

MINUTES  
Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting  
Tuesday, April 15, 2014

Meeting called to order by Vice-Chairperson Steve Byrum at 9:05 a.m. Present were Susan Kirkpatrick, Geneva Tyler, Michelle Gilbert, Calvin Hartman, Glenn Stephens, and Rene' Weaver. Shane Campbell was absent.

Michelle moved to accept the March 2014 minutes as written. Susan seconded and motion carried. Minutes were signed by supervisors.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20 at 9:00 a.m.

Rene' reported that the district received a letter from Mr. Walter McIndoo that referenced the flood meeting and a publication the district had created several years ago. A letter was drafted and sent to all supervisors for review prior to mailing it. We had not received any further correspondence from Mr. McIndoo.

We are out of the food plot mix from Pheasants Forever. Rene' recommended that the district might want to purchase some more. We have had a few requests for it. Michelle moved to allow \$150 towards the purchase of 50 lbs. of the Winter Survival Mix. The district will give away the first ½ acre and any additional will be sold at cost. Rene' checked with Glenn but he suggested that we go ahead and purchase the seed. Susan seconded and the motion carried.

Rene' had someone make 5 bluebird houses and 5 kits. The materials totaled \$78.00. She recommended that we pay the individual \$100, materials plus some for his labor. Michelle moved to all the payment of \$100 for the bluebird houses and moved to all an additional \$100 be spent for 10 more. Susan seconded. Motion carried.

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

FSA – Lisa was not available but had left handouts for everyone concerning the Livestock programs.

EXTENSION – Paul was unable to attend.

CITY/COUNTY STORMWATER – Sarah Brichford and Don Cree were not available. Calvin reported that he has been making site visits every 2 weeks. The part-time position has been advertised and we did not have any response. Rene' will contact the individual who may be interested. If there is no interest then she will post the position with IUK and Ivy Tech.

NRCS – Kerry was not available. Calvin reported that they have completed 6 engineering plans and have several construction checks lined up. Kerry has been taking EQIP applications and CRP enrollment has not been opened yet and there are no new forms from FSA to begin the process. Still waiting for official direction.

SWCD – It is getting time to start the On-Farm work and the soil samples and bio mass samples for our CWI grant.

**ACTIVITY REPORTS:**

No technical report

RC&D – A big “Thank You” to Michelle for organizing the Water Blitz. It went very well. Calvin was able to deliver the samples to Camp Cullum early and was back in the office by 2:30. Thank you also to Leah from Clinton County for entering the data into the computer.

Ag Day was successful. This year we had students from Northwestern’s FFA give the presentations. The students that attend appear to focus on the presentations better when a student does the presenting.

The district held a cover crop workshop and it went very well. Steve attended and commented that he liked this type of meeting. There were a total of 10 in attendance. Steve Wiggington our area soil scientist had pulled soil cores and you could visually see the root systems of the cover crops.

The Green Festival was good. The booths all had to do with recycling or what we can do to protect our earth. There were several people that attended. Our booth had the EnviroScape and the groundwater model from IN American Water Co.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Claims were presented. Susan moved to accept the financial statement and claims. Glenn seconded, motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

It is time to start preparing for the fair and we need a theme. Discussion was held and all agreed to focus on soil health. Michelle mentioned someone had a large view box built with Plexiglas so you could see just how far the root system will go down into the soil. We also discussed worms and different ideas for worm items. Geneva mentioned a mini habitat where the kids could make a habitat. Michelle will look into getting a picture and dimensions for the box. Rene’s uncle might be willing the build one or two.

Rene’ asked the supervisors if they would like to have a tree sale in 2015. It was decided that we would. The date will be Saturday April 18, 2015. Rene’ will contact the forestry committee so we can start putting together our species list.

Geneva mentioned an upcoming event for Chair and Vice-Chairs on August 26 at Fort Ben. More details will be forthcoming. There will be a Leadership Conference at Purdue on December 12 and 13.

There being no additional business, Susan moved to adjourn the meeting and Steve seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Minutes recorded and written by Rene’ Weaver \_\_\_\_\_

***WE AGREE THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE ACCURATE.***

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\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_