

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**I. CALL TO ORDER - On Tuesday June 19, 2018, at 7:02 pm a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the St Joseph County SWCD at the Centre Township Library, South Bend, IN was called to order by John Dooms, Chairman.**

**PRESENT – SWCD**

John Dooms, Chair/Supervisor  
Jeremy Cooper, Vice-Chair/Supervisor  
Mike Burkholder, Supervisor  
Dave Vandewalle, Supervisor  
David Straughn

**PRESENT – SWCD/NRCS**

Debbie Knepp, NRCS DC  
Sarah Longenecker, SWCD CC  
Sandra Hoffarth, SWCD AA

**Present - EX-OFFICIO**

Matt Meersman - SJRBC  
**PRESENT – Public**  
n/a

**ABSENT – SWCD**

Jane Sablich, SWCD EEC  
Stacey Silvers, Supervisor  
Dave Craft  
Jim LaFree  
Dru Wrasse  
Richard Schmidt  
Randy Matthys  
Dale Stoner  
Chuck Lehman

**II. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – n/a**

**III. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. **Legislative Updates** – n/a
- b. **Indiana Conservation Partnership Updates** – Matt Meersman with the St Joseph River Basin Commission (SJRBC) informed the board of the changes in Indiana Legislation (attached) that puts a representative of the SWCD as a member of the commission. They meet quarterly and need to know the official member by the next meeting which will be held in September 2018.
- c. **Minutes: April 17, 2018 board meeting** – Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented by motion (Cooper/Vandewalle).
- d. **Treasurer's Report: (4/18/2018-6/19/2018)** – The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved as submitted by motion (Cooper, Vandewalle).
- e. **Approval of Claims (4/18/2018-6/19/2018)** –A motion (Cooper, Burkholder) was made to approve Claim Nos. 11335-11350 for a total of \$26051.51 as presented. Motion carried.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **St. Joseph Co. Soil & Water Conservation Partnership Staff Written Reports**
  - i. **Field Office & Education Reports** – The field office report was presented to the board & reviewed. (Attached)
  - ii. **NRCS Talking Points** - Knepp went over the NRCS DC talking points (attached)
- b. **Committee Reports**
  - i. **Joint Grants, Rural, & Urban Committee**– Cooper reported to the board that a joint committee meeting with Rural and Urban Conservation was held before the board meeting. The joint committees decided to move forward with a 2019 Clean Water Indiana grant that would combine the rural conservation practices (cover crops, filter strips, no-till, nutrient management) and the urban conservation practice of raingardens into 1 grant that would be administered by St Joseph County and would partner with Marshall County. Staff will work on the grant and come to board with details at a future board meeting.
- c. **CWI grant Applications** – Longenecker informed the board that the CWI Conservation grant has applications, if maxed out on each one, at \$25,842.64 which is about \$1,000 over our allotted portion. A motion (Cooper, Vandewalle) was made to approve all the applications and release \$1,000 of district funds to cover all the applications. Motion carried. The CWI Raingarden grant has built up and we have potential demonstration gardens totaling \$25,000 and residential gardens totaling \$36,000. Marshall and Starke County have not been able to spend their allotted \$25,000 so we have been given the go ahead to use their portions. A motion (Cooper, Burkholder) was made to approve the 8 residential garden applications that have been submitted since the April board meeting. Motion carried. One application for pollinators came in that didn't meet the size requirement for CWI. A motion (Cooper, Vandewalle) was made to pay for a .3-acre pollinator filter strip and use SWCD funds not to exceed \$750. Motion carried.
- d. **Best Week Ever Rain Barrel Workshop** – Straughn reported to the board that although it rained the workshop was a success. 30 rain barrels were given to the pre-registered participants. Only a few assembled theirs that night, most picked up their supplies and left due to the rain. Within 24 hours of posting the event the pre-registration was filled. A total of 71 people registered, leaving about 40 people on a waiting list for possible future workshops. Hoffarth reported there was \$310 in donations minus \$6.71 in PayPal fees for a total income of \$303.29. The expenses totaled \$837.69. The net total is -\$534.40.

