



Indiana Registry of Soil Scientists
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Board Meeting Minutes

Location of meeting: Southeast Purdue Agricultural Research Center (SEPAC)
4425 E County Rd 350 N
Butlerville, IN 47223

Date and Time: Monday, June 22, 2015; 3:00 p.m.

The Indiana Board of Registry for Soil Scientists met on Monday, June 22, 2015 at the Southeast Purdue Agricultural Center near Butlerville, Indiana at 3 p.m.

Board members present were Gary Steinhart, David Lefforge, Spence Williams, and John Bonsett. Board member, Tom Eickholtz participated by phone. Also present were Randy Staley, John Bowen, and Gary Hudson.

Lefforge opened the meeting asking for Bonsett to read the minutes from the January 30, 2015 meeting. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes as read and Steinhart seconded and the motion carried 5 to 0.

Lefforge discussed issues related to the upcoming prehearing conference involving Shane McBurnett scheduled for July 15, 2015. One of the issues to be addressed prior to the conference, was the desire to have the previously assembled technical review panel of soil scientists to return to the same sites for further investigation. This additional visit is requested by the Administrative Law Judge as part of the prehearing conference process. It was mentioned that it was important for the follow-up visit to be before July 15. It is anticipated that the hearing will occur 4 weeks after the July 15 prehearing conference.

David polled the board members and it appears a date after August 15 might work best.

David asked that previously received complaints against Shane be compiled. These complaints would date back to 2010 and would have originated from Marshal, Fulton, and Wabash Counties. These complaints would continue through January 30, 2015.

More recent and future complaints against Shane need to be held for future investigations if needed.

David shared with the board that a complaint had been filed against Curtis Turner for All Soil Consultants. The report in question had been signed by Mr. Turner. Prior to the site investigation Gary Hudson and Tom Ziegler had been to the site and written reports in the same landscape area. Tim Monaghan visited the site after Turner and noted a water table well above that documented by Turner. Monaghan did not write a complete soil descriptions. Turner's report differed from the other 3 soil scientist evaluations mainly in depth to water table.

Lefforge read the complaint letter from Gary Hudson on a property located at 4366 E. 650 North in Fulton County. Hudson's findings were noticeably more limiting than a report signed by Turner. Ziegler's report showed a higher water table, was on the same landscape, but in a different field. Monaghan's observations aligned with Hudson's report and both were described in close proximity to the Turner's descriptions.

Hudson also reported that the owner of the property being evaluated, questioned the report signed by Turner. The most concerning discrepancy in the site findings was the seasonal wetness depths. Fulton County Health Department used the more limiting Hudson descriptions to evaluate the septic system.

Subject to the property owner's approval, Steinhardt made a motion to have the previously empaneled group of soil scientist evaluate the Turner site. Spence seconded the motion and it passed 5 to 0.

It was suggested that funds be made available to conduct lab analysis at this complaint site and that the review panel that will do the McBurnett 2nd visit will do the Turner site on the same day as the sites are geographically close. The Board agreed.

CEUs for Amber Willen, James Brown and Brad Lee were reviewed and approved. Their CEU forms were initialed by all present and Eickholtz' vote was signed by Lefforge.

The board reviewed a new policy on limited personal use of state property/resources to comply with IC 4-2-6-17. Williams made a motion to adopt the policy. Steinhardt seconded and the motion carried 5 to 0.

Lefforge informed the board that the soil scientist rules, *Indiana Administrative Code TITLE 307 INDIANA BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR SOIL SCIENTISTS; 307 IAC 1*, has been readopted with no changes. This is required by statute every 7 years.. At some point the board should look into amending or adding to the rules as necessary.

The following names were added to the witness list for the upcoming hearing in August: Mike Mettler, Dave Ortel, and Alice Quinn, all from Indiana State Department of Health.

In other business, Randy Staley suggested promotion of our IRSS Certified Soil Scientists organization at venues such as IOWPA, IEHA and IASWCD meetings. Steinhardt suggested that a budget be allowed for the board to market the soil scientist profession at these professional meetings. The board agreed, but no dollar amount was assigned. Steinhardt will talk to Kathy Egler about drafting a trifold to promote the organization. Lefforge will make contacts to obtain booth space at those professional meetings. A committee will be formed by Lefforge to man the booths.

Steinhardt mentioned that Kathy Egler that has worked for the Purdue Agronomy Department, will be working part time for Ball State in their soils program.

Steinhardt moved to adjourn the meeting and Bonsett seconded. It passed 5 to 0.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by: John Bonsett