

DRAFT
MINUTES
ECOLOGY COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING
Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy District
May 1, 2025

- A. The monthly meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission was called to order by Randy Brumfield at 6:04P.M., in the CSCD conference room.
- B. All Members Present: Randy Brumfield, Shena Johnson, Charlie Tinkle, Harold Crooks, Matt Rotelli, Tom Golias and Brenda Maulden as interim Recorder
- C. Others In Attendance: 1 Guest: Jim Donnell
- D. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES** *Shena Johnson moved to approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2025 meeting of the CSCD Ecology Commission; Harold Crooks seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.*
- E. **FREEHOLDER CONCERNS:** None
- F. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1. **CSCD OPERATIONS REPORT:** Nick Johann, in his absence, provided a written report regarding:
 - a. Decontamination (Hotsy System) site is up and running. The doors that were kicked in have been repaired. A new O-ring was installed on the power washer. A new dual lance wand has been ordered.
 - b. Both Boat Stewards have been trained on the operation of the decontamination site. I (Nick) went through the requirements for decontamination with the boat stewards again to make sure they are clear on the process.
 - c. New masonry sand will be installed at the volleyball court at Sweetwater Beach. 6 triaxle loads of sand were added to the beach. We will be working on a few of the drainage issues at the beach to help prevent the sand from washing away.
 - d. Aquatic Control will survey the lakes on May 8th or May 14th. The weed treatment will either be on May 15th or May 20th. The information will go out to freeholders once AC nails down a survey date.
 - e. **Cordry Lake Spillway:** All flat concrete work has been completed on the spillway. The ramps were poured and subsequently removed due to the poor-quality result of the finish. The ramps will be re-poured on May 3rd. The ramp is still scheduled to open at the end of the day on May 9th. Trailer and vehicle parking will need to be worked out.

2. POLLINATOR HABITAT UPDATE *(Brenda Maulden):*

Some of the culverts on the back drive of the habitat have rutted out due to the flooding that occurred last month. Butterweed (yellow flowers) are growing throughout the habitat; these are considered native but aggressive, and were not planted in the seed mix. They will die back soon. Brenda will begin spot treatment of herbicide to control invasive non-native growth.

3. AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL GRANT: *(Brenda Maulden).* There have been 2 Weed Wrangles conducted with help from volunteers. The Wrangles are now a monthly event planned for the 1st Saturday of each month from 9am-11am at locations around the CSCD which will be announced. The Wrangles thus far have occurred at the CSVFD grounds and at the CSLOA Clubhouse and Library grounds. The CSVFD has written and submitted a comprehensive Prescribed Burn Management Plan as a key requirement of our grant application.

4. PORT-O-POT MURAL PROJECT: *(Brenda Maulden)* A freeholder is working on reviewing and submitting ideas for lake themed murals to be painted on the new surrounds located at the Sweetwater boat trailer parking lot and also at Center Lake Park.

5. BAT HOUSE STRUCTURE UPDATE: *(Charlie Tinkle)* Charlie was able to gather 7 new bat houses that had been previously purchased by the CSCD and stored in the maintenance barn. He has located several potential sites located on conservancy property to install the houses.

6. CISMA CREATION IN PLANNING STAGE: *(Brenda Maulden)* Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area: Brenda will be working with Dawn Slack from SICIM, Katie Starr and Sonja Scott from Brown County Soil & Water to create a CSIMA within our district which will help provide funding to purchase materials and equipment for our Weed Wrangles.

- G. **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **DREDGING APPLICATIONS:** *Charlie Tinkle moved to APPROVE the 3 dredging applications that were submitted: D25-008(Tribble), D25-009(Sheets), and D25-010(Appell. Motion seconded by Harold Crooks. This motion was unanimously approved.*
2. **FY 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN & BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PLAN-** Randy Brumfield conducted the second planning Workshop for commission members to review and discuss What's Going Well in the CSCD and What's Going Not So Well in the CSCD with regards to the commission's areas of management in the ecosystems, outdoor recreational facilities, and aesthetic values of the district.

H. COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS:

1. Tom Golias inquired about a tree stand that he discovered about 40 yards off one of the hiking trails. This is one of Rusty Fields stands used during the reduction hunt and Rusty will be removing it soon.
2. Harold Crooks inquired about the Road Cleanup that was cancelled. The annual volunteer cleanup that was schedule for April 19th was cancelled with mutual agreement of several acting parties 3 days prior, due to the inclement weather forecasted. Notice of the cancellation was posted to social media and blasted in text/email alerts. It did end up storming around 9am that day. The cleanup will not be rescheduled this year due to the scheduling and coordination conflicts of said involved parties. This event is better held in the late winter or early spring before lake traffic commences for the season and leaves are on the trees.
3. There was a brief discussion of the Sweetwater Spillway needing updated to handle the flooding and resulting red-light lake status that has been occurring during heavy periods of rain.
4. July is Lakes Appreciation Month- Brenda Maulden has applied for grant funding from an opportunity through Indiana Lakes Management Society which can go toward providing educational materials for boat stewards to pass out during inspections or interactions with freeholders. We should learn of award status by the end of May.
5. Brenda Maulden advised she will not be at the June 5, 2025 Ecology meeting.
6. Discussion among commission members about possibly rescheduling the July 3rd Ecology meeting due to the date falling the evening before a busy holiday. It was decided to still plan for the scheduled date and see who's available.

I. ADJOURNMENT: Randy Brumfield moved to adjourn the May 1 2025, meeting of the Ecology Commission. Shena Johnson seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Brenda Maulden

Interim Commission Recorder

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