- e. **2018 Budget Adjustments** – District Operations – Travel Expenses needs to increase the Staff Mileage to \$1,500. Vehicle – needs to add the category D505 Machinery Equipment/Vehicle Purchase for purchasing the new district vehicle at \$24,173.00. A motion (Burkholder, Vandewalle) was made to add these into the 2018 budget. Motion passed.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Schedules/ Upcoming Events / Any Related Claims** - calendars were handed out explaining upcoming special events & holiday schedules on the back of the agenda.
  - i. **NRCS 3 Day Soil Health Training at Purdue – Jane Sablich Aug 38-30<sup>th</sup>** – a motion (Cooper, Burkholder) was made to release \$195 for registration, \$262 for hotel and daily per diem for meals not provided through the training. Motion carried.
  - ii. **Legislator Conservation Tour – June 27 9:30am-2pm** – Longenecker reported as of the board meeting we have 2 federal legislator’s aids, 1 county commissioner and possibly 1 state representative might pop in between scheduled meetings. The tour will highlight urban and agricultural conservation practices including touring a few of the rain gardens installed with the CWI grant. A motion (Cooper, Burkholder) was made to release \$20/person up to \$200 for lunch at a local restaurant. The board feels this tour furthers the mission of the SWCD by educating the legislators of current conservation practices in St Joseph County.
  - iii. **Women’s Learning Circle** – Knepp and Longenecker informed the board that we are hosting this workshop with Marshall and Elkhart Counties on August 14<sup>th</sup>. The indoor morning session will take place in the Lakeville area, TBA, and the afternoon tour will be at Prairie Winds Nature Farm. More details to come at next month’s board meeting.
- b. **New District Vehicle Purchase & Disposal/sell Trailblazer** – Dooms updated the board that we purchased a new Dodge Caravan. He was offered an extended warranty to 7 years, 100,000 for \$2,900 (warranty included goes 3 years, 36,000). He was also offered a protective coating for the exterior paint for \$695 which would be reapplied at 5 years. The board decided to pass on both options. Discussion turned to selling the Trailblazer and at what cost. A motion (Burkholder, Vandewalle) was made to post the Trailblazer for \$1,800 OBO with a bottom price of \$1,000. Motion carried. Staff will post a sign on the vehicle and move it to the front of the building with all the recent repairs and needs.

**VI. PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR** – Dooms read part of a letter (attached) from Senator Donnelly. Dooms read a thank you letter (attached) from the St Joseph County Ag Team for our sponsorship of the tables and chairs at the 2018 Ag Days. Dooms also read a thank you card from Keith Lineback (attached) thanking the SWCD for the work put into the outdoor lab at LaVille Elementary School that his late wife Nancy helped install and maintain.

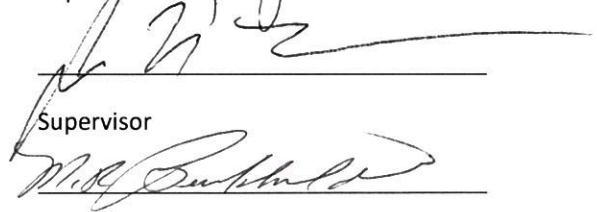
**VII. ADJOURNMENT** – The board meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Sandra Hoffarth**  
Administrative Assistant  
St. Joseph County Soil & Water Conservation District  
2903 Gary Drive, Plymouth, IN 46563  
Email: Sandra.hoffarth@in.nacdnet.net  
[www.stjosephswcd.org](http://www.stjosephswcd.org)

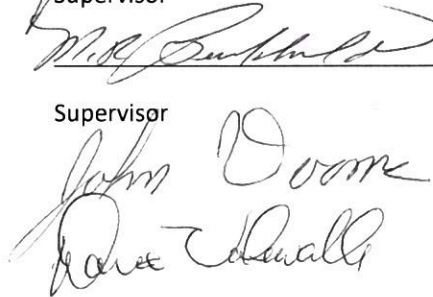
**Approved by:**



Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor



**PURPOSE:** *The St. Joseph River Basin Commission exists to provide a forum for the discussion, study and evaluation of water resource issues of common concern and foster cooperative planning and coordinated management of the basin's water and related land resources.*

The St. Joseph River Basin Commission was created by the Indiana General Assembly in 1988 to address water quality issues in the St. Joseph River and all the lakes and streams that flow to it. The enabling statute of the Commission (IC 14-30-3) was amended in 2018 to expand the scope and powers of the Commission to address flooding as well. The Commission seeks to work with agencies, organizations and local units of government to:

