

***Marion County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2009***

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met May 7, 2009 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Tom Beyers, Steve Jones, Steve McConnaughay, Ray Searby and Duane Snow. Jack Holt, Associate Director; Tony Antonacci, District Conservationist; Laura Smithenry, Soil Conservationist, Burke Davies, Resource Conservationist and Debbie Holsapple, Administrative Coordinator were also in attendance.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Steve McConnaughay motioned to approve the agenda adding Marion County Savings Bank resolution. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the April minutes, April treasurer report and the April employee time sheets. The April treasurer report reflected the following balances - \$25.00 in petty cash, \$332.73 in the district operations account at Marion County Savings Bank, \$80967.44 in the Illinois Funds operations account, \$34689.07 in the Illinois Funds farm account and \$34689.07 in the Illinois Funds program account. Tom Beyers by motioned to accept the minutes, treasurer report and time sheets as presented. Ray Searby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Burke Davies provided an update on the conservation practice program. Steve Jones motioned to tentatively approve contracts with Gary McConnaughay, Ralph VonBokel and Uphold Farms. A roll call vote was taken. Tom Beyers and Steve McConnaughay abstained from the vote. Jones, Searby and Snow all voted yea. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay reported on certificates of deposit that were opened for the district. Two were invested at Marion County Saving Bank, one for \$25,000 and one for \$34,689.07. Another was opened at Peoples National Bank for \$25,000. McConnaughay reported to the board that the certificates only require one signature at the present time. Discussion was held on this. Debbie Holsapple reported the certificates were in a locked fire proof safe. Individuals with signature authority do not have access and Holsapple does not have signature authority. Tom Beyers motioned to keep the certificates as setup with one signature. Ray Searby seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with Beyers, Jones, Searby and Snow voting yea. McConnaughay abstained from the vote. Motion carried

Steve McConnaughay motioned to move the majority of the remaining Illinois Funds into the certificate at Peoples National Bank and to allow individuals with signature authority to move funds between Illinois Funds Operation account, Peoples National Bank and Marion County Savings Bank as needed for operations. Ray Searby seconded the motion. Roll call vote taken with Beyers, Jones, McConnaughay, Searby and Snow all voting yea. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned for the district to be included in the bid process for the new service center sign. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to pay the Illinois Forestry dues of \$50. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay \$1168 for director and officer insurance to Turner Vermont Agency. Ray Searby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed summer conference. Tom Beyers, Duane Snow and Ray Searby indicated their intent to attend the conference. Duane Snow appointed himself as the delegate and Tom Beyers as the alternate for the conference.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to purchase a paver on President's row in memory of George P. Irwin. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board discussed the Marion County Savings Bank resolution. Tom Beyers motioned to adopt the 2nd and 3rd descriptions of power for all three individuals with signature authority. Ray Searby seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Beyers, Jones, McConnaughay, Searby and Jones voted yea. Motion carried.

Ray Searby reported that Post Oak Flats has a new treasurer; Merilyn Foster from Effingham. He also reported that the entrepreneur class is ending with 21 students and 22 are enrolled for the 2009-2010 school year. Post Oak Flats continues to investigate a revolving fund loan, mainly to assist these students who are interested in setting up their own business.

The board discussed the Conservation Reserve Program re-enroll option for the district farm. Steve McConnaughay motioned the district recommend the GPICES board to re-enroll in the program for the maximum number of years allowed. Ray Searby seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Burke Davies reported on the purchase of driveway fabric for the parking lot extension. Approximately 260 ft of this product remains and can be sold. Tom Beyers motioned to sell the fabric at a cost of \$2.50 per running foot. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The resource conservationist, administrative coordinator and district conservationist provided their reports as attached. Debbie Holsapple also reported that a special Ag Literacy Coalition meeting has been set for May 12th. Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay the RC \$175.07 for mileage expenses, to pay the administrative coordinator \$ 265.76 for mileage expenses and to pay IAAP dues of \$80 and \$15. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ray Searby motioned to cancel the cooperator agreements with William Collum (2), Orville Sharp and Willard Green who are deceased. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Beyers motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held on June 11, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA service center.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer