

January 9, 2009

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, January 8, 2009 at 7:30 p.m., in the 4H Center Food Stand.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Amil Kleinert, Dana Coots, Bruce Adams, Peg Wright, Sylvia Hottel, Tami Kruer, Laura Fribley, Pat Larr, Phil Collins, and Melanie Davis.

Sam asked for additions or corrections to the December minutes. Hearing none, Bruce moved to approve minutes as written; Dana seconded, and motion carried.

The Financial Report was reviewed. Amil moved to approve the report; Peg seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

IASWCD Annual Conference is next week. Sam, Dana, and Phil will be attending; Bruce and Amil will not be able to attend as previously planned.

Annual Meeting was discussed. Melanie needs to know how many tickets have been sold by January 26th so that she can get a final count for the caterer. It was decided to give out door prizes again. Melanie will provide a list of what was collected last year for Sam and Dana. New Washington State Bank has sponsored the cost of tickets for the 4H Entomology team members to attend. Melanie is working on a PowerPoint presentation of the PAT project for part of the program; a new CD received from ISDA on SWCDs and Clean Water Indiana will also be shown.

NEW BUSINESS

Melanie reported that she received a letter from the Auditor's office requesting all county offices to update the forms they submitted for their 2009 budgets. Instead of paying claims from a general "other services" fund, individual funds must be identified with dollar amounts. In addition, the SWCD's budget has been cut to \$11,025 for 2009, and removes the dollars allocated for District rent. Melanie stated that the District could request additional appropriations to replace the rent money by going before the council. She also distributed copies of the Annual Financial Report she prepares for the State Association, which details the expenses and income of the District's checking account. Melanie presented a memo from Jane Hardisty regarding office rent and IT support; NRCS will not charge office rent for the first quarter of the fiscal year.

Sam stated that the no-till drill will need maintenance work performed on it before spring planting.

Tami presented a letter from the State Soil Conservation Board regarding the Clean Water Indiana Emergency Conservation Assistance Program (ECAP). These are funds that Districts can apply for to

assist farmers with cleanup after Hurricane Ike. Tami submitted a letter of intent to the state indicating our intention to request ECAP funds in the amount of \$200,000 for use in removing debris from pastureland, streams, and forestland. Applications must be received in the state office by January 30, 2009.

Laura Fribley, District Support Specialist, reported that there are limited ECAP funds and that the State reserves the right to allocate funds before all applications are received. Supervisors asked that once the staff has the application prepared, that it be signed and forwarded to the SSCB. Laura distributed the 2009 locations and dates for the Cornerstones of Leadership Series workshops.

STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that NRCS nationwide audit is finished. Her work the last month has included doing payments, status reviews, and modifications on contracts. She has also been working on new program sign-ups for 2009. Rules for new programs have not been released yet. Sylvia Hottel, Silver Creek Watershed Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities. Sylvia has been informed by IDEM that the next round of 319 grant recipients will not be announced until March or possibly April 2009.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator/Executive Director, presented a written report of her activities. Tami asked the board if the District would pay for a recent training session that Phil attended. Peg Wright moved to approve reimburse Phil for the cost of the training; Bruce seconded and motion carried. Tami displayed a copy of the new 2009 plat book. A price of \$27.50 is printed on the books, which is what the publisher would charge for them. Bruce moved to donate a plat book to each of the conservation officers, to sell books to the public for \$20, and to sell books to the police department for \$15. Peg seconded the motion and motion passed. Tami noted that the date for Phil's 90-day review will be January 20. Supervisors decided to do the review immediately after their February 3rd meeting to review the business plan.

Phil Collins, Urban Conservation Specialist, presented a written report of his activities.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

None.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you from Betty on her mother's passing.
- Crop Production Workshop will be held February 3, 2009, at the Pines Evergreen Room, Seymour, IN. Registration at 8 a.m.; program at 8:30 a.m.

With no further business, Sam Hagest adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Melanie Davis
Secretary