- Develop plans and tools to improve water quality or mitigate flooding in the basin;
- Coordinate monitoring of water quality and hydrology in the basin;
- Promote best practices for urban stormwater and rural drainage management;
- Develop strategies to increase water infiltration and storage capacity in the basin;
- Distribute reports on the Commission's objectives, studies, and findings;
- Make recommendations in matters related to the Commission's objectives to political subdivisions in the basin and to other public and private agencies;
- Act as a coordinating agency for programs and activities of other public and private agencies that are related to the Commission's objectives;
- Serve as an advocate of the basin's interests before Congress and federal, state and local government agencies.

**Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**, members of the Commission will include:

- From each of the six (6) participating counties in the basin:
  - 1) The Mayor of each second class city or the executive of the municipality with the largest population in counties without a second class city
  - 2) A County Commissioner
  - 3) The Health Officer
  - 4) The County Surveyor
  - 5) A representative of the Soil & Water Conservation District
- The Director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources

These members or their designated representatives meet quarterly to direct the activities of the Commission. More information on the history, purpose and activities of the Commission is available online at [www.sjrbc.com](http://www.sjrbc.com).

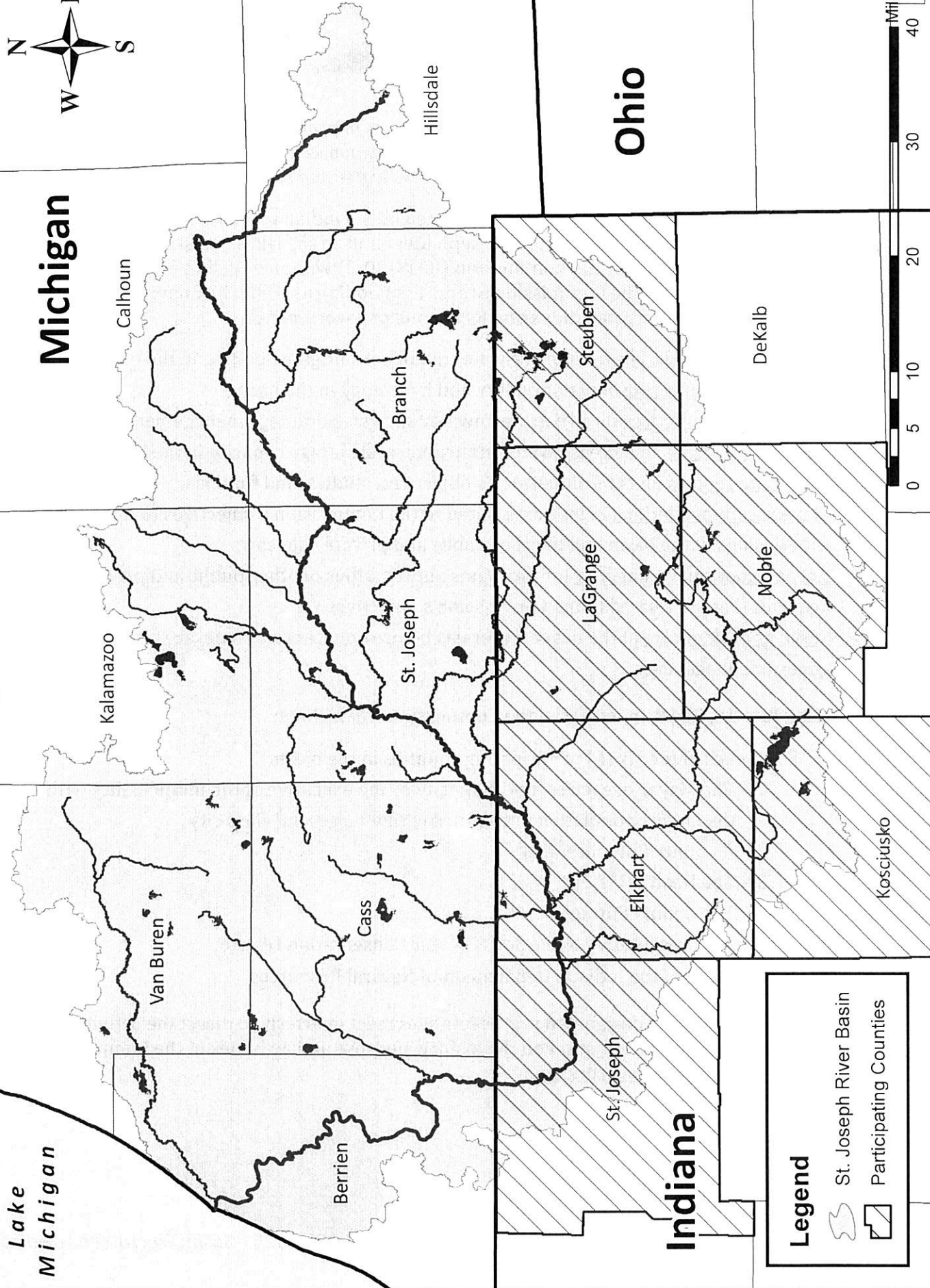
# St. Joseph River Basin

Lake Michigan

Michigan

Ohio

Indiana



**Legend**

- St. Joseph River Basin
- Participating Counties

**Field Office Report**  
**April 16 through June 15, 2018**

**EQIP- Environmental Quality Incentive Program**

**Office Work**

- Process payment – forage planting
- 8 contracts funded – develop contracts, job sheets for (Invasive Species control (2 properties), Pollinator Habitat (2 properties), High Tunnels (2 producers), Cover Crops (2 producers), Irrigation Management, Wetland Enhancement
- Contract reviews – 35
- Cancellation Paperwork

**Field Work**

- Inspect pasture
- Inspect cover crop
- Construction Check of structure

**WRP- Wetland Reserve Program**

**Office Work**

- Monitoring – 4 (documentation)
- Compatible Use Request – Phragmites control
- Modification of contract to extend expiration date
- Ownership Verification - 2

**Field Work**

- Wetland Easement Monitoring – 4

**CSP- Conservation Stewardship Program**

**Office Work**

- Meetings for producer eligibility/CAET questions – 3
- Field verification prep – 2
- Ranking of applications – 2

**Field Work**

- Soil Health Assessments for Enhancements – 2 days

**CWI- Clean Water Indiana**

**Office Work**

- Rain Gardens - Consulting with landowners/organizations

**Field Work**

- Rain Garden Initial Evaluation – 12
- Conservation planning – no-till
- Ag site visits – no-till, pollinator habitat - 2

**CRP-Conservation Reserve Program**

**Office Work**

- Conservation Reserve Program Planning- 9

**Field Work**

- Field Evaluation for Shallow Water Area

**Rule 5/ Rule 13**

**Office Work**

- Plan Reviews - 6

<b>Wetland Determinations</b> <i>24 determinations</i>
<b>Office Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appeal documentation - 1</li> <li>• Potential Violation - 1</li> </ul>
<b>Field Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wetland appeal</li> </ul>

<b>Other/Miscellaneous</b>
<b>Office Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highly erodible determinations – 18</li> <li>• State Envirothon</li> <li>• Poster Contest</li> <li>• River Friendly Farmer Award Selections</li> </ul>
<b>Field Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flag wetland boundary</li> <li>• Home visit for native plants/wildlife habitat</li> <li>• 5% status review – wetland</li> <li>• HEL slope shots (Marshall HEL appeal)</li> </ul>

<b>Education</b>		
<b>Age</b>	<b>Total # Programs</b>	<b>Total # People</b>
Youth Education	13	880
Adult Education	1	45
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rain barrel workshop was very successful, even with the bad weather. Every barrel was claimed, and we still have many people that would be interested in a future workshop.</li> <li>• Covenant Christian School asked us to bring the rain barrel program to them. Presented and got the school 2 rain barrels.</li> <li>• We also visited Hamilton Traditional School, New Carlisle Library, Mishawaka Res, and LaVille's Ag Day</li> </ul>		

