

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes August 17, 2009

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly meeting Monday August 17, 2009. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Erich Schott and Alan Wissmiller, Associate Directors Larry Kirchner and John Settle, Conservation District Manager Rich Howell, Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle and District Conservationist Bob Gotkowski. Absent were Directors Brian Grob and Dave Peters, Associate Directors Charlie Cyr and Alex Panozzo.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed three to zero.

Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to move to Executive Session. Motion passed three to zero. The Board moved into Executive Session and returned at 7:15 pm. Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to move out of Executive Session. Motion passed three to zero. The outcome of the session will be given under new business/Budget Committee Report & Personnel Committee Report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of July 13, 2009 Board Meeting: Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed three to zero.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Approval of Time and Travel: Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the time and travel reports. Motion passed three to zero.

Approval of Financial Report: Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to approve the financial report. Motion passed three to zero.

Approval of Bills: Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to approve the paying of bills. Motion passed three to zero.

CORRESPONDENCE: Included were: A statement from the Department of Ag showing the breakdown of FY09 District Operations allocations, a notice from IDOA that the 4th quarter operations allocation is going to be deposited in the appropriate account and that the 4th quarter CPP money is also to be deposited, a letter from the AISWCD stating that they did receive our payment of the 3rd and 4th quarter 2009 membership dues and thanking us for sending the dues and an invitation letter from Iroquois SWCD for a Lady Ag Seminar that they will be hosting on August 29th.

OLD BUSINESS:

Erosion & Sediment Control Service Update – Howell stated that July was slow and August has started out even slower. He did inform the board that the contract from IEPA has been received to continue doing inspections for them for another 5 years.

NRI Approval – Howell recommends that the District submit a letter of no effect for the NRI needing approval. It is for a parcel of land that has not been farmed for years and already has a building on it. The petitioners are not going to be changing anything. Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to send a no effect letter and a partial refund of the fee for this NRI. Motion passed three to zero.

RC & D – Howell reported that the meeting was held last Thursday, August 13th at the Bourbonnais USDA Center. He stated that the group is still alive but struggling. The application is to be finished by next meeting. Howell stated that he is on the nominating committee. The October and December meeting will be at the Bourbonnais USDA Center and the February and April meetings will be at the Extension Office in Bourbonnais.

Wind farm Update – Howell stated that there isn't any news. O'Connor stated that there is surveying going on all around the area for transmission lines.

Fall Tree Sale Update – AC Settle stated that as of this date there have been no tree orders submitted.

Fall Fish Sale Update – AC Settle stated that there are 3 fish orders as of this date.

Forest Preserve Project/Gar Creek – Howell reported that the District has been asked to give administrative assistance to the Forest Preserve for a project that will include removing pillars that are in Gar Creek. Howell stated that they do not have any staff to do the necessary paperwork. Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to give the Forest Preserve assistance with staff time for this project. Motion passed three to zero.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Committee Report – O'Connor stated that the budget committee had met and the proposed budget is included in the binders. O'Connor stated that the Executive Committee recommends approval of this proposed budget. Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the budget as submitted. Motion passed three to zero.

Personnel Committee Report – O'Connor stated that the recommendation of the Executive Committee is to extend contracts to both Howell and AC Settle for FY10. The contract for Howell will remain the same but the hours for AC Settle will be reduced to 24 hours per week (3 days). This reduction of hours is due to the reduction in state funding. Wissmiller made and Schott seconded a motion to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee regarding the staff contracts for FY10. Motion passed three to zero.

Pond Seminar – Howell reminded the board that the pond seminar is August 25, 2009 at Dale DeYoung's pond which is on Armour Rd. east of Rt. 50 beginning at 5:30 pm.

Used Oil Collection – Howell stated that the used oil collection day is August 29th from 9 am to 12 pm at the District Office.

REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC REPORT – Howell stated that the LUC meeting is going to be September 3rd at Brickstone Restaurant. Attendees will be ordering off the menu. Howell reported that CPP money is being used. A well sealing project has been approved for payment and there have been 2 Nutrient Management Projects submitted for approval and 2 more will be submitted soon.

AC REPORT – AC Settle stated that she didn't have anything else.

DC REPORT – Gotkowski reported that the NRCS truck was vandalized sitting in the parking lot. A hole was drilled into the gas tank and the gas drained. He stated that his fall schedule will be 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Friday. He also stated that he has been working on the quarterly audits that are now a requirement for NRCS. He reported that all of the EQIP applications/contracts that were submitted for the county have been obligated and there is one new CRP contract. Gotkowski then reported that the CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program) has been rolled out nationwide with a continuous signup. Each state has been allocated acres not dollars but the maximum per person is \$40,000 per year or \$200,000 for 5 year. He passed out a brochure and information for the program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

The next regular District Board meeting will be September 14, 2009 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed three to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.