

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
VANDERBURGH COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
(SWCD) Office, Evansville, Indiana  
7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2010

**Present:**

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

**SWCD Personnel:**

Norma Duckworth (Absent)  
Bonnie Bittner  
**NRCS Personnel:**  
Darrell Rice  
Lindsay Martinez

Vice-Chairman David Ellison chaired the meeting reporting the minutes of the August meeting were mailed to each member prior to the meeting.

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

Vice-Chairman asked Bonnie to give the August financial report. The previous balance on 8-1-10 was \$25,570.65 Receipts, \$154.85 Debits \$3,058.25 and balance as of 8-31-10 \$22,667.25.

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

**The AUGUST claims were submitted for supervisor approval:**

W4581 Post Office USPS (Post Office Box & Keys)	\$58.00
W4582 U.S. Department of Agriculture (Office Rent)	\$2,000.25
<b>NOTE: The Auditor paid the following claims</b>	
Post Office USPS (Reimbursement Post Office Box & Keys)	\$58.00
Anser-Phone (Voice Mail Bill)	\$15.71
Vanderburgh 4-H Center (Board Meeting Room Rental thru December 2010)	\$250.00
Vanderburgh County SWCD (Reimbursement for Rent)	\$2000.25
Bonnie Bittner (Mileage to Civic Center)	\$12.80

Wayne Fehd passed the August claims register and the County Claims register for review and signatures.

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Natural Resource Committee – David Ellison, Chairperson

Two projects are completed with Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant funds and the checks were mailed to landowners. With the implementation of districts taking over the paper work for these grants they are paid 2% of the money sent to landowners. District has more LARE project in progress.

Tillage Plot Update was tabled.

Some of the Aerial Cover Crop Seeding Projects are up and some are not due to lack of rain. The four County projects totaled up to 6,300 acres. EdAir flew out of two airports Helper and Oaktown. All total we had 7,000 acres of cover crops (aerial and ground application) in the four counties.

**BUSINESS PLAN**

**ACTIONS FOR 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
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Land Use Committee – Wayne Fehd, Chairperson

The Clean Water Indiana 2010 grant amendment was submitted to the District Support Specialist and the six months report was submitted by computer on MyShare. Bonnie asked for a motion to send Posey County a check for Vanderburgh SWCDs' share of the expenses for the workshops under the CWI 2010 Grant. The four counties asked Posey County to keep track of the expenses and income for the grant.

Laura Lamb made a motion to send Posey County SWCD a check  
For \$1,360.45 Vanderburgh Co. SWCD's share of the CWI 2010  
Grant expenses seconded by Wayne Fehd and carried.

Education Outreach Committee – Laura Lamb, Chairperson

No Business This Month

District Operations Committee – John Hahn, Chairperson

The County Council budget hearings are over and the district received the budget they received in 2010 with no cuts or increases.

The awards committee reported they are still in the process of researching members they are considering for the Annual Meeting awards. Members were asked to let Bonnie know if they have any nominations for the committee to consider.

Vice-Chairman reported the district Blazer is ready to be picked up. The air conditioner lost its charge because of a leak on a check valve and there was no charge.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Natural Resource Committee – David Ellison, Chairperson

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) 2011 grant proposal must be submitted on MyShare by 4:00 p.m. on October 15, 2010. The different proposed projects and the amounts of the grant for each were discussed and consensus was \$2000 Education and Outreach (Area Corn and Soybean Day & Cover Crop Bus Tour), \$3,000 Cost-Share Incentives (Urban Rain Garden & Aerial Seeding), \$1,000 Multi-district Projects/Initiatives which will be added to the \$2,000 Cost-Share Incentives amount and \$1,000 for Supervisor/Staff Training.

Land Use Committee – Wayne Fehd, Chairperson

The Smart Growth group will meet in the CK Newsome Center on October 21, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Laura explained the group is working on an ordinance for Buffers along stream banks. Rob Brown, Corp of Engineers was invited to give his input, but due to a small attendance he was given the history of the draft ordinance and where they would like his input. He will be invited back.

Education Outreach Committee – Laura Lamb, Chairperson

Keep Evansville Beautiful along with Alcoa Warrick Operations is gearing up for the Fifth Annual Education Kickoff/Sustainability Celebration. The district's Water Quality Specialist is invited to be an

exhibitor for this event. It is a perfect opportunity to promote the district's environmental message and give teachers and students ideas to keep the earth and water clean. It will be held at the EVSC Career and Technical Center on October 25 from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

There is also a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) meeting the district Water Quality Specialist will be attending in October. She has been monitoring water in Pigeon and Locust Creek all summer and will get the data to the board.

A request was submitted for the purchase of Soil Stewardship materials which should be available in October. After some discussion

Laura Lamb made a motion to allocate \$300 for Soil Stewardship materials seconded by Wayne Fehd and carried.

The Water Quality Specialist's report was tabled due to illness.

District Operations Committee – John Hahn, Chairperson

Delegate and Alternate for the business meeting at Annual Conference in Indianapolis were discussed. Vice-Chairman David Ellison volunteered to be delegate and Wayne Fehd alternate.

Vice-Chairman reported the Westside Improvement Association, Inc. 2010 membership dues is \$25 and is due.

Laura Lamb made a motion to pay the WIA 2010 dues seconded by Wayne Fehd and carried.

Wayne Fehd reviewed the petty cash report saying petty cash was in order and passed the report for viewing and initialing by members.

District Conservationist reported construction on projects is going on all over the county. Letters will be going out to have a Locally Led Meeting and it will probably be at one of the Libraries. Seeding practices are due September 30<sup>th</sup>. We have a Wetland Reserve Project (WRP) of 200 trees going in the county. There are three applications for standard CRP and CRP re-enrollments sign up is due the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) just completed training for a County based casting project which puts dollar figures on projects for hours spent, acres, etc. The Vanderburgh County Soil Conservationist just finished three weeks of boot camp in Oklahoma. She explained the process to members explaining she enjoyed it and learned so much about her job as Soil Conservationist.

District Conservationist partnered with the Water Quality Specialist on a presentation to the Master Gardeners and also for the Professional Training Institute (PTI) which is for contractors.

Steve Helfrich, associate supervisor reported the rain garden at USI is now completed. They have pervious concrete around the university center. They also put in an underground storage tank to keep water from running directly to the creek. He answered questions from members and staff.

County Employee time sheets were passed for review and signature.

The October meeting was set for October 26, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vanderburgh 4-H Banquet Hall.

Vice-Chairman David Ellison asked for a motion to adjourn.

Laura Lamb made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.  
Seconded by Wayne Fehd and carried.

Respectfully Submitted  
Bonnie Bittner, Executive Assistant

Minutes approved on October 26, 2010

Davie Sue Wallace Litov\_\_\_\_\_

David Ellison\_\_\_\_\_

Laura Lamb\_\_\_\_\_

Wayne Fehd\_\_\_\_\_

John Hahn\_\_\_\_\_