

***Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2009***

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met February 12, 2009 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Steve Jones, Tom Beyers, Steve McConnaughay and Duane Snow. Ray Searby and Ed Gerstenecker, Associate Directors; Tony Antonacci, District Conservationist; Laura Smithenry, Soil Conservationist; Burke Davies, Resource Conservationist and Debbie Holsapple, Administrative Coordinator were also in attendance.

The vice-chairman called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to approve the agenda adding Presentation of Friends of Conservation award to Senator John O. Jones. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Duane Snow presented Senator John O. Jones with the Friends of Conservation award and thanked him for his assistance to soil and water conservation districts during the last year.

The board reviewed the January minutes. The board then reviewed the January treasurer's report and employee time sheets. The January treasurer report reflected the following balances – \$6557.14 on deposit in the district's operations account at Marion County Savings; \$39061.94 on deposit in the Illinois Funds investment account; \$19724.91 on deposit in the Illinois Funds CPP program account; \$25.00 in the petty cash fund and \$34657.32 on deposit in the Illinois Funds farm investment account. Tom Beyers motioned to approve the minutes as corrected and to approve the financial reports as presented. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried. The board discussed the employee timesheets for the January time period. Steve McConnaughay motioned to allow Debbie Holsapple to take administrative leave for January 28 due to weather conditions. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Associate Director Ed Gerstenecker arrived at the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to tentatively approve CPP applications from Jason Schuette, Howard Blomberg and Greg Vieira. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried with Jones, McConnaughay and Snow voting to approve the motion. Tom Beyers abstained from the vote.

Tony Antonacci discussed the new NRCS FOIA & PA operating procedures.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to purchase educator guides, education CD, bookmarks, activity booklets and sheets for the 2009 Stewardship Week. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to provide the same cash awards as last year and to purchase the needed poster board from Office Products. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried. Associate Director Ed Gerstenecker offered the Farm Bureau foundation grant as a possible source of revenue for the needed stewardship and poster materials.

Ray Searby reported that Post Oak Flats will meet on February 24.

Tony Antonacci, Burke Davies and Debbie Holsapple provided their reports as attached.

Associate Director Ed Gerstenecker invited and gave the group tickets to the annual Farm Bureau breakfast on March 18.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to cancel the cooperator agreement with Hershel Kasten. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held on March 12, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. (daylight savings time schedule) in the conference room of the USDA service center.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer