

March 11, 2005

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2005.

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

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

The Financial report was reviewed. Joe Madison moved to approve the financial report; Peg Wright seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisors discussed candidates for the Urban Specialist position, who interviewed in Executive Session prior to the Board Meeting. Amil Kleinert moved to offer the position to Jared Sawin with a \$35,000 annual salary, probationary period of 90 days, review at 90 days, \$300 per month stipend for health insurance, and holidays and sick/personal days to follow County guidelines. Dana Coots seconded and motion passed. Steve Hall will contact Jared to offer him the position. Supervisors will attend the County Council meeting on Monday, March 14 at 5:00 p.m. at which time the salary ordinance for the Urban Specialist position will be presented. Supervisors will contact Council members before the meeting to assure their support of the ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

Melanie Davis asked if the Board desired to purchase wildlife seed this spring. Last year, seed was purchased in 10-pound bags and sold for \$5.00 a bag; in prior years, the seed was distributed in 5-pound bags at no charge. Supervisors decided to order 400 pounds of the seed to sell. Price will be dependent on what the District has to pay per bag to purchase.

Amil Kleinert spoke to Eddie Miller about mowing the Natural Resources Exhibit area. Last year, the District paid him \$400 to mow; previously he was paid \$600. Peg Wright moved to pay Eddie \$500 this year; Dana Coots seconded and motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Mike Johnson, IDNR Resource Specialist, reported that he met with Joe Hamm of the City of Jeffersonville to finalize MS4 issues. Mike and Lynn Miller visited Highland Trace subdivision site, which does not have an erosion and sediment control plan on file with the SWCD, and left information for the developer. The developer has not responded and construction continues at the site. Mike has reviewed several plans throughout the month. He also attended a Grazing Grant committee meeting, a day of grazing training, met with Tom Clevidence and Sharon Wilson of the Town of Clarksville, and attended a settlement conference at IDEM on Whispering Oaks subdivision.

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported she recently went through a program review with Harold Thompson. She attended grazing training, and the SWCD Workshop in North Vernon. She has been working on finishing up WHIP applications and plans, and EQIP plans. Pat also spoke with David Trotter about putting on a No-Till Workshop on March 30th. The guest speaker will be Barry Fischer who will talk about new technologies for no-till, updating your no-till system, and soil quality. David will do a presentation on record keeping so that attendees will be eligible for Pesticide Applicator credits. It was decided to have an evening meeting starting with a meal at 6:30 p.m., followed by the program at 7:00 p.m. Joe Madison will prepare chili and/or hot dogs or peanut butter sandwiches.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities. She said she had discussed Earth Day activities with David Trotter, and they decided to join with the Falls of the Ohio Earth Day event rather than hold an event here at the fairgrounds. David and Tami will be setting up a booth, and will be inviting some of the same guests to the Falls that attended here last year. Tami has also been asked to give the Equipment presentation for Clark County's Ag Day, and to judge exhibits during this year's 4-H Fair. Tami recently sent out information to area high schools regarding the Marvin Wright scholarship and has received several inquires about it.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, stated that NRCS is requesting the District upgrade the memory on the CCE computer it recently purchased. NRCS is in the process of upgrading Toolkit software on all its computers and removing older computers from service. The computer that Bob Steiner is now using for his Grazing Grant work will be removed from the office along with the laptop. Upgrading memory on the CCE machine would allow the new Toolkit to be installed so that Bob could utilize it. Pat has requested a computer without Toolkit loaded to replace Bob's, but she is not sure if/when it will be available. Joe Madison moved to purchase the additional memory chips. Peg Wright seconded the motion and motion passed. Melanie stated that she had the Annual Financial Report prepared to submit to the State, but needs supervisors to review and sign-off on it. The report is due by March 31, 2005. Joe Madison and Dana Coats volunteered to review it. Melanie recently emailed Randy Braun about the money the District was supposed to get paid by IDEM for site reviews. The District had initially received a \$600 check from IDEM when the program was announced, but has not received any funds since. Randy stated that the payment process was being initiated and the District would probably receive a check in the near future.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

Plans for Davide Lewis, Jane Irby, and John Watson Corporation were presented for signature.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Melanie announced that Historic Hoosier Hills Annual Meeting will be held at the Senior Citizen's Center in Rising Sun, IN, on March 28 at 6:00 p.m. Cost of the meal is \$8.00 per person.

With no further business, Sam Hagest adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Melanie Davis
Secretary