Indiana Fertilizer Advisory Board

IC 15-16-2-25

Office of Indiana State Chemist

Indiana Fertilizer Board *draft* Minutes

Date and Time:

Tuesday July 22, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.

Location of meeting:

Next Generation, 355 Smith Rd Greensburg, IN 47240

Fertilizer Advisory Board (FAB) Attendance

Appointee	Present	Representing	Appointing Authority	Start of Term	End of Term
Voting Members					
Doug Anderson	V	Retail fertilizer industry	State Chemist	8/16/2021	8/16/2025
Chase Brown	V	Retail fertilizer industry	State Chemist	1/1/2025	1/1/2029
Matt Vianco	V	Fertilizer manufacturing	State Chemist	12/14/2022	12/14/2026
Sam Fry	P	Producer of agricultural crops	State Chemist	8/16/2021	8/16/2025
Joe Russell	P	Producer of agricultural crops	State Chemist	8/16/2021	8/16/2025
Gregg Pulley	P	Lawn care industry	State Chemist	7/1/2024	7/1/2028
Dr. Daniel Quinn	V	Purdue School of Agriculture	State Chemist	1/1/2024	1/1/2028
Dr. Amy Gregg	P	Public conservation organization	State Chemist	8/16/2021	8/16/2025
Joe Miller	P	Livestock industry	State Chemist	8/16/2021	8/16/2025
Nonvoting Members					
Jeff Jarrett	P	Indiana Plant Food and Agricultural Chemicals Association	IC 15-16-2-25		
Megan Espinda	V	Indiana Department of Environmental Management	IC 15-16-2-25		
Matt Pearson	P	Fertilizer administrator and engineering specialist	IC 15-16-2-25		
Quinton Hayes	P	Indiana State Department of Agriculture	IC 15-16-2-25		

Others attending in person:

Blaine Brown, Corbin Robbins, Steve Wenning, Stuart Reed, Ramona Briggeman, Danny Starke, Craig Taft, Dr. Mark LeBlanc, David Snell,

Others Attending virtually:

Bob Wakeman, Natalie Newlon, Peng Li

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Minutes

1. 9:30 Meeting called to order – Joe Russell
2. Stuart Reed welcomed the group provided a brief history of Kova
3. Approval of agenda and minutes from December 19, 2024 meeting
    a. Motion: Gregg Pulley, Second: Joe Miller
    b. Roll call vote unanimous, motion passes.
4. OISC fertilizer update
    a. Spring 2025 fertilizer samples have been collected and waiting for analysis due to OISC renovation move.
    b. Analysis will begin shortly and a normal fall is expected.
5. Fertilizer rule revision discussion
    a. Steve Wenning discussed executive orders and the request to reduce regulations by 25%.
    b. FAB members had been sent three (3) laws and two (2) rules to review for discussion.
    c. Working groups will be formed to review each of the regulations.
6. OISC compliance update
    a. To date, there have been 102 Agricultural Chemical Facility Inspections of fertilizer bulk storage facilities in 2025, up from a total of 76 in 2024. The goal is to inspect a facility every five (5) years.
    b. There have been thirty-two (32) cases in 2025 to date, mostly for staging.
    c. David Snell demonstrated how to search for investigation results and sample analyses.
    d. Discussion on total mitigated and unmitigated fines, distributing rule summaries during cases, and anonymous complaints.
7. Fertilizer sampling
    a. Blaine Brown provided information on how dry fertilizer products are sampled.
        i. Gregg Pulley asked why some analytes have higher failure rates.
        ii. Particle size and blending. Most micronutrients are smaller particles and that makes keeping dry blends uniform more difficult.
        iii. Jeff Jarrett discussed concerns with liquid sampling.
8. Fertilizer industry updates
    a. Doug Anderson – Crops look good around his area.
    b. Chase Brown – Crops look good around his area.
    c. Matt Vianco – Foliar fertilizers have had an uptick in sales. Lots of drone applications.
    d. Dr. Quinn – Quite a few questions this year, with crop concerns varying widely based on location and rainfall.
    e. Joe Miller – Tough spring with short windows to get manure out.
    f. Gregg Pulley – Lots of turf disease in lawncare.
    g. Sam Fry – Things are ok
    h. Jeff Jarrett – Wide range across their area

   i. Quinton Hayes – Executive orders have directed the Indiana State Department of Agriculture to create an online agricultural portal. Katie Nelson is leaving for Farm Bureau.

9. Other items
   a. Dr. Gregg discussed legislative mandates that impact educational institutions.
   b. Several appointments to this board are nearing the end of term. Matt Pearson will be reaching out to discuss appointments for another four-year term.
10. Adjourn
11. Demonstration of fertilizer sampling and Kova facility tour