

June 3, 2005

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2005.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Amil Kleinert, Dana Coots, Peg Wright, Steve Hall, Terry Stephenson, Jennifer Boyle, Mike Johnson, Tami Kruer, Pat Larr, and Melanie Davis.

Sam Hagest called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Sam asked for additions or corrections to the May minutes. Hearing none, Dana Coots moved to approve minutes as written; Amil Kleinert seconded, and motion carried.

The Financial report was reviewed. Amil Kleinert moved to approve the financial report; Peg Wright seconded. Motion passed. The Board requested a financial report of the first six months of 2005 for review at their next meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Applications for the Marvin Wright Scholarship were reviewed; Marvin L. Spainhour IV, and James Patrick Bowen were the applicants. Peg Wright moved to award the scholarship to James Patrick Bowen. Dana Coots seconded the motion; motion passed.

Melanie Davis reported on the cost of replacing the split rail fence around the Natural Resources Exhibit area. Hobson Kahl quoted a price of \$500 for labor, \$12 per rail (120 needed), \$14 per post (60 needed), and \$2 per hole to fill with Sakrete. Total cost: \$2,900. Amil Kleinert moved to have Hobson Kahl replace the fence; Peg Wright seconded and motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Sam Hagest introduced guests Terry Stephenson and Jennifer Boyle. Terry was hired two years ago to replace Gary Conant as Coordinator of Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D. At that time, HHH evaluated the direction it needed to take for future activities. Watershed planning was determined to be one area that needing attention. Therefore, Terry has been traveling to area SWCDs to explain the watershed concept and see if there is any interest in watershed planning or implementation. Jennifer Boyle, Watershed Specialist for IDEM, explained that she works with watershed groups that have IDEM 319 grants. She serves as a technical resource helping guide them through the process. Jennifer distributed maps of IDEM's priority areas and where watershed planning is taking place in the state. Watersheds with streams on the 303 (d) lists, (a list of impaired waterbodies in the state of Indiana) are considered priority areas. In Clark

County, a portion of Yankee Creek, Silver Creek, Indian Creek, and 14-Mile Creek, are on listed as impaired. Only a small portion of IDEM's grant funds have been allocated for planning so competition for those funds will be stiff. Funding is more likely for implementation projects that are presented. Applications that propose both planning and implementation will be considered in the implementation funding pool. IDEM is testing a new cycle for 319 grants this year, and is funding projects up to four years. The deadline for applications to receive funds in 2006 is October 1, 2005. Upon application approval, funds will be distributed in late Spring or early Summer 2006. Grants still require a 25% match (cash or in-kind). Indiana American Water Company has stated recently that they are interested in supporting a watershed planning effort by providing in-kind services for laboratory analysis. Lab services are normally an expensive part of water monitoring activities.

Mike Johnson reported that residue transects were conducted in Clark County last year and GPS points mapped. Division of Soil Conservation has put transects on a three year rotation, unless one is requested by the county. Supervisors declined the opportunity to have a transect done this year.

Melanie stated that the Floyd County SWCD desires to develop web content similar to Clark County's stormwater web pages. Currently, the SWCD has one page on the Floyd County government site and does not have the space needed for the additional content. Acquiring more space from Floyd County is cost prohibitive, therefore they are looking to outside sources for space, and page development. The Floyd County SWCD asked Melanie what the Clark County SWCD would charge for her web design services. After discussion, supervisors decided that it would be of benefit to exchange various services as needed between the two SWCDs, as has been done in the past, and build a partnership, instead of charging for Melanie's time.

## STAFF REPORTS

Mike Johnson, IDNR Resource Specialist, presented a written report of his activities.

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that she has been working on EQIP contracts to implement grazing practices on John Ryan's farm, forestry practices on Covert's, and a grade stabilization structure on the Watson Corporation. She has been finalizing WHIP contracts that were funded, doing planning on CRP contracts for waterways, and working on status reviews on highly erodible land. She also visited a landowner interested in the new quail habitat practice for field borders. Clark County has been approved for 150 acres in the practice and there are many acres still available if anyone is interested. Pat recently attended a Clark County Drainage Board meeting and reported that new planning regulations were being written for the County.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities. Tami stated that she met with Sylvia Hottel, Floyd County SWCD Educator, concerning water quality monitoring training for schools. In the past, schools could get a grant to purchase kits or the SWCD provided them for monitoring projects. However, many schools dropped out of the program because the reporting process was so cumbersome. Due to recent revisions in the Hoosier Riverwatch program, the water testing kits have been revised and the reporting process

computerized so that it is much simpler. She and Sylvia are planning a workshop for teachers to determine interest in the monitoring program.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, reported that she has been working with John Walters in Indianapolis to set up the two new CCE computers. Melanie received a call from Vivian Pruitt, a tree sale customer. Vivian said that one of the four Nuttall Oak trees she had purchased had died, and she desired a refund. The tree was purchased in the Spring 2004 sale. Supervisors decided to offer her a replacement tree instead of a refund given the time that had passed.

Mike Johnson noted that the Division of Soil Conservation is no longer with the Dept. of Natural Resources. It is now under the new Department of Agriculture.

#### CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

Two plans were presented for signature.

#### CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

With no further business, Sam Hagest adjourned the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Melanie Davis  
Secretary