

**DRAFT**  
**MINUTES**  
**ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING**  
**Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District**  
**1 July, 2021**

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Commission Chairman, Rick Normington, at 6:00 P.M. on 1 July, 2021, in the CSLOA Clubhouse.
- B. Members Present: Rick Normington, Sunny Leerkamp (CSLOA) Brenda Maulden, & Jim Donnell (Recorder)
- C. Members Absent: Josh Edwards ( Board ), Ty Cooper, & Randy Brumfield
- D. Others in Attendance: 6 guests
- E. \* For lack of a quorum until 6:20 P.M., the Commission fielded questions from a nearby ( Princess Lakes ) contractor, Mr. Mike Lockard, who is interested in expanding his already functioning tree service business to include (potentially), a lake dredging business. His idea is to utilize a vacuum suction process with spoils being deposited onto the property of the freeholder instead of being hauled away. After learning of the proposed experimental process and asking several questions of the contractor, the Commission agreed to allow Mr. Lockard to set up a demonstration at some freeholder's lot so that Commission members can observe the experimental process and determine its feasibility for use in the CSCD.
- F. ***Rick Normington moved to approve the Minutes of the 3 June meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Brenda Maulden seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.***
- G. ( 6:30 P.M. ) FREEHOLDER CONCERNS :
1. **Garden Club Chairperson, Chris Waterfall**, appeared before the Commission to seek approval for the expansion of the CSCD Community Garden by 9 beds. This would bring the number of beds in the community garden to a total of 44, necessitating the movement of the west boundary fence 16 feet to the west. She provided a detailed outline of the expansion plan, including a Community Garden sketch map showing the existing Garden and the proposed expansion. She further requested advice from the Commission on funding options for the expansion. After discussion, it was agreed that since the Community Garden is clearly a CSCD Community Resource, originally funded by CSCD for both creation and one previous expansion, this expansion proposal too should be resourced by the Commission, therefore:  
***Jim Donnell moved to recommend approval of the proposed expansion of the CSCD Community Garden by 9 beds as proposed by the Garden Club Chairperson in her plan, and to fund the expansion in a budgeted line item in the FY 2022 ECOLOGY Budget Proposal in an amount not to exceed \$4,500. Sunny Leerkamp seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.***
  2. **Freeholders Dan and Susan Williams** ( 7057 Raccoon Drive ) appeared before the commission seeking CSCD support in repairing and/or replacing 2 coffer dams, half of which sit on their property, that are in a failed state, depositing significant amounts of sediment into Sweetwater Lake and posing a safety hazard to the children in the neighborhood due to the formation of sinkholes in the drainage ditch. Photo documentation of the problem was provided.  
After listening to the Williams plea for assistance, the Commission failed to act on their request as the Commission chairman pointed out that strict policy of the CSCD is that no coffer dams on private property are to be dealt with by CSCD, regardless of who installed it or the source of the drainage water. The Williams were told they and their neighbors must deal with this issue on private property. CSCD will only deal with coffer dams on CSCD property.
- H. OLD BUSINESS :
1. ( 7:15 P.M. ) **CSCD WATER/GROUNDS SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**: ( None provided )
  2. (7:15 P.M. ) **CORDRY SPILLWAY UPDATE**: It is believed that the next step in this issue will occur on 13 July as engineers will visit the Cordry dam spillway to begin to design the corrective action needed.  

**( OVER >>> )**
  3. (7:20 P.M. ) **REVIEW OF INDIANA CLEAN LAKES PROGRAM REPORTS**: Commission members reviewed printouts provided by Dave Jarrett from the Indian Clean Lakes Program documenting water clarity,

phosphorus levels, chlorophyll levels, and nitrogen levels of both CSCD lakes based on sampling done throughout 2020. All results appear very favorable as compared to 43 other recreational lakes sampled throughout Indiana.

4. (7:25 P.M. ) **DREDGING POLICY UPDATE:** It was reported that the CSCD Board rejected the recommendation passed by the ECOLOGY Commission last month that proposed a limitation on lake dredging operations, restricting dredging to a window of 15 June-15 December annually. Instead, the Board decided to allow dredging in our lakes year round ( subject to road weight limitations ), but they did agree to the Commission's desire to prohibit dredging on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and on holidays.
5. (7:30 P.M. ) **ZEBRA MUSSEL PREVENTION INITIATIVE UPDATE:** Several updates were provided:
  - The CSCD Finance Committee is in need of cost figures for each of the measures approved in the Zebra Mussel Prevention "Action Plan." Randy Brumfield reminded the Finance Committee that it is the job of the Conservancy Manager to provide quotes for those actions. The ECOLOGY Commission is only advisory in nature.
  - The Utah DNR just (today) approved the use of their online zebra mussel education and certification course by CSCD with the freedom to tailor it for our use. Indiana DNR was instrumental in securing that permission.
  - Indiana DNR also provided information on a source for 3D versions of zebra mussel infested equipment that has been sealed over with resin for use at the CSCD boat launch ramps for educational display purposes.
  - There are no known ( to Indiana DNR ) grant opportunities in Indiana for zebra mussel prevention measures.
6. (7:35 P.M. ) **JOINT PROJECT w/CSLOA-EDUCATIONAL PAMPHLET FOR CSCD FREEHOLDERS :**  
Brenda Maulden reports that this project is on hold as the CSLOA action person is no longer associated with CSLOA.
7. (7:40 P.M. ) **POLLINATOR HABITAT UPDATE (Brenda):** The Pollinator Habitat ( unplanted ) is being mowed so as to support vehicle parking for the CSLOA fireworks festival on 10 July. Freeholder Neil Crum will work with Brenda Maulden to move this project forward after the fireworks and after grant money is applied for and procured.
8. ( 8:05 P.M. ) **DEER CONSERVATION HUNT UPDATE:** It was reported that DNR Grant Funding for our 2021-2022 Community Hunt Access Program (CHAP) hunt is available from the Indiana DNR. Planning for the Hunt will commence soon with the CSCD Deer Reduction Hunt Planning Committee.

**I. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. (8:10 P.M. ) **DREDGING REQUESTS:** *Sunny Leerkamp moved to approve Dredging Application Request submitted by REX & IRIS KECK at lot WS323 ( 7292 Kiwi Drive ) as submitted. Jim Donnells seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
2. ( 8:15 P.M. ) **BUDGET PLANNING ( Jim):** The Commission identified all "A" Priority budget items from this year's overall strategic planning workshops and prioritized them in order of importance for funding.
3. ( 8:20 P.M. ) **COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS:** None
4. The next meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission is scheduled for Thursday, **5 AUGUST, 2021**, at 6:00 P.M. in the CSCD conference room. A draft Agenda for that meeting was developed.

- I. ADJOURNMENT:** *Sunny Leerkamp moved to adjourn the 1 July meeting of the Ecology Commission. Jim Donnells seconded. The motion passed.* The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

**JIM DONNELLS**  
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