

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES**

**ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING**

Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District

**6 August, 2020**

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Commission Chairman, Rick Normington, at 6:00 P.M. on 6 August, 2020, in the CSCD conference room.
- B. Members Present: Rick Normington, Sunny Leerkamp (CSLOA), Randy Brumfield, Ty Cooper & Brenda Maulden, & Jim Donnellis (Recorder)
- C. Members Absent: Josh Edwards ( Board ),
- D. Others in Attendance: Josh Hawley ( CSCD Superintendent ) plus 4 guests.
- E. *Randy Brumfield moved to approve the Minutes of the 2 July, 2020, meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Ty Cooper seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
- F. ( 6:05 P.M. ) FREEHOLDER CONCERNS : Josh Hawley reported that freeholders living near “Eagle Point” on Sweetwater Lake expressed concern about underwater stumps near the point that, in low water, pose a hazard to boaters. They suggested “hazard buoys” be placed at that location to alert boaters of the hazard. Josh Hawley will investigate and take appropriate action.
- G. OLD BUSINESS :
1. (6:10 P.M.) **REVIEW OF CSCD WATER/GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ( Josh )**: Josh’s update covered progress reports on projects of interest to ECOLOGY including: status of several CSCD-owned coffer dams needing repair after the “100 year flood” in March; the status of his hiking trail mapping initiative; and an update on pending spillway repairs on Cordry Dam. He also reported that he treated 5 areas on Sweetwater Lake for Lily Pads.
  2. ( 6:15 P.M. ) **DREDGING POLICY & PROCEDURE**: It was learned that the current CSCD Rule Book on allows private dredging in coves from Labor Day thru December of each year, presumably to reduce the stirring up of sediment in the coves during the recreational season.
  3. ( 6:20 P.M. ) **PICKLEBALL APPROVAL**: Josh Hawley reported that the court lines for the approved Pickleball Courts will be painted onto the basketball court on 18 August. Josh is working with representative of the Pickleball Club to purchase and install the equipment storage locker near the courts.
  4. ( 6:25 P.M. ) **POLLINATOR HABITAT ( Brenda )**: Brenda Mauldin reports that SCI-REMC will not mow the designated pollinator habitat area across from the beach, but will soon clear brush and cultivate the designated area for the planned Fall seed planting work. The pollinator habitat work will respect the 130’ setback agreed to for CSLOA parking needs for annual fireworks events.
  5. ( 6:30 P.M. ) **DEER REDUCTION HUNT UPDATE ( Rick )**: Rick and our CHAP Coordinator, Rusty Fields, updated the Commission on the status of this year’s planning for the Fall/Winter Deer Reduction Hunt in the CSCD. The State Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), once again, has approved our request for a CHAP Grant for 2020-21, but in a reduced amount, and for just one year ( reportedly due to more Indiana communities requesting the popular deer reduction grants). It was agreed, by consensus, that the hunt will be conducted in a very similar format as last year’s successful hunt. The Deer Reduction Committee (DRC) was reminded of the conflict from last year, on weekends in October & November, with weekend freeholders, whose noise-polluting leaf-blowing ( totally authorized ) adversely impacted hunters on some prime deer hunting lots. It was recommended that weekend hunts be moved to December & January to avoid this conflict. Hunting will commence on 5 October, from 8:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. weekdays. A final hunt calendar will be finalized this month and published soon. Pre-qualification of all hunters desiring to participate in this year’s hunt will be held on 22 and 23 August ( Sat. & Sun.), around noon.

**( OVER >>> )**

6. ( 6:40 P.M. ) **ACTION PLANNING FOR NON-BUDGET ISSUES** (*Jim*): Jim Donnell's handed out a document that captures all the CSCD ecological issues/concerns, identified by commission members back in March of this year, that do not require money outlays to deal with. Instructions to commission members are to identify the 10 most important issues to be dealt with this year ( A Priorities ) and the 10 least important issues ( C Priorities ), as homework for this month. Next month, we will capture all member inputs and devise a plan to deal with the top 10.

H. **NEW BUSINESS** ( 6:50 P.M. ) :

1. **FREEHOLDER DREDGING APPLICATIONS:** None

2. **COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS** ( 6:50 P.M. ):

- a. Jim Donnell's briefed the Commission on the potential Oak Wilt infestation on Flounder Drive and his interaction with local arborists, tree service companies, and the Purdue University Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab to confirm the diagnosis and plan a mitigation effort. As this potential infestation could endanger all the Red & Black Oak trees in the CSCD, he will report back to the Commission and the CSCD on the findings of the Purdue Lab biologists from his samples.
  - b. Another commission member reported that the dredging work performed recently by J. Rollins at an approved freeholder site may have gone beyond the permit stipulations as approved, and may have contradicted existing rules for dredging of our conservancy lakes. Josh Hawley will work with the CSCD Building Control Officer to investigate the allegations and report back to the Commission with recommendations for appropriate action.
3. The next meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission is scheduled for Thursday, 3 September, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in the CSCD conference room. A draft Agenda for that meeting was developed.

I. **ADJOURNMENT:** *Rick Normington moved to adjourn the August meeting of the Ecology Commission. Brenda Maulden seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

**JIM DONNELLS**  
Commission Recorder  
(801) 361-8791  
[opajimd@gmail.com](mailto:opajimd@gmail.com)