

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

The Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District met November 13, 2008 at the SWCD/NRCS office. Directors present included Ken Heinzmann, Steve McConnaughay, Duane Snow, Tom Beyers and Steve Jones. Jack Holt and Ray Searby, Associate Directors; Tony Antonacci, District 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 as mailed. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the October minutes. Steve Jones motioned to approve the minutes as changed. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The board then reviewed the October treasurer's report and employee time sheets. The October treasurer report reflected the following balances – \$10000.66 on deposit in the district's operations account at Marion County Savings; \$64190.51 on deposit in the Illinois Funds investment account; \$21747.60 on deposit in the Illinois Funds CPP program account; \$25.00 in the petty cash fund and \$34606.53 on deposit in the Illinois Funds farm investment account. Tom Beyers motioned to approve the treasurer report and employee timesheets. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow thanked the board for the opportunity to attend the NACD annual meeting but reported he was not interested due to the district's financial conditions.

Debbie Holsapple reported that she attended a meeting this morning in Springfield with Senator Sullivan, Ginger Ostre, and Director of the Governor's office of Budget and Management and Blagoviech's legislative liaison, Larry O'Brien. The meeting was well-received but no promises were made except that they would look into seeing what they could do.

Burke Davies reviewed information on the Conservation Practice Program as reported in his monthly report.

The board discussed plans for the annual meeting. Steve McConnaughay motioned to purchase approximately \$50 in hams for door prizes; to give the usual door prizes of tree packets, prairie plant seeds and up to \$100 equipment rental; to keep contribution requests at \$25 with tickets priced at \$6.00 and to have Niemergs cater the fried chicken-ham meal. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried. The board decided to not pursue entertainment this year due to cost restraints.

Tom Beyers motioned to pay ISWCDEA \$30 for AC/RC/SWCD dues and to purchase 2 sampler packs of Country Bobs for winter training door prizes. Steve McConnaughay seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to table NACD dues until more information on the district IDA allocations is received. Steve Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ray Searby reported on the October Post Oak Flats meeting. 22 students are now enrolled in the entrepreneurial program at Effingham. POF held an interest meeting to possibly expand the program and Marion County did not have representation. He also reported that John's secretary was leaving to accept a position at the state office since funding was not available for her position. The next meeting of POF has been changed to December 2 and will cover the months of November and December.

Tony Antonacci provided his report as attached.

Duane Snow motioned to have Burke Davies check with Daryl Hargrave on the need to provide warm season grasses and to sell any leftover seed from this year's program. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay for the RC Certified Crop Advisor (\$70) and Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (\$100) dues. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Duane Snow motioned to pay Burke Davies \$130.05 for mileage expenses. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ken Heinzmann arrived at 7:38 p.m. and assumed chairman duties.

The board discussed the Truax drill. Duane Snow motioned to have Burke Davies research the possibilities of selling the drill and obtaining a grant to purchase a new smaller drill. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Debbie Holsapple provided her report as attached.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to pay Debbie Holsapple \$418.10 for mileage expenses. Tom Beyers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steve McConnaughay motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m. Duane Snow seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next board meeting will be held on December 11, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the USDA service center.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve McConnaughay
Secretary-Treasurer