

***Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes –March 13, 2008***

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met March 13, 2008 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Steve McConnaughay, Tom Beyers, Steve Jones, Duane Snow and Ken Heinzmann. Jack Holt and Ed Gerstenecker, Associate Directors; Tony Antonacci, District Conservationist; Burke Davies, Resource Conservationist and Debbie Holsapple, Administrative Coordinator were also in attendance.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. Duane Snow motioned to approve the agenda. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow nominated Ken Heinzmann 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 Ken Heinzmann as chairman by acclamation. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

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

The board reviewed the February minutes, employee time sheets and treasurer's reports. The February treasurer report reflected the following balances – \$3566.68 on deposit in the district's operations account at Marion County Savings; \$41706.92 on deposit in the Illinois Funds investment account; \$8051.07 on deposit in the Illinois Funds CPP program account; \$25.00 in the petty cash fund, \$34162.04 on deposit in the Illinois Funds farm investment account and \$57480.00 in the Peoples National Bank. Duane Snow motioned to approve the treasurer report, timesheets and minutes as presented. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The FY2008 IDA budget was discussed and no actions were taken regarding the budget situation.

The board discussed the local work group. The next meeting was changed to April 9th at 8:00 a.m. Surveys will be sent out to local mayors, highway commissioners and supervisors and other elected officials. Surveys will also be distributed and collected during the Farm Bureau Ag Breakfast.

The board discussed the annual meeting. Despite the rescheduled meeting, attendance was good. No complaints about not having a speaker were received.

Burke Davies discussed the status of the CPP program as reported in his report. Duane Snow motioned to tentatively approve Eldon Copple's CPP application. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed all District's policies and procedures. The only policy to be changed will be the Freedom of Information policy which will be updated with the names of the new board members.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to name Tom Beyers as the key legislative contact with Burke Davies serving as the employee contact. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to purchase grass seed and to sell it at \$85 per acre which includes the drill rental. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to change the Great Plains drill rental rate to \$7 per acre with a \$50 minimum. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to approve the Illinois Forestry Development Act agreement at GPICES. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed plans for the 2008 AISWCD Annual Meeting and Summer Conference. The meeting is scheduled for July 27-29, 2008. However, no activities are scheduled for July 27 to allow savings for districts. All sessions and events will be held on Monday and Tuesday morning.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay \$1168 for the D&O premium. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tony Antonacci reported that the POF Annual Meeting will be held on March 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the Effingham Field Office.

The board discussed the ICCI contract with GPICES. Steve McConnaughay motioned to change the contract with the money going to the SWCD not the GPICES board. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay \$27.83 to Burke Davies for mileage expenses. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to pay Debbie Holsapple \$206.46 for mileage and hotel expenses for the AISWCD quarterly board meeting. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed the appointment of associate directors. Debbie Holsapple will make requests to the current directors, Roger Meyer and Mac Garrett to see if they would be interested in serving during the next year.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to approve the cancellation of the district cooperator agreement with Robert McCorkle and Billy Borton. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer