

August 8, 2016

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, August 4, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. Those present were Sam Hagest, Dana Coots, Carolyn Clark, Luanne Stahly, Loren Christman, Mike Johnson, Tami Kruer, Jennifer Kipper, and Melanie Davis; Susan Popp, guest.

Sam asked for additions or corrections to the July minutes. Luanne moved to approve the minutes as written. Dana seconded and motion carried.

Sam asked for questions on the Financial Report. Loren moved to approve the report. Carolyn seconded and motion passed.

Guest, Susan Popp, spoke about her concerns regarding new development in Clark County, and the make-up of the Planning & Zoning Board. Supervisors and staff gave suggestions and contacts that may help in researching/answering some of her questions.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Grant updates: 319 14 Mile Creek – Melanie has tried to contact Kathleen Hagan on a couple of occasions, but has gotten no response to date on the status of the WMP.

4H Fair – Staff stated that all the District's events went well during the fair, however, crowd numbers appeared to be down overall at the fair. Now that the fair is over, the new exhibit building will need to be sealed around the bottom to prevent water and animals from entering; Sam knows someone who could do the work and will talk with them. Adding the building to the existing District insurance policy was discussed, and it was decided to do so. Tami will contact the insurance agent. Dana asked that we send a thank-you note to Dan Cristiani's home for removing the old building; staff will do so. Ideas for drawing more people back to the exhibit area were discussed and included: getting the SWCD nightly schedule in the 4H program; educational activities for families/kids each night; and having presenters such as the beekeepers for the entire week instead of one night. Melanie presented a possible design for updating the exhibit area that would make it similar to the Pathway to Water Quality at the Indiana State Fair. She spoke with Laura Fribley during the 4H fair, and Laura suggested funding the project with CWI funds. Carolyn stated that the Master Gardeners are seeking projects in this area in order to earn their service hours; this project would be a consideration for them. Involving the Master Naturalists and McCoy's Landscaping were suggested, as was adding a bluebird trail, and planting a tree where the exhibit sign was taken out. Melanie will work on putting a CWI grant application for the project together. Apps are due 9/15/16.

Dana asked if some type of cover could be obtained for the drill. He stated that when the seed left in the tubes gets wet, it plugs the tubes badly, and they are difficult to clean out. Supervisors discussed and were favorable to do so, but no decision made.

Melanie gave an update on the BISON-tennial project. Sponsors to date are: SWCD (\$500), Clark County Farm Bureau (\$500), David Kruer (\$500), Charlestown Vet Clinic (\$100), and Spreisterbach Foundation (\$300). Additional funds are needed to cover painting the bison. The Bison-tennial Celebration event will be

9/16/16 from 9:30 a.m.-Noon at the fairgrounds. There will be live music, a free meal of bison burgers, games for the kids, chainsaw carving demo, National Muzzleloading Rifle Assoc. flag raising ceremony, and heritage-type crafters. Heritage farmers will be recognized; it was suggested to recognize the Master Gardeners also for their achievement. The timeframe is when the Bicentennial Torch Relay will be passing through Clark County and by the fairgrounds. Carolyn suggested contacting the City of Charlestown to advertise the event on their marquee, as well as the German-American Bank.

County Budget hearings are set for Monday, 8/29/16, and Wednesday, 8/31/16. Dana and Loren are able to attend either day. Tami will call for a time, and will prepare a packet of information to present. Melanie contacted Laura Fribley regarding dates she has available to meet with the District and facilitate an internal controls discussion. After reviewing the dates, supervisors selected 8/24/16 as their first choice with 8/10/16 as the alternate. Supervisors opted to take their Internal Controls packets with them in preparation for the meeting.

Luanne presented Crazy Ladies Catering, LLC, menu and pricing for the District's Christmas party. She said that the ladies were currently available to cater on 12/1, the regular District meeting night. The board suggested asking them about reserving a snow date of 12/8; Luanne will do so.

No other old business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There will be a Woodland Owner Workshop, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., at the Clark State Forest. The District received an Indiana Forestry Educational Foundation Grant last December for this project. The workshop will be held in and near the shelter house at the main entrance to the forestry. Lunch will be provided.

Tami distributed copies of the latest fund statement received from the Community Foundation for the District's investment. She noted that in spite of her efforts to submit a recommendation for a scholarship distribution of \$1,000, the Foundation paid out \$1,250 to our recipient. They evidently use their control document, which we sign off on, when disbursing funds, and do not take into consideration any other documents we send once that is signed. Loren moved to appropriate another \$250 for the scholarship; Carolyn seconded and motion carried.

No other New Business.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Jennifer Kipper, NRCS District Conservationist, submitted a written report of her activities, and highlighted some of those.

Tami Kruer, Executive Director, presented a written report of her activities. She stated that she had been contacted by Tom Vittow of River Ridge for assistance in landscaping a detention basin. She in turn contacted Rob Huckaby to see if it was a project the SWAC would want to be involved in. She has not heard back from Tom yet. She gave an update on the Land Trust's involvement with the Harrison County Community Foundation, and the Farm & Ranch grants that are being awarded.

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

Lynn Miller, Urban Resources Technician, was not present for a report. Sam inquired whether Lynn was still inspecting the Star Hill Rd. project, and noted that mowing activities had disturbed quite a bit of the hillside. Tami stated that Lynn continues with inspections.

Mike Johnson, ISDA Resource Specialist, stated that the 2015 CWI grant had paid out all but \$1,300 of the \$75,000 grant funds. The remaining funds are allocated. He stated that the InField Advantage group is

currently scheduling for their winter meeting. They are seeking a location between Scottsburg and Charlestown to hold the meeting. The available dates are January 18, 19, and 20, 2017.

**CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

With no further business, Sam adjourned the meeting at 10 p.m.  
Melanie Davis, Secretary