

DRAFT
MINUTES
ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING
Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District
6 June, 2024

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Shena Johnson at 6:00 P.M., in the CSCD conference room.
- B. Members Present: Shena Johnson, Brenda Maulden, Charlie Tinkle, Matt Murtha, and Jim Donnell (Recorder).
- C. Members Absent: Randy Brumfield & Ty Cooper
- D. Others In Attendance: Nick Johann (CSCD Operations) + 2 Guests
- E. (6:05 P.M.) *Brenda Maulden moved to approve the Minutes of the 2 May, 2024 meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Charlie Hinkle seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
- F. (6:05 P. M.) **FREEHOLDER CONCERNS:** Beth & Josh Wolf, freeholders residing on Aspen Drive, appeared on behalf of all freeholders in the Aspen/Alder cove on the north end of Cordry Lake, to express concern over the very early and very dense weed growth in that cove this spring. They acknowledged that the weed treatment performed in May by Aquatic Control has largely mitigated the problem, but they were concerned that the treatment came too late this year as that cove was nearly unusable by boat traffic until the die off. They asked that we consider weed control treatments earlier in the year next year. Nick Johann agreed to discuss this concern with Aquatic Control to determine the best course of action.
- G. (6:20 P. M.) **OLD BUSINESS:**
1. **CSCD OPERATIONS REPORT:** Nick Johann provided updates on myriad projects of interest to ECOLOGY including:
 - a. **Cordry Lake Spillway:** We have received the long-awaited permit for rebuild of the Cordry Dam spillway from DNR. It is now up to the CSCD Board to decide when to put this \$ 2.3 million (+/-) project out to bid. ECOLOGY is anxious to get this project underway and is hopeful that the work can be started and finished this fall, after boating season.
 - b. **Coffer Dam Plans:** The next nominee for the installation of erosion-control coffer dams is the gully just south of Nuthatch Drive on CSCD property. ECOLOGY agrees with this recommendation and work should begin this fall.
 - c. **Dam Abutments:** A plan to remove overgrowth (trees, shrubs, weeds, etc.) from the dam abutments on both lakes has been developed. Nick hopes to have work begin this summer as the hired contractor frees time from other jobs.
 - d. **Zebra Mussel Prevention Program:** Despite the loss of our hired Boat Steward, Nick reports that replacements have been hired and zebra mussel prevention efforts are in place once again at our boat ramps. Unfortunately, no volunteers have stepped forward to fill gaps in coverage.
 2. **DREDGING APPLICATIONS:** *Charlie Tinkle moved to APPROVE the dredging application submitted by Edward Nugent on lot CE 20-22 (7430 Hemlock Drive), as submitted. Brenda Maulden seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
 3. (6:30 P. M.) **CSCD “RULES” REVIEW :** The third session of the joint Security Commission/Ecology Commission “Rules Re-write Workshop,” commenced. Tonight’s session was abbreviated as no Security Commission representatives were present. The committee “recorder,” Shena Johnson, reported that she has retyped all the current rules (found on the CSCD website as a PDF document) into an editable Word document for use by the joint re-write committee to make proposed changes more easily presented.

A discussion followed to address the many decisions that have been made by the CSCD Board in monthly meetings (as reflected in Minutes of those meetings), that are not established as “Resolutions.” A search of those Minutes will be made to find any of those hidden decisions that should be included in a revised Rule Book.

OVER >>>

4. (6:40 P. M.) **POLLINATOR HABITAT UPDATE** (Brenda): The 3-acre pollinator site has been mowed and herbicide has been applied to eradicate all vegetative growth. A second application will be needed to completely kill all unwanted vegetation, after which the area should be ready for pollinator seeding, hopefully this fall/winter. Brenda briefed the commission on the proposal to create a “Memorial Garden,” within the Pollinator Habitat. The committee continues to develop a comprehensive plan for the creation of this Pollinator Habitat resource for CSCD.

5. (6:50 P. M.) A public hearing for additional appropriations has been scheduled by the CSCD Board on 18 June to decide on the special funding of the “**SHORELINE EROSION STUDY**,” proposed by Doctor Sweeten of Ecosystems Connections Institute, LLC in Denver, Indiana. Although an expensive proposition, their proposed study of our lakes would provide all the scientific data needed to defend a decision, one way or the other, over the use of big wake boats on our small lakes.

6. (6:55 P. M.) **ANIMAL CONTROL MEASURES**: It was reported that there has been no Canada goose roundup this year and there is uncertainty as to whether there have been any meaningful muskrat/beaver control measures taken this year. The Commission will need to look into the contract with Rusty’s Animal Control (RAC) to determine their ability to continue to support our wild animal control measures in CSCD.

H. **NEW BUSINESS**:

1. (7:00 P. M.) **COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS**:

a. Matt Murda expressed concern over observed **fuel spills at our Marinas**. While serving on Boat Patrol, he has recently observed 3 different episodes of fuel being spilled into our lakes at the Marinas, even with fuel pump attendants present. He observed no attempt to capture the spilled fuel and was concerned about the apparent lack of fuel spill kits at the marinas and the level of training of our pump attendants in fuel spill mitigation procedures. Nick Johann agreed to look into these reports and will ensure better training of our fuel pump attendants to preclude further fuel spill incidents.

b. Brenda Maulden reported that the porta-potty at Centerlake Park has been relocated to a much more visible and convenient location. She expressed the gratitude of the Garden Club, Pickleball Club, and families that take their children to the park for this move.

2. (7:10 P.M.) **FREEHOLDER CONCERNS**: NONE

I. (7:10 P.M.) **STRATEGIC PLANNING/BUDGET PLANNING** : Jim Donnell’s facilitated the third budget planning workshop in the development of the ECOLOGY budget proposal for FY 2025. The Commission finalized the categorization of all 60 concerns raised by commission members over the last 3 months and prioritized the major concerns that will comprise the final Budget Proposal of the ECOLOGY Commission for FY2025.

J. **ADJOURNMENT**: **The Commission was reminded that, because of the 4th of July INDEPENDENCE DAY Holiday, our next monthly meeting is postponed until Thursday, 11 July.** Shena Johnson moved to adjourn the 6 June, meeting of the Ecology Commission. Matt Murtha seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

JIM DONNELLS
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