

November 3, 2006

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2006.

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

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Melanie Davis distributed the Annual Conference program and Resolutions for 2007. Sam Hagest, Dana Coots, Joe Madison, and possibly Peg Wright will attend the conference.

Melanie referred supervisors to the "Contract for Services Agreement" she handed out in regards to the District's 319 grant for the Silver Creek Watershed project. IDEM requires that a contract be signed, and then approved by them, for any contractual work in a project. Since the District is contracting FMSM to do the chemistry and macroinvertebrae field work on this project, a contract will be necessary. Supervisors felt the contract Melanie created was sufficient; Steve Hall will check with FMSM's legal department to get their approval. Joe moved to use the contract Melanie created, pending approval from FMSM; Peg seconded and motion carried. Melanie noted that both the 319 and Clean Water Indiana grant begin January 1, 2007, and both need persons hired to do the grant work. Steve stated that FMSM is willing to let one of their people work on the 319 project for the salary dollars included in the grant. This person would be a watershed coordinator new to FMSM, but with experience in watershed planning. Steve said that FMSM often does this to help alleviate administrative work and fees. The person normally works 3-4 days a week in an office on the given project, and spends the rest of their time working on other watershed projects FMSM is involved in. Supervisors asked Steve to submit a proposal outlining what work the coordinator would be doing. Melanie stated that two persons will need to be hired for the CWI grant. These are to be farmer-type people familiar with the area and landowners they will be visiting.

NEW BUSINESS

NACD quota contribution was discussed. Melanie stated that NACD requests a minimum of \$775 be paid, however Districts can pay less. She noted that the District's line item in the Council's budget for dues has a balance of \$500, and there are not other dues to be paid from it this year. Supervisors agreed to use that \$500 to pay NACD.

Tami Kruer reported a recent Community Foundation report shows that \$129 in earnings will be available to spend next June from the District's endowment fund. Newspaper and newsletter articles have not produced any donations for the fund. Tami suggested auctioning the carvings done by Jason Emmons during the 4-H Fair, as a fundraiser. Laura Fribley will check on the legalities of auctions for Districts and report back. If allowed, supervisors thought it would be good to conduct the auction as part of the District's Annual Meeting in January. Other items could also be obtained for the auction. A representative from the Community Foundation could be invited to speak briefly and to receive the proceeds from the auction.

STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that she spent three days last week working on the National Work Load Analysis. She has been working on WHIP contract status reviews and EQIP applications, and is preparing to work on CRP re-enrollment plans. Pat stated that Karen Hauer has been working on the National Resources Inventory and should have it completed. A new Area Conservationist will be starting Dec. 4th to replace Harold Thompson.

Jared Sawin, Urban Conservation Specialist, reported that he attended a Porous Pavement Workshop on October 24th at FMSM, which was very interesting and informative. Jared had the opportunity to work with Ronnie Boehm, Rule 5 assessment person, on the 30th. Year-end report compilation has begun, and should take most of Jared's time during the month of November. Jared and Tami devised a filing system for old plans that should make them easier to access. Jared reported that the municipalities plan to continue to use the SWCD's assistance during the upcoming year, and will sign new contracts.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator/Executive Director, presented a written report of her activities. Tami stated that a FAC committee meeting was held recently during which concerns about the cleanliness of the office were voiced. Bob Backus drafted a letter to be sent to the 4-H Corporation board regarding the matter. Consolidation of the Clark and Scott County FSA and SWCD offices to the Scott County Service Center, or other location, was also discussed during the meeting. Supervisors held discussion on this possibility.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, reported that Eddie Miller had asked Amil Kleinert, if the District could pay him more for mowing the exhibit area. Supervisors decided not to do so. Floyd County wants to update the Plat Book and wondered if Clark County would be interested. Board members were, and asked Tami and Melanie to check on prices. Melanie stated that she, Ginger Christie (Scott County), Amy Carpenter (Jefferson County), Sylvia Hottel (Floyd County), Terry Stephenson (HHH RC&D), and Amil Kleinert, met today to discuss the Plant A Tree For You And Me (P.A.T.) project. Kick-off for the project will be March 21, 2007, at the Forest Discovery Center in Starlight. Pending approval by HHH's Forestry committee, HHH will hold funds for the project that will be distributed as needed for refreshments, brochures, or other items. Each county will contribute \$250 to the project initially.

Laura Fribley, District Support Specialist, shared information on Demonstration Forests; Don Stump, District Forester, would be our contact. She also shared a brochure from Vermillion County, which promotes their business plan.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

None.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

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

Melanie Davis
Secretary