

November 6, 2009

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, November 5, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Amil Kleinert, Bruce Adams, Peg Wright, Tami Kruer, Pat Larr, and Melanie Davis.

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

Melanie stated that Mike Gregg has agreed to represent the District on Historic Hoosier Hill's Woodland Committee, and attend meetings as is convenient for him.

Melanie reported that Joe Madison completed the follow-up for the CWI 2008 SNRG grant; results of the follow-up were reviewed. Melanie will issue a check to Joe for his work.

The application for the 2010 CWI grant has been submitted for purchasing light bars, a technician to monitor the light bar and drill rental program, and for supervisor and staff training.

Tami reported that Stantec's held its QPI training last week for eleven participants.

Rolling Pin was the sole bid for catering the Annual Meeting. Peg moved to accept the bid; Bruce seconded and motion carried. Cost of the meal will be \$12 per person. Ticket price will be \$10; \$2 will be absorbed by the District. Staff will research speakers for the meeting.

The district is hosting a retirement celebration for Pat Larr on December 3, 2-6 p.m., in the Community Bldg., Clark County 4H Fairgrounds. The December board meeting and the district Christmas party will immediately follow, location of the party TBA. Scottsburg is also hosting a celebration for Pat on December 1, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Scottsburg service center. Tami will be creating a flyer to advertise both locations.

County budget – The district has been allocated \$51,997 from the county for its 2010 budget. The budget committee made recommendations to: cut the Urban Conservation position to four days per week; keep the pay for the position at \$30,000, but remove the insurance stipend; have district staff assume the education and outreach duties of the urban position for which they will receive compensation; and, have staff work 30 hours per week for the county and the remainder of their hours for the urban program. Staff will track the hours they work for the urban program. To support this, the MOAs with Jeffersonville,

Sellersburg, and the County will need to be finalized as soon as possible, and the district will need to obtain a copy of the plan from Stantec that identifies the requirements and activities for the coming year under the Phase II program. As part of the budget revision process, the commissioners have requested a letter stating the number of employees that will lose their positions as a result of the budget cuts, and the contracts held by each office for which they will be liable in the coming year. Melanie presented a draft letter to this effect she had prepared. Supervisors agreed that the letter was sufficient to send. Bruce moved to reduce employees' hours from 35 to 30 hours per week, to reduce the operating budget to \$1 per fund, and to allow \$2200 for longevity pay; the remainder of the county allocation to be used for employee's salaries; Peg seconded and motion carried.

Tami presented qualifications for six of the 50 applications received for the Urban Conservation position. Tami stated that she had been contacted by an official from the City of Jeff who informed her that they may have a conflict with one of the individuals who had applied for the position, and that it may possible to lose Jeff's funding. Tami spoke with Bruce Wright, Chair of the Jeff City Drainage Board, regarding the situation, and he informed her that the funding would not be in jeopardy, and advised the District to hire the person best qualified for the job. Supervisors reviewed the qualifications and decided to interview three of the applicants on December 15th beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tami will schedule the interviews. Applicants will be informed of the four-day work week when they are interviewed since the number of work days is not stated in the job description.

NEW BUSINESS

NACD has requested annual dues of \$775. Peg moved to pay ½ the requested amount to NACD; Bruce seconded and motion carried.

Tami stated that persons are now able to donate to the district's endowment fund in behalf of loved ones that have passed. This can be done online from the SWCD web site, or by mail. Envelopes are available in the district office.

The December board meeting will take place immediately following Pat's retirement reception on December 3rd. Joe Madison has offered to host the district's Christmas party at his home following the meeting, however consensus was to dine somewhere locally; location to be decided on that night.

Scott County board of supervisors recently sent a letter to Jane Hardisty requesting that the DC position vacated by Pat be filled immediately. Supervisors felt that Clark County should do the same, but also request that the person be stationed in Clark County. Staff will prepare a letter to send to Darrell Nicholson.

STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that Jennifer Kipper will be the acting DC until NRCS fills the position permanently. Jennifer will be in Clark County for a few days this month shadowing Pat's activities. Pat has been doing EQIP payments/modifications, and other program activities.

Tami Kruer, Education Coordinator/Executive Director, presented a written report of her activities. Tami stated that she had not received a response from the State Unemployment office after submitting the paperwork regarding Phil's application for unemployment.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, presented a written report of her activities.

CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

CRP plan signed earlier in the evening.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Registration deadline for the Leadership Institute on November 21st is November 16th. Dates for LI 2010 have been set.

IASWCD Annual Conference is January 11-13, 2010. Early bird registration deadline is November 30th.

With no further business, Sam Hagest adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Melanie Davis
Secretary