

**Jennings County  
Soil & Water Conservation District  
November 26, 2008**

**Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Jennings County Soil & Water Conservation District was held on November 26, 2008 at the USDA Service Center in North Vernon, Indiana. Chairman Brad Ponsler called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

**Supervisors**

Brad Ponsler

Dan Megel

Brian Belding

**Assoc. Supervisor**

Don Biehle

**SWCD Staff**

Kelly Kent

**NRCS**

Jenny Vogel

**Watershed Coordinator**

Bob Steiner

**Contracted Technician**

Denise Dailey

**Reading of the Minutes**

Dan Megel made a motion to accept the October, 2008 minutes as submitted, seconded by Brian Belding, motion carried.

**Financial Report**

Brian Belding made a motion to accept the 10-29-08 to 11-25-08 financial report as submitted, seconded by Dan Megel, motion carried.

**Correspondence**

Letter from the Jennings County Community Foundation was read. Thank You note from the Clark Co. SWCD was received.

**Agency & Committee Reports**

**Essential Services**

No Report Given.

**HHH RC&D**

No Report Given

**Watershed-Bob Steiner**

Written report was submitted

**Rule 5 Consultant – Denise Dailey**

Denise reported she is working with MUTC on a project. She had been out to Bill Maschino's property consulting with Hoosier Energy on a steep bank issue.

### **Staff-Kelly Kent**

Written report was submitted

### **NRCS – Jenny Vogel**

Written report was submitted

### **Old Business**

#### **No-Till Workshop**

Kelly reported that just 2 people have signed up and paid for the No-Till Conference. Their registrations will be sent in.

#### **Intern-Zach Hicks**

Zach will be starting his paid internship on January 6, 2009.

#### **Equipment**

Kelly has received quotes from Woods Equipment – Versailles, Miller Equipment-Greensburg, Jacobi Sales – Seymour and Deer Country-Seymour for a 7' Warm Season Grass Drill, 10' No-Till Drill, 10' Warm Season Grass Drill and a 4' Plotmaster along with trade-in value for the 2000 Warm Season Grass Drill and 2000 No-Till Drill. After considering these options the board opted to go with purchasing a 2009 10' Warm Season Grass Drill from Jacobi's at a rate of \$29,655 with a \$20,000 trade-in value for both of the 2000 drills and a 2008 4' Frontier Plotmaster from Deer Country at a price of \$4450 as these were the best deals offered. The district will need to purchase a trailer to haul the plotmaster on and Kelly is getting quotes for this to be presented at the next meeting. Dan Megel made the motion to purchase these 2 pieces of equipment and Brian Belding seconded the motion.

#### **ECAP Applications**

The deadline for ECAP Applications was Friday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and 10 landowners completed these. The district received \$27,986.52 from the state for this program to be distributed throughout Jennings County. The district opted to use this money for land restoration on ground that would need it in the spring of '09 but also for ground that had been fixed prior to planting earlier this summer. 9 of the 10 applications met this requirement and will be funded.

#### **Outlook Meeting**

This years meeting will be on Wed. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM at the Jennings County Community Building. Breakfast items will be donated by Rose Acre Farms – 15 dozen eggs, Subway – 200 slices bacon, cups, & napkins, Firsich's Meat Market – 10lbs bulk sausage and the remaining items needed will be purchased by the district. The staff requested all supervisors attend to help prepare the meal.

### **Leadership Institute – Communications**

The workshop was held at New Harmony Inn on Friday, November 21 and Saturday, November 22. Bob and Kelly attended and felt the workshop was very helpful in learning a variety of ways to communicate to the board, public, and others about various subjects.

### **New Business**

#### **IASWCD 2009 Officer Elections**

Each supervisor was given a copy of the IASWCD Officer Election Candidates and was told to let Brad know if there were any of the candidates that they would like for him to vote for at the upcoming election.

#### **Annual Conference Town Hall Meeting**

The IASWCD will be holding a town hall meeting at the Annual Conference and ask each district if they have a question to please submit that by Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> so that an answer could be found and presented during the conference.

#### **Per Diem**

The per diem for the Sept, Oct, and Nov meetings was passed out to the board of supervisors.

#### **Soil Testing Grant**

Bob brought information to the board that since our introduction of the soil testing program that we had only spent approximately \$1000 of the grant so far and that some of the landowners had mentioned that if we were paying more then they would do the soil testing. After some discussion it was decided that we will continue our field sample rates the same but the grid sampling would go from \$1/acre to \$3/acre up to a maximum of \$500 per producer.

#### **Conservationist of the Year & Educator of the Year**

The supervisors and staff are to come up with options for Conservationist of the year. The supervisors ask that the staff create a letter and send to the schools in the county asking for nominations for Educator of the year.

#### **Battery Recycling**

Bob advised the board that the SISWD is no longer recycling alkaline batteries. He has found a place that continues to recycle these types of batteries and the program sends you a recycling/shipping box that holds 40-45 lbs of batteries and when it is full you ship them back to them for recycling. The cost to do this is \$45-55 per box. It was decided that we would just collect the alkaline batteries then order a box to ship them, this way we were only out the money after we had collected the batteries.

**Annual Meeting**

The budget for decorations for this years annual meeting will be \$400, motion made by Dan Megel with a second from Brian Belding.

**Conservation Plans**

Paul Kreutzjans – T1722

**Claims**

Claims were submitted to the board and signed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

*Minutes submitted by Kelly Kent, Administrative Assistant*

*Minutes approved by:*

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*Chairman*

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*Vice-Chairman*

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*Member*

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*Member*

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*Member*