's report was given: Savings Account: General Savings - \$17,237.49. Checking Account: General Checking - \$73,061.22.

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

Guest reports started with Angel sharing a report prepared by Drew McCutchan. Due to the government shutdown, no NRCS employees were present. Drew's report contained updated information on current NRCS contracts within Floyd County and information on the benefits of native shrubs filling conservation gaps. Angel shared the district support specialist update provided by Laura Fribley, highlighting upcoming deadlines and the reminder about the legal composition of an election committee. Eliza Hudson shared the news that the Hellbender project had been approved for Clean Water Indiana funding. Eligibility for cost share dollars will now cover all of Floyd County.

There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business started with tabling the board picture as not all supervisors were present.

The District's election committee was discussed and it was decided that Tom King, Gina Anderson, and Sarah Bacher would make up the committee. As the board discussed who was up for election, supervisor Melanie Palaisa announced she would not be seeking re-election in 2026. The board currently has associate supervisors and will meet with them to discuss their interest in running for election.

Angel shared a summary of the outreach events the district had hosted during the month. The Spooky Invasives month kicked off at the library focusing on books about invasives and the importance of native species. Invasive Insects were the focus of our second event and was held at Nova Parke and led by Gina Anderson. Our third event was held at the Purdue Polytechnic building and featured all things invasive that are not plants or insects.



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Angel advised that the county's Trunk or Treat event had been rescheduled due to inclement weather and a new date of Oct. 26th had been set. The remaining outreach event will happen next Tuesday on the 28th at Jensen Trails and will include a hike lead by invasive "wizard" Nathan Kachnavage.

Other New Business included Angel sharing a Thank You letter from Mt. St. Francis for our support, a reminder that supervisor per diem would be reviewed at next month's meeting, and that the IASWCD would only be hosting a Business Meeting this year as opposed to a full conference. Angel also shared the district would be applying for a NACD Friends of Conservation grant for a pollinator pocket project focusing on urban yards.

Motions made during the meeting:

Melanie Palaisa motioned to nominate Tom King, Gina Anderson, and Sarah Bacher as the election committee. Matt Payne seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Melanie Palaisa motioned to nominate Matt Payne as the district delegate at the IASWCD Annual Business Meeting. Ron Wathen seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion approved.

Melanie Palaisa motioned to pay the 2026 NACD dues in the amount of \$501. 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: -\$96.96 – Amazon Capital Services – Seed envelopes & brushes; -\$150 – Angel Jackson – Reimburse educational supplies (bat house materials). Grant: -\$1,200.00 – Purdue CES Ed Fund – Sponsorship of 4th Grade Ag. Careers fieldtrip; -\$3,913.95 – State Board of Accounts – Audit of years 2021 – 2024; -\$250.00 – Indiana Woodland Steward Institute – Sponsorship of newsletter printing for Floyd County residents. CWI Invasive: -\$365.40 – Indiana Media Group – Invasive advertisement #2 in N&T.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully,

Angel Jackson
Director / Educator

