

Minutes of Regular Meeting
VANDERBURGH COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
(SWCD) Office, Evansville, Indiana
7:00 p.m., Monday, December 13, 2010

Present:

Davie Sue W Litov, Chairman
David Ellison, Vice-Chairman (Absent)
Laura Lamb, Secretary
Wayne Fehd, Member
John Hahn, Member (Absent)
Steve Helfrich, Associate
Scott Winiger, Associate

SWCD Personnel:

Norma Duckworth (Absent)
Bonnie Bittner

NRCS Personnel:

Darrell Rice
Lindsay Martinez (Absent)

Davie Sue chaired the meeting; asked for a motion to approve the minutes as mailed/mailed to supervisors with the draft agenda last week.

A motion was made by Laura Lamb to approve the minutes of the November, 2010 meeting, seconded by Wayne Fehd, and carried.

Davie Sue asked the board to refer to the November financial report, which showed the previous balance on 11-1-10, \$24,111.33, Receipts, \$6,831.33, Debits \$4,532.62 and balance as of 11-30-10 \$26,410.04.

A motion was made by Laura Lamb to accept the treasurer's report, seconded By Wayne Fehd, and carried.

NOVEMBER CLAIMS:

| | |
|--|------------|
| W4598 H & H Farms, Inc. (Airplane/Aerial Seeding CWI 2010) | \$1,000.00 |
| W4604 Rexing & Rexing A Partnership (Airplane/Aerial Seeding CWI 2010) | \$942.50 |
| W4603 AT&T Mobility (Cell Phone) | \$18.60 |
| W4608 Staples Dept DET (Office Supplies) | \$97.06 |
| W4601 Chuck Price (Native Planting/contract Backyard Conservation Project) | \$337.27 |
| W4599 Baehl Family Farm, LLC (Airplane/Aerial Seeding CWI 2010) | 513.00 |
| W4492 CMC Global (3 Registrations/Annual Conference) | \$825.00 |

Claims Submitted to County:

Claims have been all submitted/Budget at \$00000

Wayne Fehd reviewed the claims.

Wayne Fehd made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Laura Lamb, and carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Natural Resource Committee – David Ellison-Chairperson

A check was cut today for a Lake and River Enhancement project. Client sent thank you notes to all involved and was very grateful for the work on the project. There have been emails back and forth and now a call has been placed to Doug Nusbaum to see if the LARE funds are still available for projects.

The Stahl's are putting together the yield data for the Tillage Plot Project and will be sending it to the board. After a short discussion

Laura Lamb made a motion to send a check to the Stahl's as per contract,
Seconded by Wayne Fehd and carried.

BUSINESS PLAN

ACTIONS 2010

Urban Soil Erosion:

Continue developers' workshop
Continue SWCD's level of involvement with MS4's
Develop education programs
Continue existing watershed initiatives and establish new one by 2012

Agriculture Soil Erosion:

Field Day/No-Till workshops
Continue Locust Creek Core IV projects
Establish a priority watershed TBD in Vanderburgh County utilizing Core IV principles
Locate and promote programs that provide incentives to adopt conservation practices (Newsletter)

Water Quality:

Partner with Health Department to address water quality concerns
Continue septic information in newsletter & informative materials from other sources
Continue conservation programs on Ag lands that improve water quality
Continue water quality monitoring

Preservation of Natural Areas:

Locate & Identify

Preservation of Farmland:

- I. Create additional wetlands, forest & wildlife areas
 - SWCD becomes knowledgeable about federal, state & local programs related to natural areas
 - Preservation, Educate & promote programs to general public
 - Promote native plant species
 - Work with partners to eradicate invasive
 - Educate the public
- II. Preserve existing wetlands, forests & wildlife areas
 - SWCD becomes knowledgeable about programs to aid in the creation of natural areas
 - Educate/promote programs to the public through workshops and partnerships

Urban Initiatives

- I. Encourage the utilization of "green spaces" in subdivisions & urban
 - Educate SWCD on zoning & related "green space" issues
 - Remain involved in influencing zoning ordinances related to "green space"
 - Partner with city Arborist to promote Tree City USA programs
 - Partner with City Beautiful to promote relevant programs
 - Partner with City/County parks department to preserve/create parks & related areas

Land Use Committee – Wayne Fehd-Chairperson

No Business This Month

Education Outreach Committee – Laura Lamb, Chairperson

Mike Linderman sent an email to staff and supervisors asking them to put January 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. on their calendars for an opening night reception for the Farm Life Exhibit so they can be acknowledged for sponsoring the exhibit. Also mark your calendars for February 12, 2011 for a Farm Life Exhibit Family Day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. They will have farm machinery, animals, etc. Mike will be in contact as they are going to need our help.

