

*Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes – March 08, 2007*

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met March 08, 2007 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Mac Garrett, Ken Heinzmann, Steve McConnaughay and Duane Snow. John Schuler, Post Oak Flats RCD Coordinator; Ed Gerstenecker, Associate Director; Tony Antonacci, District Conservationist; Laura Smithenry, Soil Conservationist; Burke Davies, Resource Conservationist and Debbie Holsapple, Administrative Coordinator were also in attendance. Chairman Roger Meyer was absent.

The secretary-treasurer called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m. Mac Garrett motioned to approve the agenda adding Insurance Audit Report. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the January minutes. Duane Snow motioned to approve the minutes as changed. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

January and February employee time sheets and treasurer's reports were reviewed. The February treasurer report reflected the following balances – \$7679.79 on deposit in the district's operations account at Marion County Savings; \$54309.65 on deposit in the Illinois Funds investment account; \$19862.00 on deposit in the Illinois Funds CPP program account; \$25.00 in the petty cash fund, \$32674.49 on deposit in the Illinois Funds farm investment account and \$64000.00 in the Peoples National Bank. Duane Snow motioned to approve the treasurer's reports and employee time sheets as presented. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Schuler provided a report on the activities of the Post Oak Flats RC&D and highlighted some of the RC&D's major projects.

The vice-chairman arrived and took control of the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Duane Snow nominated Roger Meyer as the chairman of the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried. Steve McConnaughay motioned to close nominations and to elect Roger Meyer as chairman by acclamation. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Heinzmann nominated Duane Snow as the vice-chairman. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mac Garrett motioned to close the nominations and to elect Duane Snow as vice-chairman by acclamation. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mac Garrett nominated Steve McConnaughay as secretary-treasurer. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mac Garrett motioned to close the nominations and to elect Steve McConnaughay as secretary-treasurer by acclamation. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to table discussion on the long range plan until the April board meeting. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed the annual meeting and completed the annual meeting speaker form.

Burke Davies reported on the status of the Hesper hearing which is scheduled for March 26-30th at Carlyle.

Burke Davies reported that all funds in the 2006 regular and TMDL accounts have been expended. The 2006 CPP bond fund has a balance of \$5730.65 remaining.

Duane Snow motioned to name Roger Meyer as the key legislative contact and Burke Davies to assist Meyer with his duties. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to table discussion on the dues to the Illinois Forestry Association until the April board meeting. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RC&D Coordinator John Schuler left the meeting at 7:45 while the board reviewed the policies of the district. Duane Snow motioned to approve the investment policy, personnel policy, ethics policy and the sexual harassment policy. Debbie Holsapple will make the recommended changes by the Attorney General's office to the freedom of information policy for presentation at the April board meeting. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to adopt a resolution naming the board chairman as the authorized signer for USDA-Farm Services Agency documents. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Debbie Holsapple reported 30 districts and 61 employees have responded to the request for participants in the disability survey. Two insurance companies have been contacted to provide quotes. It is possible that a resolution will be completed at the land use council for disability insurance.

The audit on the insurance account was reviewed by the directors. Mac Garrett motioned to accept the audit as presented and to pay Kent Reeves \$800 for his services. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Burke Davies provided his report as attached. Duane Snow motioned to pay \$70 for Davies' CCA membership. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried. Steve McConnaughay motioned to purchase 6 \$10 gift cards to be presented at the LUC #13 Envirothon to the winning team from Marion County. Mac Garrett motioned to pay \$271.16 for Davies' mileage expenses. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tony Antonacci provided his report as attached. Antonacci provided a letter of support request from Dave Eustis, Operations Manager for the Southwestern Illinois RC&D for the C2000 program. Duane Snow motioned to send a letter of support with changes. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Debbie Holsapple provided her report as attached. Steve McConnaughay motioned to send a certified collection letter to Kent Donoho. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried. Duane Snow motioned to purchase poster board at a cost of \$92. Mac Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mac Garrett motioned to pay Holsapple \$114.22 for her mileage expenses. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Holsapple provided information on the 2008 Governor Budget for the District and IDA's Land and Water Resources division.

Duane Snow motioned to approve the cooperators cancellation of Dwight Anderson who sold his ground and Omar Squibb, deceased. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Farm Bureau President Ed Gerstenecker invited attendees to a March 22 "31 cents" breakfast and to a March 26 breakfast with Sen. John O. Jones. The "31 cents" breakfast recognizes the amount received by a farmer for an average breakfast at a restaurant. Mac Garrett motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer
Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District