

May 6, 2005

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2005.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Amil Kleinert, Joe Madison, Pat Larr, Jared Sawin, Bob Steiner, Ron Popp, and Melanie Davis.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Plans are underway for this year's 4-H Fair. Staff decided to scale down the number of guests and activities this year because of the difficulty in scheduling so many of them. Raptor Rehab and Jason Emmons chainsaw carving, will be the two major participants. Melanie Davis stated that the split rail fence is in need of repair again. Hobson Kahl has offered to replace the fence for the District for the cost of his labor plus materials. He can purchase fence rails for \$10 each and posts for \$12; 120 rails and 60 posts would be needed. Discussion as to what the labor portion of the cost would be was held, and as a result Amil Kleinert moved to request a more precise estimate from Hobson and to pay Eddie Miller \$600 instead of \$500 per year if the fence is replaced. Joe Madison seconded. Motion carried.

Melanie reported that the two new CCE computers have been ordered, but not received yet. She requested the District purchase updated software for the CCE computer she will be using in order for her to continue with the web site development. The Dreamweaver/Fireworks and Adobe Acrobat software installed on her present computer are older versions that can no longer be upgraded; a new version purchase is required. Even if an upgrade were possible, NRCS would not allow the older version of the software to be installed on the new CCE machine in order to do the upgrade. The Quickbooks software Melanie uses for District record keeping is also outdated and needs to be upgraded as well on the new machine. Joe Madison moved that the District

purchase the needed software for Melanie's computer. Amil Kleinert seconded and motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reviewed the billing process for municipalities for the District's Phase II assistance. Total fixed cost, which includes information/public education, web space, equipment/space, Jared's salary and benefits, and office and equipment, is billed to each entity on a percentage basis. Supervisors felt the money received for office space should be reimbursed to NRCS since the District does not pay rent on the space it occupies. Pat reported that she has been working on status reviews, and conservation programs in the new Toolkit computer program, and designing waterways. She also commented on the success of the No-Till Workshop.

Bob Steiner, Grazing Lands Specialist, reported that he has \$58,000 of the grant money committed to projects, most of which are in Jefferson County. He has eight other people pending who say they will spend \$5,000. With only \$89,000 remaining in the grant, not all of those eight will receive funding. He also has appointments with three other persons that are interested in obtaining grant assistance. Pat suggested extending the grant and asking for additional money. Bob felt that would be a possibility or perhaps moving money around within the grant to allow more for cost share.

Jared Sawin, Urban Conservation Specialist, reported that he represented all the entities at Earth Day 2005, which was held April 16 at the Falls of the Ohio State Park. Participation in Earth Day is a part of the Phase II permit requirements. Visitors learned about nonpoint source pollution through a District display created by Bryan Wallace. As far as the urban part of the program, construction is in full swing, and Jared is reviewing plans weekly. Each entity now has their permit approved and their ordinances in place. On May 12th there will be a workshop for builders, developers, engineers, and site supervisors at the Clarksville Town Hall beginning at 2 p.m. Basic info on the NPDES program will be presented and requirements for compliance within each ordinance will be covered. An ad will run in the paper to invite the general public, so that the workshop will qualify both as one meeting the target audience and one for general information. Jared has been working closely with Mike Johnson to determine which sites fall under Rule 5 (Mike's jurisdiction) and Rule 13 (Jared's).

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities. Information on the two Marvin Wright Scholarship applicants was distributed for review. Supervisors opted to hold the applications until more board members were present for the selection process.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, reported that she had attended a day and a half workshop this week on grant writing that was very informative. She stated that the District Spring Tree Sale was successful and netted a little over \$1,400. There are still 5 Bald Cypress and 6 Black Alders to sell. Rental of the no-till drill has picked up with the good weather and the new counter appears to be working well. Melanie received the bill for IASWCD membership dues for 2005 this week. Dues will be \$2,000, \$345 of which covers the District's share of liability insurance coverage. Due date is September 30, 2005.

Sam Hagest welcomed Ron Popp of Farm Bureau. Ron Popp stated that he would be fulfilling his obligation to Farm Bureau and sitting in on at least three District meetings this year. Farm Bureau is undergoing some changes in leadership at this time. Supervisors stated that they would look forward to working with the organization.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

None.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The NACD North Central Region Meeting will be July 10-13, 2005, at the Grand Wayne Convention Center and Hilton Hotel in Fort Wayne, IN.

With no further business, Sam Hagest adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Melanie Davis
Secretary