District Operations Committee – John Hahn, Chairperson

County Commissioner/Council Council meeting was attended in December by Wayne Fehd. He passed agendas for both the County Commissioner and County Council meetings he attended. Wayne reported he thanked both groups for their support in 2010.

Recommendation for Temporary Appointment (Stephen P. Helfrich) was signed by Supervisors and Stephen P. Helfrich to be filed in the district office. The form was filled out in MyShare for the state board's approval.

Supervisor Nominees for Election form was signed by the Election Committee Chair and one member who were present. The third Election Committee member will sign when available.

NEW BUSINESS:

Soil & Water Resource Committee – David Ellison – Chairperson

No Business This Month

Land Use Committee – Wayne Fehd, Chairperson

A report on the Eagle Slough Natural Area (ESNA) deck that is being constructed was given. After some discussion it was decided to ask ESNA committee chairman and Four Rivers RC&D Coordinator to attend the January board meeting to give the supervisors a report on the downsizing of the deck from the original plan, does it meet the Alcoa Grant requirements and the deck budget.

The Smart Growth Meeting will be December 16, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the CK Newsome Center. They will be working on the Buffer Ordinance.

Education and Outreach Committee – Laura Lamb, Chairperson

A fax from Kay Hoffherr, Central High School teacher stating her AP Chemistry class has enough students interested for two teams. They would like to participate in the 2011 Indiana Envirothon Competition. She is asking for the board to sponsor them.

A motion was made by Wayne Fehd to sponsor two teams (\$120),
Seconded by Laura Lamb and carried.

Water Quality Specialist's report was passed to members; which included these activities:

Riverwatch and Project Wet and training – two days Indy

Riverwatch updated program/loaded new power point/prepared paperwork for upcoming programs

Riverwatch – ecoli class – Doris Sullivan –in office

Preparation for upcoming e coli class downtown on the 15th

Riverwatch – submitting data into data base

Attended meeting in Montgomery with other SWCDs for training and discussion

Debbie Vannatter – EVSC school corp. – marketing education to area schools
Stewardship – Organizing program and poster contest
Computer – Maintenance/Truck – Maintenance and fuel
Reviewing erosion control plans and site visits
Wrote and submitted several newsletter articles
Submitted TMDL information to Gail Riecken

District Operations Committee – John Hahn, Chairperson

Copies of the 2011 IASWCD board of directors—officer candidates were passed for members to review. By consensus they ask delegates to vote for Mr. Zimmerman for Vice-President.

Bonnie requested an audit committee for the district books. Wayne Fehd and Laura Lamb volunteered to audit the SWCD 2010 books.

Wayne Fehd checked the petty cash against the petty cash report and passed the report for members to initial.

Darrell gave the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) report saying Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) ranked out with six applications amounting to \$431,000 for Vanderburgh County with six more to go. The Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) reimburses clients that do a good job are trend setters & doing everything right. They can be reimbursed up to \$30,000 a year for five years. NRCS is initiating a research effort to assess the level of organic matter in the soils. This study will help in developing and encouraging conservation practices that will increase soil organic matter. They are doing 36,000 random locations across the US. Soil scientists will sample about 80 sites in Indiana this fiscal year. They are trying to get a handle on Carbon Sequestration; what is out there. The Mississippi River Basin Initiative is still going forward. Gayle Riecken is interested in the Ohio River Basin and talked to Jane Hardisty who is also interested.

Darrell passed a note to the board from Lindsey Martinez whose last day in the Vanderburgh office was today. She is relocating to the Bloomfield office and her husband Rafael will be a District Conservationist in Bloomington.

Associate Steve Helfrich reported there may be a project at USI for the district to partner on and he will keep members informed. He will set up a meeting if and when it would work for the district to be involved.

County employee time sheets were passed for review and signature.

The next board meeting was scheduled for January 25, 2010.

Due to lack of business the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Bonnie Bittner
Executive Assistant/Fiscal Officer

Minutes approved on January 26, 2010

Davie Sue Litov _____

David Ellison_____

Laura Lamb_____

Wayne Fehd_____

Steve Helfrich _____