

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday December 9, 2009**

Next meeting Wednesday, January 13th at 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Hillsboro, Illinois. Chairman Tony Krager called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Roll call was as follows:

Present:

Directors: Ken Suslee, Dave Schluckebier, Carl Bergman, Dave Pastrovich and Tony Krager

Associate Directors: Dennis Hand, Dick Lyons and Dan Eickhoff

Staff: Kris Reynolds, Dave Hobson, CJ Liddell and Melissa Cauble

Absent:

Associate Directors: Brad Young and Dan Huber

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. No changes or additions were noted. **Carl Bergman made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting.**

2nd by: Dave Schluckebier

Carried: Yes

Financial Statements and Approval of Bills: The board reviewed the financial statements. A copy of those statements is on file with these minutes in the SWCD office. No changes or corrections were noted.

Melissa then presented the bills for payment. **Dave Schluckebier made a motion to approve the financial statements and payment of the bills presented.**

2nd by: Ken Suslee

Carried: Yes

Staff Reports: All employees presented written reports which are filed as part of these minutes. **Dave Schluckebier made a motion to accept the reports as presented.**

2nd by: Dave Pastrovich

Carried: Yes

Natural Area Guardians Report: Henry Eilers, Richard Slepicka and Mark Joy were in attendance to discuss activities of the group. They began by reviewing the progress of the Route 66 prairie project north of the weigh station at Litchfield. They stated they had submitted grant applications to two sources. One was for \$750.00 from the Shoal Creek Partners and another for \$1000 from an Illinois agency. These grants were to be used for seeding and preparation of the site. Mr. Eilers also stated that M&M Service had committed to doing the winter seeding and herbicide application.

Next, the gentlemen discussed the progress on the Kee trail property which connects Hillsboro to Butler. The group stated they understood the board's concerns with holding title to that property and they assured the directors that decision would ultimately be theirs and that the county was not close to making that kind of decisions. They stated it was expected the county would maintain ownership of the property and grant either a lease or an easement to the SWCD and the Natural Area Guardians would be in charge of its care.

The board stated they were agreeable to a short term lease on the property and the NAG group would keep that in mind in any further dealings with the county. SWCD Chairman Tony Krager agreed to be available for future meetings between NAG members and the County Board, with Kris being his alternate in cases where Tony could not attend. Kris Reynolds agreed to continue attending regular meetings of the NAG group.

OLD BUSINESS

C-2000 Programs: Kris reported that we had received word a deposit would be made into our CPP account in the amount of \$20,400.00, which was for the first two quarters of FY 2010. He then stated that work was pretty slow at this point with just some tile going in on a couple of projects. He then informed the board that cut-off dates for spending FY 09 money had been extended for six months past the June 30 deadline. He finished up by saying he was still taking applications for FY 2010.

CRP, EQIP, CSP, Etc.: CJ stated there was little to report on the federal programs. He continued to work on EQIP contracts and rumors were still coming about CREP being opened in the Kaskaskia watershed.

Budget and Insurance Issues: The board and staff discussed the likelihood that the district would lose one of its network connections unless they could pay the "seat cost" for I.T. services. That amount would be \$3,126.00. The opinion of the board and staff was that we could make do without paying for that connection.

Contribution Agreement: Kris reported he was expecting a deposit to come any day for the amount requested. He then stated the current agreement would end on 12/31/09. He stated he still needed to write eight plans and design a couple structures to meet the terms of the agreement.

Participation in the Job Training Program: Staff reported that Cody was working out well for the office.

Annual Meeting and Elections: Board and staff discussed the following items for annual meeting:

1. Discussion of speaker: Melissa reported that she had checked with the board's first choice of Abe and the Babe, however, they were out of state and unable to attend. Kris suggested asking Emily Marten Stork, a former employee who is now working for the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory. Melissa was to contact her.
2. Melissa had the board complete necessary paperwork for the election including the petition to hold an election at an annual meeting.

Christmas Party: Board and staff discussed the previous night's Christmas party and everyone agreed it was a nice time.

NEW BUSINESS

Winter Training: The staff took a few minutes to review what they learned at Winter Training.

Employee Time Sheets: Carl Bergman made a motion to approve the time sheets as presented.

2nd by: Dave Schluckebier

Carried: Yes

Next Meeting: To be held Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjourn: At 11:31 a.m. Dave Schluckebier made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

2nd by: Carl Bergman

Carried: Yes

Signed:

Dave Schluckebier, Sec/Treas

Date