

**Jennings County
Soil & Water Conservation District
February 10, 2009
January Board Minutes
(Due to inclement weather date was delayed)**

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held on February 10, 2009 at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Chairman Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.

Supervisors

Brad Ponsler
Dan Megel
Brian Belding
Jerry St. John

SWCD Staff

Kelly Kent
NRCS
Jenny Vogel

Watershed Coordinator

Bob Steiner

Contracted Technician

Denise Dailey

Reading of the Minutes

Jerry St. John made a motion to accept the November 2008 minutes as submitted, seconded by Dan Megel, motion carried.

Financial Report

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the 11-26-08 to 12-31-08 and the 1-1-09 to 1-30-09 financial report as submitted, seconded by Jerry St. John, motion carried.

Correspondence

Historic Hoosier Hills 2009 dues are \$250. Jerry St. John made a motion to pay the dues, seconded by Dan Megel, motion carried.

Agency & Committee Reports

Essential Services

No Report Given.

HHH RC&D

Rob reported that the RC&D was purchasing a poster machine and they would be able to make posters up to 42”.

Watershed-Bob Steiner

Written report was submitted

Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey

Denise reported she had gone to a 2 day training in Indy. March 4th Jefferson County meeting covering the Rule 5 for contractors in the area. She reported that Bill Maschino’s

site was holding up well. Wal-Mart Supercenter has submitted their Rule 5 plan and is anticipating construction to begin in April 2009.

Staff-Kelly Kent

Written report was submitted

NRCS – Jenny Vogel

Written report was submitted

Old Business

No-Till Workshop

We had 4 local landowners attend the conference; Eddie Maschino, Brad Armand, Brad & Scott Schepman

IASWCD Update

Those attending the state conference this year were: Bob Steiner, Kelly Kent, Dan Megel, & Brad Ponsler.

SBOA Audit

New Business

Conservationist of the Year & Educator of the Year

Max Wiley was selected as our Conservationist of the Year. Sheryl Morrison & Janice Harrell of North Vernon Elementary were selected as our Educators of the Year.

Rule 5 – Commissioners/Council Update

Kelly mailed each of the commissioners and county council a copy of the letter that was sent to engineers & surveyors explaining the new schedule of fees for Rule 5 plans. Denise provided Kelly with a copy of what she gives builders and developers with a brief description of the law regarding Rule 5. Kelly will make copies and send to the commissioners and county council members.

Trailer-Plotmaster

Kelly compiled a spreadsheet with the prices for a trailer to haul the plotmaster on. This item was tabled pending additional options available.

Plot Master Rental Rate

Kelly checked with other districts that rent a plotmaster, what the going rate for rental would be. After some discussion Jerry St.John made a motion to charge \$50/day for the rental, seconded by Brian Belding. With the idea that we will start out at this rate with the option to adjust it as we see it is necessary.

Office Rent & IT Support

Due to the building leases being handled by GSA now there was no rent charged to the district for Oct – Dec of 2008. IT Support will continue for the computers used by the district at this time.

Crop Production Workshop

The workshop was held on February 3, 2009 at the Pines. It had been decided that we would continue to sponsor this event at a cost of \$80.

Recycle Containers

This item was tabled till the next regular board meeting.

Annual Meeting

It has been decided that in lieu of door prizes from area businesses this year based on the state of the economy that the district would donate 6 trees from our tree sale, wildflower seed packets, & indoor/outdoor plants that will be used for decorations will be given out as door prizes. This will be done to further promote conservation.

Shop Meetings-CWI Grant

The district completed the 5 shop meetings that were held over the last 5 days at various locations in the county. Based on our attendance overall of 72 people we felt this was a great success. Most enjoyed having the meetings in “their” part of the county and being very informal. Several spoke to Jenny and/or Bob about working on some conservation plans for their farms. It was decided that we should continue this type of shop meetings in the future to get information about programs out to the farmers and landowners.

Cooperative Weed Management Area

Information was sent to the district about this and the board has decided to get more information to help us understand what they are doing so that in the future we may be involved with this project.

Joint Annual Meeting

The Jennings County Extension Board President had approached the district about the possibility of holding their annual meeting in conjunction with ours. There was some discussion on this and Brad asked that everyone take this into consideration and we would decide if this was something we were interested in at the next meeting.

Conservation Plans

Claims

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3pm.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by:

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Member

Member

Member