

KANKAKEE COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Minutes July 12, 2010

The Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District held its regular monthly meeting Monday July 12, 2010. Chairman Jeff O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Present were Directors Jeff O'Connor, Alan Wissmiller, Dave Peters and Erich Schott, Associate Directors Charlie Cyr and Alex Panozzo, Conservation District Manager Rich Howell, Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle. Absent were Director Brian Grob, Associate Directors Larry Kirchner and John Settle, Acting District Conservationist Ken Towles. Guests in attendance were Morgan O'Connor, Kelsey O'Connor and Hannah Wissmiller.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Schott made and Peters seconded a motion to approve the agenda with the correction to the date of the secretary report being approved. The correct date is June 21, 2010. Motion passed four to zero.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Minutes of June 21, 2010 Board Meeting: Peters made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed four to zero.

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

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

Approval of Bills: Peters made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to approve the paying of bills as presented. Motion passed four to zero.

CORRESPONDENCE: Included were an invoice from NACD asking for membership dues, a flyer telling about the Illinois Forage Expo being held July 21st and the fax notifying the District of the deposit of 1st and 2nd quarter operations allocation for FY10.

OLD BUSINESS:

Erosion & Sediment Control Service Update – Howell stated that it has still been slow.

NRI Approval – Howell stated that there is an application from Riverside for a 5 acre parcel north of Manteno on Rt. 45 for a wind turbine. Howell stated that he has been in contact with the County Planning Department and until he hears back from them he has put it on hold. Riverside is requesting a special use permit for commercial property that does not have any buildings on it.

RC & D – Howell stated that the RC & D application is being submitted this week. It was decided to send it without all of the sponsor's having included their letter of support.

Windfarm Update – Howell stated that he has been told that there are issues with windfarms and the FAA. He thinks that may be the hold up with the K4 Windfarm. They are just waiting for approval from them.

FY10 Funding – As stated during correspondence the District has finally received ½ of their FY10 operations allocation. There is no news yet on FY11.

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Plan of Work Committee Report – This was tabled until next month.

Peters made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to move to Executive Session. Motion passed four to zero. The Board moved into Executive Session and returned at 7:45 pm. Peters made and Schott seconded a motion to move out of Executive session. Motion passed four to zero. The outcome of the session will be given under budget committee and personnel committee reports.

Budget Committee Report – The budget was presented by the budget committee. It was stated that changes had been made to the budget based on the amount of state funding not yet received and what is anticipated for the next fiscal year. Cuts were made everywhere possible. Schott made and Wissmiller seconded a motion to accept the budget as presented. Motion passed four to zero.

Personnel Committee Report – O'Connor stated that the recommendations from the personnel committee is to offer Howell 40 hours per week at his current rate effective immediately and AC Settle 8 hours per week for 6 months at which time it will be revisited. O'Connor made and Peters seconded a motion to accept the recommendations of the personnel committee. Motion passed four to zero. O'Connor asked Howell and AC Settle if they would accept the offers and both stated they would.

Upcycle Sales Update – Howell stated that the first day of sales was good but has not been as good since although a few is still being sold. Elizabeth Dunbar has been the vendor at the Farmers Market selling them for us. She is about finished for the season so Howell stated that he will be inquiring for someone else.

Local Foods Breakfast – Panozzo stated that the breakfast went well. They had cooked for about 200 people, there were 120 tickets sold prior to the breakfast and a total of 180 with walk ups.

Local Work Group – O'Connor stated that he had spoken with Jon Hubbert about the Local Work Group. There will be a couple of directors from the area asked to be a part of the Local Work Group. Later Districts will have 25% input in what the work group decides to make priorities.

4-H Trophy Sponsorship – Howell stated that we had again been asked to sponsor the 4-H Conservation trophy. Peters made and Schott seconded a motion to sponsor the trophy again this year. Motion passed four to zero.

Computer RAM Upgrade Recommendation – Howell stated that it has been recommended by the IT specialist to upgrade the District computer RAM from 512 to 2G. He stated that he had been told the cost would be \$65-\$70 and that the IT specialist would install it for us when he is here. Peters made and Schott seconded a motion to do the upgrade. Motion passed four to zero.

REPORTS – In addition to printed reports, if necessary

RC REPORT – Howell stated that there will not be a pond shocking seminar this year. Rob Miller, IDNR Fish Biologist, has informed him that with the ongoing Asian Carp issue he has limited time and cannot commit at this time to a pond shocking demonstration. He could possibly do a classroom seminar in November or December. Howell also stated that the Used Oil Collection day will be August 21st from 9 am to 12 pm. Ginter Signs is completing the update of the sign and it will be up as soon as it is completed. Howell informed everyone that the next LUC meeting is September 2nd. Howell also informed the board that the sand hill property of Kankakee County has now become a conservation priority.

AC REPORT – AC Settle informed the board that Will County FSA will be posting a permanent full time position and she will be applying. She will keep them informed.

DC REPORT – Acting DC Towles was not in attendance but O'Connor stated that a new DC had been chosen for Kankakee County. He had been contacted by Jon Hubbert and asked for input as to the qualities the District would like to see in the new DC. Kelly German was offered the position and has accepted. She will begin August 30th and her qualifications appear to be a good fit with the District.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

The next regular District Board meeting will be August 23, 2010 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Peters made and Schott seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion passed four to zero. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.