

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, September 10, 2014

**Next meeting Wednesday, October 8, 2014 AT 8:00 p.m.**

The Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center in Hillsboro, Illinois. Chairman Carl Bergman called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m. Roll call was as follows:

### **Present:**

**Directors:** Ken Suslee, Carl Bergman, Dennis Hand, Jason Anderson and Dave Schluckebier

**Associate Directors:** Dave Pastrovich and Dick Lyons

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

### **Absent:**

**Associate Directors:** Dan Eck and Brad Young

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. No corrections or additions were noted.

**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.

**Ken Suslee made a motion to approve the minutes, financial reports and payment of bills which were presented.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jason Anderson**

**Carried: Yes**

**Staff Reports:** Monthly reports were given by all employees and are included with these minutes. **Dave Schluckebier made a motion to accept the reports as presented.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Ken Suslee**

**Carried: Yes**

**Natural Area Guardians Report:** Kris reported the following:

1. The group submitted a letter to the Illinois Department of Insurance in regards to their damage claim at the Rt. 66 Prairie upon an attorney's recommendation
2. The group was planning their annual pork patty fund raiser on September 19 from 11-1:00 at the CNB parking lot in Hillsboro
3. They are looking at doing some infrastructure work at the Rt. 66 prairie project. These items include a possible pavilion, some benches, signage, etc.
4. Melissa asked the board if they would like to make a donation for purchase of soda for the NAGs pork patty fundraiser. **Jason Anderson made a motion to approve a donation of \$100.00 for the purchase of the soda.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Ken Suslee**

**Carried: Yes**

## OLD BUSINESS

**C-2000 Programs:** Kris reviewed the FY 2015 state cost share list with the board and asked them to approve use of the list for upcoming projects. **Dave Schluckebier made a motion to approve and use the state cost share list.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jason Anderson**

**Carried: Yes**

**CRP, EQIP, CSP, Etc.:** CJ reported that office staff had been busy fulfilling its contribution agreement by doing CRP planning. He stated the CRP program was busy and both FSA and NRCS/SWCD employees had been contacting those with expiring contracts. He then asked that the board members be available to come into the office to sign and approve those contracts before the deadline of September 19.

**CREP:** CJ and Melissa reported that CREP Specialist Jake Vancil had spoken with several landowners about the program and that the current enrollment on Cortney Warmouth and Steve Cimarolli was moving along.

**Contribution Agreement:** Kris reported that the work approved in the agreement was moving along well and that he planned to submit a request for the full payment of \$20,000 before the October board meeting.

**Budget/Insurance News:** Melissa reported that September insurance bills had been paid. She stated the Grant Agreement for FY 2015 had been received and signed by Director Flider and that the funds would likely come in two payments during the fiscal year.

Melissa then reported that Grant Agreements for Operations and Program funds would be going out within the week. She stated she learned the Operations grant would be slightly higher than in 2014 at \$51,052.00 per district. Melissa also said that Program funds were still being decided.

Finally Melissa reported that FY 2015 Grant Agreements would have two new requirements. The first would be that every SWCD would be required to collect and report data on Cover Crops being used in the county. The second would require districts to develop or update their Long Range Plans.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Cover Crops Meeting:** Kris reported that a meeting and tour was being planned in conjunction with the University of Illinois Extension Advisor, Gary Letterly. He stated the date is set for November 5, with a meeting planned, and followed by a tour and then a luncheon back at the Extension office. Gary and the SWCD would advertise the event in local and surrounding media

**Review and Pass Budget:** Melissa explained that she had not completed the budget because she did not know the operations income amount. She advised the board of their right to extend the previous year's budget until the next meeting. **Dave Schluckebier made a motion to continue under the FY 2014 Budget until the October meeting.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Dennis Hand**

**Carried: Yes**

**Mine Funds:** Kris discussed a meeting he had with Gerry Spinner and others from the coal mine. They stated they were interested in seeing if EPA fines that had been imposed upon them could be used for doing conservation practices in the county. Kris stated the money could be used similar to our CPP program. He also stated there is no word on how much

money this would involve or if it would be something the EPA would approve. The board agreed to learn more about this as it becomes available.

**Land Use Contests:** Kris reminded the board that the county and section contests were coming up on September 25 and October 2. He stated he was looking at areas around Hillsboro for the county contest and areas further east for the section one.

**Fish Sale:** Kris reminded the board that we would be holding our fall fish sale on September 22 at 11:00 a.m. He told the board that this would be the first time that we would be using Logan Hollow Fish Farm from Murphysboro.

**Employee Time Sheets: Dennis Hand made a motion to approve the time sheets.**  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Ken Suslee Carried: Yes

**Next Meeting: To be held Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Adjourn: At 4:43 p.m. Jason Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Dennis Hand Carried: Yes

**Signed:**

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Dave Schluckebier, Sec/Treas

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Date