

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, August 14, 2013

Next meeting Wednesday, September 11, 2013 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, August 14, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Hillsboro, Illinois. Chairman Carl Bergman called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m. Roll call was as follows:

Present:

Directors: Dave Pastrovich, Ken Suslee, Carl Bergman, Jason Anderson, and Dave Schluckebier

Associate Directors: Brad Young and Dick Lyons

Staff: Dave Hobson, Melissa Cauble and Kris Reynolds

Absent:

Associate Directors: Dennis Hand and Dan Eck

Employees: CJ Liddell

Minutes of the Previous Meeting: The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting. No changes 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. **Dave Pastrovich made a motion to approve the minutes, financial reports and payment of bills which were 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: Kris reported that the group was planning a Pork burger cookout as a fundraiser from 11:00 to 1:00 on Friday September 6, 2013 at the CNB Parking Lot in Hillsboro.

OLD BUSINESS

C-2000 Programs: No news

CRP, EQIP, CSP, Etc.: Kris Reynolds reported that the office staff had been working on CRP re-enrolled contracts and General CRP contracts and were hoping to get all work completed and signatures obtained before the end of the fiscal year on September 30.

Kris then reviewed the issue that FSA was having with the CP-33 and CP-42 programs. Kris stated he had planned a meeting with Joyce Matthews of the FSA State Technical committee to express his concerns over their change in policy with signing these practices up together. The meeting was planned for August 19 at 9:00 and all directors/associate directors were invited to attend.

Next there was discussion of pursuing the promotion of the CP-21 (Filter Strip) program to landowners in the Lake Lou Yaeger watershed. Associate Director Dick Lyons will be in contact

with office personnel to work toward establishing goals and moving forward with this process. **Dave Pastrovich made a motion to pursue the filter strip initiative to reduce sedimentation in the Hillsboro and Litchfield lakes.**

2nd by: **Dave Schluckebier**

Carried: Yes

CREP: Melissa reported that several landowners were starting to show interest in learning about permanent easements and their names had been given to the area CREP specialist who was making contact with those people.

Contribution Agreement: Kris reported that the district had been offered the chance to write an agreement to complete planning work on current CRP contracts. He stated that NRCS had increased the reimbursement to 75% for this contract period. He had already submitted and received confirmation back that NRCS had approved our work products totaling \$22,368.00.

Budget/Insurance News: Melissa reported that insurance August bills had been paid. She stated there was enough money left in the account to pay for September, and then we may need to ask for extensions from CMS and Standard until the new allocation comes through. She stated that she had requested \$1,373,891.72 from IDoA to pay health, life and long term disability insurance and other related expenses. Other expenses included Worker's Compensation, Fiduciary Liability, Director's and Officer's liability for MCSWCD and Insurance Administrator expenses.

Melissa also stated that there was no word yet on when 2014 Operations and program money would be coming, or how much.

American Farmland Trust: Melissa stated that she and Kris were planning to get a newsletter out soon to promote a Cover Crops tour that would be scheduled in November.

Employee Reviews, Employment Contracts: Upon completion of employee evaluations, the board of directors agreed to offer both employees an increase of 3% for the FY 2014 contract year. Each employee agreed to accept the offer. **Ken Suslee then made a motion to approve the 2014 employment contracts, each with a 3% increase in salary.**

2nd by: **Dave Pastrovich**

Carried: Yes

NEW BUSINESS

Barge Tour: Kris discussed the barge tour which was being sponsored by the Carlyle Lake Watershed Association. He gave each director a copy of a registration form in case any of them were interested in going on the tour.

Employee Time Sheets: It was noted that Melissa needed to make a reduction in vacation hours by 3.0 due to a calculation error. **Dave Pastrovich made a motion to approve the time sheets as corrected**

2nd by: **Ken Suslee**

Carried: Yes

Next Meeting: To be held Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 9:00 a.m..

Adjourn: At 12:10 p.m. Dave Schluckebier made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

2nd by: **Dave Pastrovich**

Carried: Yes

Signed:

Dave Schluckebier, Sec/Treas

Date