<b>Meetings &amp; Trainings</b>	<b>Webinars</b>
Staff – 8 Hoosier River Watch-2 Department Head meeting-2 LincPass pick-up CCSI Teleconference Grants Meeting St Joseph River Basin Symposium Presentation Training Watershed Leadership Graduation USDA Cross-Training – 12 modules County Youth Meeting – 2 Wetland Program Tour MSP meeting Soil Health Team The Conference on the Environment 2018 SJRB Commission meeting IDEA – NNE meeting PSS QA/NRCS APS teleconference Grants Management Workshop	FarmBeats Irrigation Scheduling No-tilling in High Residue Fields Bee Ecology Nitrogen application Cover Crops/Wildlife Benefits Irrigation Under High Tunnels Long Term Organic Farming Research Next Generation Science Standards Public Engagement
	<b>Dates</b>
	County Holiday: May 8 Office Closed – May 28

# DC Talking Points

May 2017

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## FARM BILL

### **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) - Easement Application Due Date Change**

ACEP applications for the FY-2019 funding period will now be due August 17, 2018. This earlier date will allow the field staff more time to complete ranking and application follow up information. Please get the word out to potential applicants and partners.

### **Western Lake Erie Basin Regional Conservation Partnership Project (RCPP) Second Sign-up**

A second sign-up period has been announced for the Western Lake Erie Basin RCPP. This project targets EQIP funding to practices that protect water quality. All applications must be received by May 18, 2018 for funding consideration.

## UPDATING DUNS/SAM NUMBERS

Effectively immediately, NRCS financial assistance program participants will no longer need a Dun and Bradstreet Universal Number System (DUNS) number, or to register in the System for Award Management (SAM). This means that farmers do not need a DUNS or SAM number for Farm Bill program contracts like EQIP and CSP. Field offices will receive further guidance to implement policy changes in the near future.

DUNS/SAM registration is still required for:

- Partnership agreements entered through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).
- All agreements with eligible entities under the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP)
- Agreements under the Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) component of ACEP.
- Partnership agreements under the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP) component of ACEP-Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE).
- Watershed operations agreements with project sponsors.
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) agreements with project sponsors, including Recovery and Floodplain Easements.
- All cooperative, contribution, interagency, or partnership agreements of Federal contracts used by NRCS to procure goods or services.

## COOPERATIVE WORKING AGREEMENTS

The current partnership Cooperative Working Agreements expire on December 31, 2018. The Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) Leaders are currently developing the new agreements. There are no major changes expected. SWCDs should receive the new agreements for their review in early summer with a return date of early September. More information will be coming soon.

## INDIANA STATE CONSERVATIONIST TRANSITION

Jerry Roach, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs will be taking over the Acting State Conservationist role effective May 13 until a permanent State Conservationist for Indiana is selected. Jill Reinhart will be returning to her duties as Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships.



# DC Talking Points

June 2017

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## FARM BILL

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### **Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) Partner Proposals**

Partner proposals will be accepted to help accelerate conservation activities on farms in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB). These targeted funds will provide technical services related to the state's natural resource priorities, including soil health and water quality. Emphasis will be placed on reducing nutrient runoff from agricultural lands and improving water quality in the basin area. Proposals will be accepted until June 15, 2018 for work in Steuben, DeKalb, Adams, Allen, Noble, and Wells counties from partners who meet the eligibility guidelines. The announcement, eligibility requirements and associated forms for this funding opportunity can be found at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

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DUNS/SAM registration is still required for:

- Partnership agreements entered through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).
- Agreements under the Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) component of ACEP.
- Partnership agreements under the Wetland Reserve Enhancement Program (WREP) component of ACEP-Wetland Reserve Easements (WRE).
- Watershed operations agreements with project sponsors.
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*Helping People Help the Land*

*USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.*



receive the new agreements for their review in in early summer with a return date of early September. More information will be coming soon.

## COMPLIANCE STATUS REVIEWS

NRCS has started the annual Compliance Status Reviews process, with the following key points:

