

DRAFT

MINUTES

ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING

Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District

7 JUNE, 2018

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Commission Deputy Chairman, Josh Edwards, at 6:00 P.M. on 7 June, 2018, at the CSCD conference room.
- B. Members Present: Josh Edwards (Board) Sunny Leerkamp (CSLOA), Randy Brumfield, Brenda Maulden & Jim Donnellis (Recorder)
- C. Members Absent: Rick Normington, Ty Cooper
- D. Others in Attendance: Superintendent Josh Hawley; + 9 Freeholders
- E. *Sunny Leerkamp moved to approve the Minutes of the 3 May, 2018 meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Randy Brumfield seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*

F. FREEHOLDER CONCERNS:

1. NANCY HARRINGTON – Had multiple questions regarding the now widely-rumored deer hunt in the CSCD. Josh Edwards addressed each of her questions and outlined the ongoing work of the newly-formed “Deer Reduction Committee (DRC),” to develop proposed “rules of the hunt,” that, once finalized, still must be approved by both the ECOLOGY Commission and CSCD Board. He invited Ms. Harrington, and any/all freeholders to attend the next meeting of the DRC, next Wednesday, to express her concerns and ask further questions.
2. SAM BANTER - Interested in establishing 5 honey bee hives and had questions on how to go about it within the CSCD. The Commission recollected that another freeholder, Mr. Tom Ferguson, requested the same thing of the Commission on 6 April, 2017, and after review & approval from the CSCD Board, Mr. Ferguson’s request was approved, with the caveat that he would return to the ECOLOGY Commission to report back to us on his results after a season of operation. Despite multiple requests to return to the Commission and provide his report, he has failed to do so. It was determined that we need hear the required report back from Mr. Ferguson before we can provide another proposal to the CSCD Board for approval. ***Randy Brumfield agreed to contact Tom Ferguson to invite him to the next ECOLOGY Commission meeting to report to us on his year-long bee-keeping operations as a prerequisite for processing Sam Banter’s new request to do the same.***

G. OLD BUSINESS :

1. (6:25 P.M.) **SUMMARY REVIEW OF CSCD WATER/GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT** (*Provided earlier by email*) (**Josh Hawley**): Josh’s update covered progress reports on projects of interest to ECOLOGY including: the Nature Trail # 5 Extension to Cordry Dam (90% complete); work will be done by Jerry Cleefman on the erosion control project at the north end of Sweetwater Lake in late July (delayed by wet conditions); work to reconstruct the Grizzly Drive/Groundhog Drive coffer dam will be done by Jason Weddle Excavating in June (delayed by wet conditions); and Christopher Burke Engineering is working on preliminary design options for the needed repairs to Sweetwater Dam. Additionally, Josh updated the Commission and guests on topics ranging from improvements to the area recreation facilities, ongoing aquatic weed treatments, and nuisance animal (geese & muskrats) control issues. Josh also reported that freeholders have complained of accumulating “muck” in coves on Sweetwater Lake that were dredged some 6 years ago.

(OVER >>>)

2. (6:35 P.M.) **POLLINATOR HABITAT UPDATE** (*Brenda Maulden*):

The Commission continued its work to develop the CSCD Board-approved “Pollinator Habitat” in the newly-available acreage across from the beach. Brenda Maulden briefed the Commission on her extensive work to secure Financial Grants from local environmental protection agencies to create a “Pollinator Habitat,” in that 4-acre area where the lake-dredging spoils were dumped and leveled over the last 5 years. With Board approval, she has formally applied for grant money available from Pheasants & Quail Forever and the Brown County Soil & Water Conservation District. Work will begin once grant request decisions are rendered. The work will be phased-in over time, with seed being planted in the Dec.-Feb. timeframe.

3. (6:40 P.M.) **DEER HERD CONSERVATION INITIATIVE** : Josh Edwards summarized, for all in attendance, the status of the “Deer Conservation Measures” to be taken in the CSCD this year. He reported that three (3) freeholder volunteers have joined with three (3) Commission members to form a “Deer Reduction Committee(DRC).” The DRC is regularly meeting to formulate appropriate “rules of the hunt,” for the first hunt this Fall/Winter, and will work as needed to ensure this first “CSCD Deer Reduction Zone Hunt,” is both safe and successful. The DRC has already met three times and will next meet on Wednesday, 13 June. Their proposed rules will need to be approved by both the ECOLOGY Commission and the CSCD Board before implementation.

4. (7:00 P.M.) **LATE FREEHOLDER CONCERNS**: Due to ECOLOGY Commission erroneous meeting time information being publicized, 7 freeholders arrived to the meeting for a 7:00 start time. In that they were interested in deer hunt information, Josh Edwards reviewed for them, for the 3rd time tonight, the status of CSCD deer hunt planning. He dispelled multiple rumors and answered their questions.

H. **NEW BUSINESS** :

1. (7:30 P.M.) Jim Donnell's facilitated the final “Strategic Planning Workshop” for this year to produce the ECOLOGY Commission Budget Proposal for FY 2019. The Proposal was finalized and, once Josh Hawley produces budget figures for each prioritized action, the ECOLOGY Budget Proposal for FY 2019 will be submitted to the District Manager for consideration by the CSCD Board for approval.

2. The next meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission is scheduled for Thursday, 5 July, 2018, at 6:00 P.M. in the CSCD conference room. A draft Agenda for that meeting was developed.

I. **ADJOURNMENT**: *Jim Donnell's moved to adjourn the June meeting of the Ecology Commission. Sunny Leerkamp seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:
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Commission Recorder
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