

June 11, 2008

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at 10 a.m.

Those present were Peg Wright, Amil Kleinert, Bruce Adams, Sylvia Hottel, Pat Larr, Tami Kruer, Laura Fribley, and Melanie Davis. Not present were Sam Hagest and Dana Coots.

Amil asked for additions or corrections to the May minutes. Hearing none, Bruce moved to approve minutes as written; Peg seconded, and motion carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The Area Partnership Meeting will be June 17th in Versailles. Pat Larr, Rebecca Ertel, and Amil Kleinert would like to attend. Melanie will check on getting last minute reservations. Deadline to register for "Leadership in Change" is July 18th. Laura will send out a draft schedule of activities to staff and supervisors.

Tami stated that she spoke with Mike Waiz of the Community Foundation, and he has rolled our scholarship dollars back into our fund so that we may have a larger scholarship award next year.

NEW BUSINESS

Melanie presented a request from Michelle Lynch to replace or issue a refund on trees she purchased at the SWCD Fall Tree Sale. The seven dogwoods have died, and the tulip trees are not doing well. Mrs. Lynch had stated that the trees had been watered regularly after planting, and had been fertilized. Supervisors decided to give her a \$50 credit on her next tree purchase.

Melanie stated that problems arose recently over the rental of the no-till drill. A customer had rented the drill, and from conversations with staff members, was assumed to have fixed some parts that weren't working on it. When the next customer rented it, it was found to have parts duct-taped together instead of fixed. This caused quite a bit of confusion. The drill was ultimately returned to the SWCD. Melanie commented that many of the renters now are persons who have never used a drill before, and that usage of the drill has fallen off during the past few years. She noted that the president of the local chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation has approached the SWCD to partner on the purchase of a Plotmaster seeder that can be pulled by an ATV or small tractor. Supervisors tabled discussion of the drill and Plotmaster until next meeting.

River Friendly Farmer applications are due in the state office June 16th. Michael Johnson was nominated for Clark County.

2009 Budget forms are due in the Auditor's office by July 1. Melanie noted that the SWCD requested \$16,500 for 2008, but Council froze the budget at 2007 levels. NRCS quarterly rent charge has risen from \$383 in 2007 to \$1,055.22 in 2008. Supervisors advised to raise the budget request to \$17,500 to cover rising rent costs.

STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that she has been checking the installation of conservation buffers for the District's CWI Buffer Initiative grant. Rebecca Ertel, NRCS student trainee, has been assisting her. Pat has also been working on highly erodible land reviews; the Tech Team has been assisting so that practices can be implemented this summer. Pat has been working on new applications and conservation plans for existing contracts, as well as teaching Rebecca.

Jared Sawin, Urban Conservation Specialist, was not present for a report; no written report submitted.

Sylvia Hottel, Silver Creek Watershed Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities. Horse workshop was held May 10th. There were no attendees, but brochures and information were distributed to campers. There will be a Silver Creek Sweep, June 21, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at Loop Island.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator/Executive Director, presented a written report of her activities.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities, and noted that she attached a draft schedule of 4H Fair activities.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

Eleanor O'Bryan, Loretta Rosenbarger, Herman Cissell, J.R. Righthouse, and Robert T. Weller, plans were signed.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Letter from Purdue Extension requesting sponsorship of Soil Conservation Trophy. Supervisors agreed to sponsor.
- Letter from IDEM confirming our recent change in project scope allowing us to purchase a portable PA system.
- There remains \$36.85 to be reimbursed to the fund for funeral flowers.
- Letter from Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D requesting that we allot \$250 of our budget for Council dues. Supervisors agreed to do so.
- State Board of Accounts Training for SWCDs will be held June 30, 2008, at the Jennings County Public Library, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. No reservations necessary.

With no further business, Amil Kleinert adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Melanie Davis
Secretary