

January 10, 2014

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors held their regular board meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at 8 p.m.

Those present were Sam Hagest, Loren Christman, Carolyn Clark, Dana Coots, Luanne Stahly, Tami Kruer, David Trotter, Jennifer Kipper, Mike Johnson, Lynn Miller, Melanie Davis, and guests, Sylvia Hottel and Chelsea Tooley.

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

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

#### OLD BUSINESS

Chelsea Tooley gave a brief bio of herself and presented her resume' for consideration for the Fourteen Mile Creek/Goose Creek Watershed project, Watershed Coordinator position. Sylvia Hottel expressed her interest in the Watershed Monitoring Coordinator position, and discussed what would be involved in the water sampling task of the project and what would be needed to complete it. After discussion, Luanne moved to hire Sylvia Hottel as the Watershed Monitoring Coordinator for the Fourteen Mile Creek/Goose Creek Watershed project; Dana seconded and motion carried. Carolyn moved to hire Chelsea Tooley as the Watershed Coordinator for the Fourteen Mile Creek/Goose Creek Watershed project; Loren seconded and motion carried.

Grant updates: 319 Silver Creek – Received funds for cost-share reimbursement on Tom Allen and Harold Hart. 319 14 Mile Creek – Melanie made contacts with Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D regarding their organization working with the SWCD to complete the project. Melanie has been working on the QAPP for the water sampling task of the project. CWI 2013 – Two of Clark County's applicants have been paid their incentive payments; the remaining applicants have not completed the steps necessary for payment.

Annual Meeting was discussed. Sponsorships were obtained from New Washington State Bank and Farm Credit Service to help cover the meal expenses. Tami is currently working on the Annual Report. Jim McIntosh has agreed to clean up after the meeting. Melanie distributed tickets for supervisors to sell. A prepaid cell phone was purchased, and the phone number has been listed on the tickets and in meeting announcements as an emergency contact. It was decided to meet at 9 a.m. on the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> for a board meeting, which will be followed by setup for the Annual Meeting.

Sam, Dana, Loren and Tami gave an overview Annual Conference activities. A Region Training has been scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup>. Details to come.

The contribution agreement with IASWCD to ensure status reviews are completed on CRP contracts was discussed. There are 11 contracts with 16 waterways that need to be reviewed. Work needs to be completed by May 30, 2014. Loren moved to hire Lynn Miller to complete the reviews at the rate of \$100 per contract. Luanne seconded and motion carried.

The SWCD Business and Work Plans were discussed. Loren asked that Fourteen Mile Creek and Silver Creek activities be added to the work plan. Carolyn suggested external hard drives be listed as equipment needs.

Melanie noted that RSVPs are due by 1/24/14 for the January 28<sup>th</sup> Soil Health Workshop, which the District is sponsoring. She asked supervisors to advise her if they would like to go.

The District has been refunded the hotel expenses for the December Leadership Institute, which was canceled due to inclement weather. The next LI will be held February 7-8, 2014, in Wabash, IN.

No other old business.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Tami and Sam met with representatives of the Community Foundation recently regarding the Endowment they hold for the District. Originally set up to be used for operating expenses and scholarships, the Foundation says this is no longer compliant with IRS regulations. The Foundation would like to change it to a total scholarship fund. The Foundation is in the process of drafting a new agreement that would need to be approved by their board before being presented to us. They suggested a change to the awarding of the scholarship, which would allow a student to receive the scholarship annually as long as they maintained their grades in the field of study they enrolled in. Tami noted that if the fund is set up as a true scholarship fund, the Foundation will annually disseminate information on it to all the schools.

Supervisors and staff signed a congratulations card for Laura Fribley on her new baby.

No other New Business.

#### STAFF REPORTS

Jennifer Kipper, NRCS District Conservationist, noted that the deadline to apply for the Conservation Stewardship Program has been extended until February 7<sup>th</sup>. There is a self-screening checklist available on the internet to help folks determine if CSP fits their operation. Jennifer would like to review the Cooperative Working Agreement again at the regular board meeting in March. Postage meters will be removed from field offices early this year.

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

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

David Trotter, Watershed Technician, presented a written report of his activities. He noted that he will be seeking out projects to expend the remaining cost-share funds in the grant.

Lynn Miller, Urban Resources Technician, presented a written report of his activities.

#### CONSERVATION PLANS FOR BOARD APPROVAL/SIGNATURES

None.

#### CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

With no further business, Sam adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Melanie Davis, Secretary