

September 4, 2009

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

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

#### OLD BUSINESS

The next session of the Leadership Institute will be held in Nashville, IN, September 18-19<sup>th</sup>; the topic is "Board Development". The hotel block deadline at The Season's Lodge has passed. The deadline for workshop registration is Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Tami reported that the Popp's received the certified letter which she sent. Judy Popp responded that a claim had been settled with Farm Bureau, and provided the claim # and adjuster's name. Tami spoke with Jack Gaff, Farm Bureau Insurance rep for all SWCDs in the state, about the claim. He stated that the claim was made on an auto policy, and that Farm Bureau had paid the other gentleman's loss and the Popp's loss. He also stated that the damage to the drill should have been filed as a claim on the Popp's farm policy, but that was not done. Jack suggested contacting the Popp's and asking them to file a separate claim on their farm policy. If the damage is lower than their deductible, then the District would need to collect the money directly from the Popp's. Tami will send a letter to the Popp's stating that Farm Bureau has advised us that they need to file a claim against their farm policy for the damage, and will include a copy of the bill for the new tire.

Tami reported that she, Pat, and Phil met with Les Kavanaugh, chairman of the Clark County Drainage Board, and financial situation of the Urban Conservation Program was discussed. Les is going to approach the board for the possibility of increasing the county's contribution to the program. Tami and Phil met with Ken Alexander, Town of Sellersburg, for the same purpose. Ken suggested dividing the lost revenue equally among the remaining municipalities. He felt that there would be no problem in increasing Sellersburg's share of the cost. A meeting with Jeffersonville will be arranged soon.

Melanie reported that she had re-submitted the EPA 319 application for the Silver Creek Watershed Implementation Project to IDEM. Due to the amount of cost-share dollars requested in the application, a part-time contractual person was added to the proposal to handle the educational activities; a full-time technician will be responsible for promoting and implementing the conservation programs.

Melanie informed the board that the District's Contribution Agreement for contract administration with NRCS was not approved per an email from Darrell Nicholson, Area Conservationist.

Tami checked with representatives of the State Board of Accounts regarding handling the fees for the Qualified Professional Training. They felt there should be no problem as long as the money is receipted, and a good paper trail is kept. They stated that an invoice from the municipalities may not be necessary. Laura Fribley stated that there was no conflict with duties and responsibilities of the District. There are still questions to be answered as to reimbursing funds to the municipalities, difficulty of the test, number of tests required, and involving municipalities beyond Clark County, but Tami will be discussing those with Stantec.

Melanie stated that plans for the "Buffers in the City" workshop were going well. Yard signs were printed by Conger Signs to advertise the event; Coast to Coast Signs will be making the 4 informational signs to be placed in the park. Deb Aschack, City of Jeff, has obtained a \$100 sponsorship from Walnut Ridge Nursery to help cover the cost of providing lunch. The workshop will take place October 2, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Options for completing the follow-up for the 2008 CWI grant were discussed and included: paying supervisors their per dium allowance to make phone calls/visits, mailing a survey, contracting Joe Madison to make phone calls/visits. Melanie will contact Joe to determine his interest. If he is not interested, then supervisors will handle the follow-up calls/visits.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The activities of this year's 4H Fair were reviewed. It was decided to ask Raptor Rehab to attend a second night since their program is so popular. Also, searching for a less expensive chainsaw carving person to do a demonstration, and adding a marquetry person, possibly the gentleman from the Forest Discovery Center.

Dana moved to designate the New Washington State Bank as the District's depository. Bruce seconded and motion carried.

Pat announced that the building lease for NRCS and FSA is up in April 2010. GSA is in charge of all rent leases nationwide, therefore it will be a more formal process of soliciting bids. The FAC committee will meet next week to make recommendations for any changes that need to be made in particular that the 4H Corporation Board be more diligent in cleaning office space.

Bob Bowen has requested that the District find another person to represent them on the Historic Hoosier Hills Woodland Committee. He is no longer able to do it. It was suggested that Mike Gregg, professional forester, may be willing to represent us. Melanie will contact him.

Larry Gupton, resident of Covered Bridge subdivision, has requested a letter from the District stating that the District will continue to provide its services to the community should it become a town. Mr. Gupton explained to Melanie that the community needed at least five letters from various businesses and organizations within the county to present with its petition for town designation. Supervisors approved providing Covered Bridge with a letter.

Budget hearings will be September 14, 15, and 16. Sessions will be held from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day. Each session will last 15 minutes, and appointments can be made through the Auditor's office. Tami will call for a time and advise supervisors. Bruce will attend along with Tami; Peg, Dana, and Sam may be able to attend.

Pat updated supervisors on the status of the Land Trust. Members have been working with Terry Stephenson to do strategic planning to determine the future of the Land Trust. They currently have one landowner interested in donating an easement.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Pat Larr, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that Clarksville received Emergency Watershed Protection program dollars to repair Blackiston Mill Rd. She has been working on new EQIP contracts, CRP re-enrollments, end-of-year audit, and contract reviews.

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

Phil Collins, Urban Conservation Specialist, presented a written report.

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

#### CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

None.

#### CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

HHH Project Committees Tour, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 8:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Reservations due by September 18.

IASWCD Annual Conference, January 11-13, 2010

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

Melanie Davis  
Secretary