



# Indiana Fertilizer Advisory Board

IC 15-16-2-25

## Meeting Minutes



**Location of meeting:**

Daniels Turf Research & Diagnostic Center  
Purdue University, West Lafayette IN 47907

**Date and Time:**

December 22, 2015; 9:30 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Dr. Amy Gregg  
John Freeland  
Sam Fry  
Joe Russell (chair)  
Joseph Miller  
Dr. Jim Camberato  
Bob Avenius  
David Bausman\*  
Mark Shublak\*  
Matt Pearson\*

**Others in attendance:**

Dr. Robert Waltz  
Danny Starke  
Trish Waller  
John Baugh  
Barbra Sha Cox  
Ben Wicker  
Greg Slipher

\* indicates nonvoting member

With 7 of the 9 voting board members in attendance a quorum, IC 15-16-2-29, was present and an official meeting was held.

- 1) Meeting called to order by chairman Russell at 9:33 a.m.
  - a) All present introduced themselves
- 2) Motion to approve the agenda for this meeting made by Avenius, seconded by Shublak; Motion passes
- 3) Motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting made by Gregg, seconded by Miller; Motion passes
- 4) David Bausman provided an update presentation pertaining to the Indiana nutrient reduction strategy
  - a) Information on this can be found at [www.in.gov/isda](http://www.in.gov/isda)
  - b) While very informative many additional questions did arise. Some were pertaining to:
    - i) The models being used only looked at commercial fertilizer sales, not soil loss
    - ii) No credit for using conservation practices
  - c) For future meetings we will try to have presentation on different models and monitoring station histories
- 5) Jim Camberato gave a presentation on the history and future of nitrogen recommendation by Purdue.
  - a) The old recommendations did not take into account several factors and have become obsolete.
- 6) Danny Starke, OISC ag ammonia specialist, provided an update of his activities:

- a) Since his starting with the office in late August 2013 he has completed detailed facility inspections at all but 1 retail facility
  - b) Revision to the ag ammonia rules to incorporate updates from the new ANSI standard are almost complete – look to see a working draft by the summer meeting
  - c) He has recently had to devote a significant amount of time become informed about OSHA and their Process Safety Management policy changes
    - i) OSHA changed their policy interpretation of their retail exemption and is now requiring retail facilities to have a level 4 Process Safety Management system in place.
    - ii) Several groups are opposing the changes and how they can be made without standard public vetting as normally done with such rules.
    - iii) Shublak reported that they estimate it will cost at least \$15,000 per facility to comply with the new requirements.
- 7) Trish Waller, OISC fertilizer control specialist, provided an update on compliance issues.
- a) For 2015 (1/1/2015 to 12/21/2015) there have been 114 fertilizer complaints
    - i) Licensing – 78
    - ii) Fertilizer Use – 101
    - iii) Fertilizer Containment – 2
      - (1) Trish investigated 72 of the 114 complaints.
  - b) The vast majority of the complaints start off as a staging complaint and evolve.
  - c) Pearson discussed that in 2014 OISC collected \$5,962.50 in civil penalties and as of December 17, 2015 OISC has collected \$31,593 in civil penalties.
    - i) The increase is not necessarily because there have been more complaint cases; rather that OSIC has for the most part stopped with warnings for compliance assistance because the rule has been in place sufficient time.
    - ii) All complaint cases at OISC, fertilizer or pesticide, go through OISC compliance officer George Saxton.
  - d) Barbra commented that she feels that manure issues are getting better in her area and her only current concern is that more manure will be coming into Indiana from Ohio.
- 8) Group discussion only yielded further comment by Shublak that the Agribusiness Council of Indiana is closely watching the OSHA – PSM developments and hope that it will be overturned but are advising their clients to begin compliance preparations.
- 9) With nothing further to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 10:36am

Next meeting will be planned for July 2016.

Respectfully submitted

Matthew E. Pearson  
Fertilizer Administrator  
FAB secretary