

***Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2008***

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met June 12, 2008 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Steve McConnaughay, Tom Beyers, and Steve Jones. Ray Searby, Associate Director; Tony Antonacci, District Conservationist; Soil Conservationist; Burke Davies, Resource Conservationist and Debbie Holsapple, Administrative Coordinator were also in attendance. Chairman Ken Heinzmann and Vice-Chairman Duane Snow were absent from the meeting.

The secretary-treasurer called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Steve Jones motioned to approve the agenda. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the May minutes, employee time sheets and treasurer's reports. The May treasurer report reflected the following balances – \$9604.55 on deposit in the

Burke Davies reviewed the Rt 51 Questionnaire with the board. Tom Beyers motioned to send the questionnaire as completed. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Burke Davies reported on a situation facing the Marion County Extension Building Association. New procedures have required the building association to move their files and to seek a new mailing address. Burke asked the board about the files being stored at the NRCS/SWCD office. He also reported the building association needed to hire someone to perform approximately 2 hours of clerical work each month. Discussion was held on the subject and Tom Beyers motioned to allow them to store their files at the SWCD office if they would purchase a fire-proof safe to hold them. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried. Discussion on the clerical assistance was also held. Steve Jones motioned to provide clerical assistance. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the 2008-2009 comparison report along with the 2009 budget. Tom Beyers motioned to tentatively approve the budget. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried. Changes will be made once the FY09 allocation has been secured and personnel committee meets.

Steve Jones motioned to move any excess funds at the end of FY2008 into an employee benefit liability account. This move would allow excess funds to be used for a variety of expenses such as vacation pay, disability insurance and other employee benefits. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed the proposed dues increase from AISWCD and the July Council 13 meeting which Marion County will host. They reviewed a spreadsheet on changes in dues since 2001. It was decided to ask Rich Nichols, Executive Director to be the guest speaker at the meeting to explain the reason for the dues increase.

Burke Davies reported that \$1726.58 had been received from the Delta Institute for the first carbon credit payment.

Burke Davies reported that Power Technologies wants to donate some large conveyor belts to the district. They would like to just receive a donation letter in return. After discussion, it was decided that Burke would obtain a sample of the material so that they board could make a more informed decision.

Tom Beyers motioned to pay the district employees year end bonuses based on their benefit contract. Burke Davies will receive \$1200 and Debbie Holsapple will receive \$900. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Audit and Personnel committees will be named at the July board meeting.

Ray Searby reported on the May Post Oak Flats meeting. He mentioned that John Schuler was now covering Little Wabash RC&D and it was expected that this would be permanent. He also reported that a meeting on the 319 grant proposal would be held on June 24, 2008.

District Conservationist Tony Antonacci gave his report as attached.

Administrative Coordinator Debbie Holsapple gave her report as attached.

Resource Conservationist Burke Davies gave his report as attached.

Steve Jones motioned to pay \$1182.25 to Reichmann Brothers for repair on the John Deere drill. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to pay Debbie Holsapple \$250.33 and Burke Davies \$78.53 for mileage expenses. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to approve the cancelation of cooperators agreements with Carl Matthews and John Ford. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve Jones motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 p.m. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held on July 10, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA service center.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer