

January 29, 2015

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, January 29, 2015, at 9:45 a.m.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Dana Coats, Loren Christman, Carolyn Clark, Luanne Stahly, Tami Kruer, Laura Fribley, Jennifer Kipper, and Melanie Davis.

Dana asked for additions or corrections to the January minutes. Loren moved to approve the minutes as written. Carolyn seconded and motion carried.

The Financial Report was reviewed. The insurance premium to Farm Bureau was discussed. The policy was reviewed; \$163 insures the personal property, and \$463 insures both no-till drills. Carolyn moved to approve the report; Loren seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Grant updates:

319 14 Mile Creek – Steering Committee meeting was held on Monday, 1/26/15. The management plan is progressing. Members were asked to assist with the windshield survey; Mike Johnson has agreed to assist. The next meeting will begin the process of prioritizing areas of the watershed where cost-share dollars will be spent in implementation.

CWI 2015 – Brochures and applications will be available at the Annual Meeting this evening. A news release has been submitted to local papers to announce the grant.

Annual Meeting plans were finalized. Tami will pick up the extra copies of the Annual Report this afternoon. The caterer will be arriving at 3:30 p.m.; leftovers can be retained by the SWCD. Exit 0 will be picking those up on Friday. Jeff Hall, New Washington State Bank, will be speaking briefly on the bank's crop insurance program after Katie Stam speaks.

Sam, Dana, and Loren attended Annual Conference. They reported that because of the condensed format of the conference, there was not time to network with other attendees, however, sessions were good.

Loren questioned how the \$10,000 we receive from the county is matched by Clean Water Indiana funds. Laura explained that actually the State reviews the amount of funds districts receive from their counties and matches those funds dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. Clark County receives the maximum amount of match currently.

Right to Farm/Partnership with Farm Bureau: David Trotter will be contacting Luanne to discuss how Farm Bureau could be involved.

The next Leadership Institute will be 2/13 & 14 in Wabash, IN. Loren will be attending. Laura noted that there are only 8 people signed up to date, and the deadline is tomorrow; cancellation of the workshop is a possibility. There will be another workshop in Madison, IN, this December, which has proved a popular location.

No other old business.

NEW BUSINESS

The District was contacted by State Board of Accounts earlier this month to audit the records from 2010-2014. SBOA representatives picked up the records last week. It will take approximately a month before the audit process is complete. Laura stated that because of recent staff cuts in SBOA, it is likely that districts will be audited every 4-5 years in the future, instead of every 2-3 years as was normal in the past. There is currently a House Bill proposed that, if passed, would raise SWCD audit fees from \$45/day to \$175/day for each field examiner, private examiner, expert, or employee of the SBOA who is engaged in making examinations or investigations.

Melanie has completed the Annual Financial Report. It will need to be reviewed, and then signed by two supervisors before March 1, 2015. Melanie will send out the report for supervisors to review.

The New Washington State Bank is now offering a credit card. The District's current card is with Chase Bank. Supervisors agreed that having a card with the local bank would be beneficial, therefore Loren moved to apply for a card. Carolyn seconded and motion carried.

Current proposed House and Senate bills were discussed, in particular HB 1111: Wabash, Whie, and Ohio Rivers Aquifer Study, and HB 1429: Township Funding of Conservation Projects. Loren stated that the District should consider what kind of project could be proposed to township trustees if 1429 passes.

Laura presented an update of upcoming events and items pertinent to SWCDs. She will be attending our Annual Meeting this evening. The March Region Meetings will feature Logan Garner (ISDA) as the speaker on Indiana's Nutrient Reduction Strategy. There will be three breakout sessions: new supervisor training, running effective cost-share programs, and working with local officials. Dinner will be served. Meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. Reservation information is not available yet.

Discussion of establishing a partnership with River Ridge was held.

No other New Business.

STAFF REPORTS

Jennifer Kipper, NRCS District Conservationist, reported that she has been working on EQIP and CRP signups. She attend Annual Conference earlier in the month, and attended the Regional Soil Health Workshop, and Muddy Fork meeting this week. She noted that Scott County's Annual Meeting will be next Thursday at the Scott County High School; cost is \$5. She will be on leave the end of March.

Tami Kruer, Executive Director/Education Coordinator, gave a brief report of her activities.

Melanie Davis, Administrative Coordinator, gave a brief report of her activities. She stated that she had emailed Nathan Logsdon regarding scheduling his group for the 4H Fair, but he has not replied. She will call him next week.

Lynn Miller, Urban Resources Technician, reported that he had contacted IDEM's official in charge of the landfill inspections, but the official has not returned his call yet to set an inspection date. Loren and Luanne would like to attend the inspection if possible.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

With no further business, Dana adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Melanie Davis, Secretary