- Tracts were randomly selected at the national level, including those that received a variance last year.
- The evaluation is completed by NRCS Designated Conservationists who are specifically certified and trained;
- Letters are sent to each randomly selected participant to request their cropping system (crops, tillage, etc.) and they are invited to participate in the field visit if interested and available;
- A field visit is required by a NRCS Designated Conservationist to verify the participant's cropping system, check for ephemeral gullies, and wetland compliance;
- Ephemeral gullies are required to be treated, and sheet/rill erosion rates must be within 2 times the tolerable soil loss (T), or 1\*T for sodbusted land (i.e. – land that was not farmed before December 23, 1985) as verified using the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation-2 (RUSLE2)
  - Compliance is no longer based on Residue measurements unless the participant has a residue plan dated prior to July 3, 1996;
  - All reviewed tracts will have the Ephemeral Gully Plan Addendum added to their required compliance plan/system;
    - Any future reviews that find ephemeral gullies that aren't being treated according to the plan may be found out of compliance;
- For any adverse finding (excessive erosion, ephemeral gullies, etc.), the District Conservationist and Designated Conservationist meet with the participant to explain the findings, and see if there are any variances that apply;
- Based on those discussions, final decisions are made related to compliance.
  - A variance does not mean the farmer is out of compliance, but these tracts may be reviewed next year to evaluate that the necessary changes have been made (i.e. – ephemerals treated, crops or tillage changed, etc.)
  - If a variance doesn't apply, the participant may be found out of compliance with appeal rights;
  - Once final, these are forwarded to the Farm Service Agency for further action.

## OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS REDUCED TILLAGE AND COVER CROPS

There has been a lot of tillage around the state this spring with the intention, of some, to help dry out the ground after late winter rains. Tillage operations done under less than ideal wet conditions create or add to compaction issues. Additional tillage further dries out soil moisture, oxidizes carbon, and has the potential for detrimental effects on crop production if the weather pattern for the rest of the summer is dry. The extra tillage has also disrupted gains achieved in soil health and may put producers in jeopardy of compliance on highly erodible land. Take the opportunity when possible to discuss reduced tillage (one less pass, not as deep, not as fast, not as aggressive) and soil health management systems with producers to start planning for the next season. Now is also the time to start discussing cover crops for this fall.



JOE DONNELLY  
INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

SUITE 720  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1406  
(202) 224-4814

## United States Senate

June 4, 2018

The Honorable Pat Roberts  
Chairman  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and  
Forestry  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and  
Forestry  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Roberts and Ranking Member Stabenow,

As the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry finalizes provisions in the draft 2018 Farm Bill, I want to reiterate a number of important priorities for Hoosiers. I collected these priorities from Indiana farmers, agriculture students and researchers, and anti-hunger advocates over the course of twelve listening sessions, and I believe their input is critical as the committee develops a farm bill that works well for both agriculture and rural communities and addresses food insecurity.

### **Managing Risk**

As I travel around the state, farmers have expressed the need for a farm bill that manages and helps mitigate the uncontrollable risks of farming. Crop insurance is the cornerstone of risk mitigation, and the committee should work together to protect and improve access to crop insurance. Farmers, whether they run large or small operations, or are growing conventional, organic, or specialty crops, should have equal access to the peace of mind crop insurance provides.

Hoosier farmers have also suggested a few changes to commodity support programs in order to improve their effectiveness, including the use of Risk Management Agency data to calculate yields and the use of farm location rather than administrative county for support determinations. It is essential that the commodity programs reflect market conditions, instead of essentially ensuring annual payments to farmers of certain crops with guaranteed prices that are significantly higher than historical average market prices. Any updates to the commodity programs, however, should maintain full planting flexibility, allowing farmers to grow non-commodity crops by voluntarily taking a one year reduction in payment acres without permanently losing access to commodity programs. For our livestock farmers, we should invest in an animal disease and disaster prevention program, including a vaccine bank for quick responses to potential risks to animal health.

### **Developing New Markets**

I have heard routinely from farmers about the importance of expanding market opportunities in order to address low commodity prices and increase farm incomes. As such, the 2018 Farm Bill should significantly increase investment in export promotion programs like the Market Access

Program and the Foreign Market Development program. The committee should support programs that boost progress in bioenergy and bio-based products and facilitate the growth of local and regional food systems. The committee should also ensure a level playing field for those who have made investments in organic production by better detecting fraudulent imports.

### **Promoting Voluntary Conservation**

Soil health and clean water are a strong passion of many Hoosiers, and the committee's bill should provide farmers with the tools and resources they need to be good stewards of the environment. We must ensure that voluntary conservation activities like planting cover crops receive the same protections in the crop insurance programs as other good farming practices. Conservation activities that are approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service or other local agricultural experts should not put a farmer's full eligibility for crop insurance at risk. In addition, the bill should maximize the conservation technical assistance available for farmers, target program investments to the most effective practices, and close loopholes that allow some producers to avoid compliance with conservation requirements.

