

MINUTES
Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting
Wednesday, December 18, 2013

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Shane Campbell at 9:30 a.m. Present were Paul Marcellino, Steve Byrum, Calvin Hartman, Jim Stites, Sarah Brichford, Don Cree, and Rene' Weaver. Glenn Stephens and Michelle Gilbert were absent.

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting as written. Shane seconded, motion carried and minutes were signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting is set for Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

The resolutions that will be voted upon at annual conference were discussed. The IASWCD accountability resolution will ride. Steve will see how the discussion goes and make a decision on the vote. The CCSI voluntary \$500 contribution, Steve will vote "No". There are concerns about just what the contribution would be used for along with what will the district receive for their contributions? The supervisors feel as if the SWCD is already doing some of the research for cover crops through the CWI. If we ever decided to do water testing in our open ditches we would have the assistance of the Stormwater District. They have a lab and can do some of the water testing.

AGENCY REPORTS:

EXTENSION – Paul reported that the PARP training that was yesterday went well. He talked about the CWI research for cover crops. Palmer Amaranth an invasive weed was also discussed along with information from the State Chemist.

4-H Enrollment is underway.

There will be a succession planning workshop in Tipton at the Beck Center on January 23 and 24. Maple Farms will be on the panel. Master Gardner program will begin on January 6.

FSA – Lisa said they are finishing up some 2013 work and starting on 2014. There is no farm bill yet. If the 2008 bill is not extended or a new one is not approved the eligibility forms will not be valid and there are currently no new forms to use. The forms may only be used for successions. In 2014 the 901 form may be used for entity structure. FSA cannot take any new sign ups but are authorized to make payments on installed practices if the amounts are not more than what have been approved. FSA is currently operating with three employees instead of four. They cannot hire a new employee because there is no approved budget.

COUNTY STORMWATER – Sarah reported that the Rule 5 reviews are going well. She has been working with Calvin. There will be a sewer hookup to Cotswold Hills but the plan has not been submitted. It will need to be reviewed once the plan is entered into the Stormwater reporting system. Hamilton County will hold a contractor workshop in February. Sarah recommended that we make sure to pass the information along to anyone on our contractor's list who works in site development. Sarah will be working with Nicole Porter from the library on activities during the annual meeting for the kids.

SWCD – Calvin has been working on rule 5 on-site reviews using the new I-Pad. He has been doing site visits for CRP re-enrolls and has done some survey work.

NRCS- Rene' reported that Kerry has been making CSP payments for the past two weeks in Howard and Tipton counties.

CITY STORMWATER – Don reported that he is going out with Calvin this week to look at the IUK site and the Pastariffic site for Rule 5.

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

RC&D – Calvin attended a meeting yesterday. The Master Naturalist Program was a success. The next program will be held in Clinton County. RC&D is also discussing hold a Jr. Master Naturalist Program and working the local parks departments. The meeting dates are set for 2014. RC&D will meet every other month beginning with February. The annual meeting will be in August. MRBI final report is filed. No comments yet.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Rene’ presented the claims for payment. Shane moved to approve the claims as presented. Jim seconded, motion carried and form signed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Rene’ gave an update on annual meeting plans. She is working with Sarah Brichford and Steve Christensen from Stormwater. We have venue, speaker, and meal selection. She was able to get a reduced cost below \$15.00. Rene’ is also started working on the program. She will be sending out letters to potential sponsors in January and ask for names of agri businesses.

Susan Kirkpatrick will be on the ballot for supervisor at the annual meeting. She has a prior commitment and will be unable to attend.

The 2014 SWCD/Stormwater District calendar is at the printers. We should receive it within the next two weeks.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 11:5 a.m.

Minutes recorded and written by Rene’ Weaver _____

WE AGREE THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE ACCURATE.

_____ DATE: _____