

MINUTES  
Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting  
Monday, June 9, 2014

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Shane Campbell, Chairperson. Those attending were Susan Kirkpatrick, Steve Byrum, Calvin Hartman, Glenn Stephens, Sarah Brichford, and Rene' Weaver. Paul Marcellino arrived later and Michelle Gilbert was absent.

Susan made a motion to approve the May minutes as written. Steve seconded and motion carried. Minutes were signed by the supervisors.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Calvin and Rene' gave a brief overview of the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Rene' handed out upcoming meeting information and a fact sheet. A meeting will be held in Lafayette on June 11. As we learn more information, the staff will inform the supervisors.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15 at 9:00 a.m.

Rene' presented the county budget recommendations for 2015. She reported that during a recent meeting she attended it was stated that we were not to include salary increases on the budget request. Rene' also told the board that our budget is "bare bones". We are requesting no more than we actually need and she was able to shave small amounts from the copier lease and telephone. She presented the Statement of Salaries for 2015 which is the same as 2014. Shane moved to approve the Statement of Salaries for 2015 and Steve seconded. Motion carried. Shane moved to approve the 2015 county budget recommendations and Susan seconded. Motion carried.

Sarah Brichford mentioned Mell might be interested in obtaining a "hot spot" to use when out on job sites to allow him to pull up precious reports. This is something Rene' and Calvin will discuss with Mell and look into the cost of such an item.

Rene' read an email from Nicole Porter of the library thanking the SWCD for participating in the Library Summer Reading kick off. It went very well. Michelle, Susan, and Rene' worked the event. The seed necklaces and play dough was a big draw.

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

SWCD – Calvin reported he is ready to begin working on the CRP re-enrolls if the weather would cooperate. He and Sarah have most of the surveying caught up.

CITY/COUNTY STORMWATER - Sarah reported that things on the Stormwater front are going well. She thanked the board for hiring Mell. He has been doing a great job and she is already seeing results. Calvin talked about the meeting held last week set up by Mell. In attendance were Sarah and Greg from county Stormwater, Don Cree from city Stormwater, and Rob Beck from IDEM. It was a very good meeting and afterwards they all went to look at a couple of sites.

FSA – Lisa reported that today (June 9) is the first day of CRP signup #49! Along with new applications there are 65 CRP contracts up for renewal. All rates and flat rates remain the same as the previous year. She also said that there will more than likely be no general CRP sign up for 2014. As you certify your crops be aware of any changes or re-enrolls that you may have. Certification deadline is July 15. There are still acres available for the SAFE program for bat habitat which involves tree planting.

Lisa discussed the Livestock Forage Program. Anyone who had livestock pastured in 2012 is eligible for payments for 3 months. Howard County was classified as a D3 county due to drought conditions. There are also funds available for commercial bee keepers. Anyone who sells honey products commercially that had a loss of bees or hives is eligible.

Lisa talked about the programs being developed by universities to assist landowners when deciding which program would better suit their needs. These programs should be available toward the end of June.

EXTENSION – Paul said extension has been working on fair details and encouraged anyone that is participating in any 4-H activities, please read your paperwork! There have been some changes. This year at the fair they will be offering Front Porch Chats held near the lead center. These will be presentations lasting about 30 minutes and cover multiple topics. 100 years of Extension will be celebrated on Friday. Another item Paul has been working on is civil rights information.

### **ACTIVITY REPORTS:**

RC&D – Calvin reported that the Junior Indiana Master Naturalist program is set to begin. There are approximately 15 enrolled which is a great number for first time offering the program. He will be assisting one of the afternoons.

EDUCATION: The fair schedule was routed around the table. Rene’ also talked about how we wanted to handle activities for each night. It was decided we would switch from night to night. Give away seed necklaces one night, worm pencils one night and use the BMP game a couple of nights.

FORESTRY – Rene’ handed out a summary sheet of the tree sale. She will prepare something for the fair that lists what we will be selling, when the sale will be and when forms are mailed out. We will also have a signup sheet available for anyone who wishes to be mailed a form.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Rene’ reviewed claims. Shane moved to allow payment as presented. Susan seconded, motion carried.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Glenn had questions about the hot spot for Mell. The supervisors and staff discussed this further. Rene’ and Calvin will talk with Mell, gather information and report back to the supervisors. We need to make certain we can justify the cost before we jump into a purchase. The supervisors do understand that Mell wishes not to use his personal electronic devices and do not expect him to do so.

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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

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

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