### **Supporting Rural Communities**

We know that farmers care deeply about their local communities, and the farm bill is an excellent opportunity to provide the tools that rural communities need to continue to thrive. USDA's Rural Development programs should focus on providing true high-speed internet access as well as financing and providing technical assistance for drinking- and waste-water infrastructure, all of which are essential for communities to attract investment and growth.

Further, the committee should pursue every opportunity to provide the resources required to fight the devastation brought by opioid addiction and substance abuse. As you both know, I have introduced a bipartisan package of legislation to promote investments in local treatment facilities, telemedicine, prevention, and education efforts. I thank you for your past support of those provisions, particularly Chairman Roberts, and I am hopeful that the committee's bill will include them. Similarly, I was alarmed at the recent reports regarding the prevalence of suicide among farmers, and I ask that the committee provide farmers with the mental health resources they need.

### **Investing in Tomorrow's Farmers and Technologies**

The farm bill is also a chance to provide for the future of agriculture by making the investments in vital research and extension activities and supporting a new generation of farmers and researchers. Indiana's universities and Purdue Cooperative Extension System use the National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, Hatch Act, and Smith-Lever programs to support the research, workforce development, and dissemination of practical applications of new technologies that drive the innovation that increases the productivity of farms throughout Indiana. Similarly, the committee should recognize the difficulties that face beginning farmers and ensure that USDA programs sufficiently accommodate the needs of new farmers. Further, expanding support for veterans interested in agriculture is a worthwhile investment, and I thank you both for your leadership on that issue.

**Fighting Hunger**

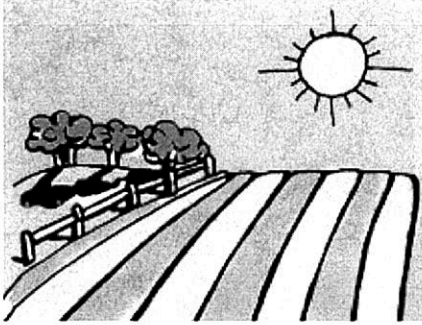
Finally, the importance of fighting hunger in our communities should not be forgotten. Nearly one in seven Hoosiers are food insecure and at times do not have access to enough food for a healthy and active lifestyle. The committee should pursue bipartisan opportunities that fight food insecurity and maintain program integrity like extending the certification window for food insecure seniors enrolled in the Commodity Supplemental Food Program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The committee has an excellent opportunity to develop a 2018 Farm Bill that will work well for all stakeholders. Given the rich agricultural tradition and diverse agricultural production in Indiana, I have always thought that a good farm bill is one that supports the hard work of the Hoosier agriculture community. I recognize that a successful farm bill will require us all to work together as advocates for agriculture, and I am hopeful the committee will give Indiana's priorities significant consideration. I thank you both for your commitment to developing a bipartisan 2018 Farm Bill and I look forward to working with you to that end.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



THE AG (AGRICULTURE) TEAM  
OF  
ST. JOSEPH COUNTY  
5032 S Miami St.  
South Bend, IN 46614

April 25, 2018

Soil & Water Conservation District  
2903 Gary Drive  
Suite 1  
Plymouth, IN 46563

Dear Soil & Water Conservation District:

On behalf of the Ag Team of St. Joseph County, I would like to thank you for sponsoring the tables and chairs that we used for Ag Days.

Ag Days was a huge success. We figured our attendance was approximately 7,500 people for the three days. Everyone enjoyed the hands-on approach that the kids experienced.

2019 Ag Days is set for April 5-6-7.

Thank you again for being a partner with us in our program.

Sincerely,

Ag Team of St. Joseph County  
Sandy Kleine, Secretary



Nancy was very passionate about LaVille Elementary's Environmental Lab, from its inception to well beyond her retirement.

The Butterfly Garden will be a beautiful continuation, promotion, and inspiration for students to be stewards of our earth and become the scientists of tomorrow who find cures for the diseases that plague us today.



I appreciate your support of Nancy's passion.  
Thank you.

Debby -  
I want you to know the  
seed planted by Sue and  
Ric Glassman is beyond  
any dream -  
Nancy did not have an "Outdoor  
Lab" on her bucket list  
when she started teaching. But  
Ric encouraged her and other  
2nd grade teachers &  
Keith and family

