

MINUTES
Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting
Monday, March 17, 2014

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

The Oath of Office for supervisor was performed by Geneva Tyler, District Support Specialist and read to Susan Kirkpatrick.

Officers were elected. They are: Chairperson Shane Campbell. Steve moved to elect Shane, Susan moved nominations be closed, Steve seconded, passed. Vice-Chairperson Steve Byrum. Shane moved to elect Steve as Vice-Chairperson. Susan moved nominations be closed, Steve seconded, passed. Secretary Susan Kirkpatrick. Steve moved to elect Susan as secretary, Shane moved nominations be closed and seconded, passed.

Committees are as follows:

District Operations: Shane Campbell and Steve Byrum

Finance: Steve Byrum and Rene' will ask Michelle Gilbert

Education & Youth: Susan Kirkpatrick and Shane Campbell, Rene' will ask Paul Marcellino and Sarah Brichford

Forestry: Susan Kirkpatrick, Shane Campbell, Rene' will ask Glenn Stephens

Legislative: Rene' will ask Michelle Gilbert

Steve moved to accept the February minutes as written, Shane seconded, motion carried and minutes were signed by supervisors.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

The District Operations Committee met with Calvin and Rene' to review the current job description for a technician that will do the Rule 5 plan reviews and on-site evaluations. There were a few revisions to the existing description. After review Susan moved to accept the job description with revisions as presented. Shane seconded, motion carried. Rene' will send the description to the county where it will be posted for one week. After the week, we will contact individuals that have showed an interest. The next step would be to advertise the position within IUK and Ivy Tech requesting resumes be sent via email to the district.

Calvin presented and discussed his job approval authority. According to his authority sheet he is able to approve or sign off of certain practices. Technicians such as Calvin work under the license of our state engineer. Calvin leans on the side a caution and would rather send plans to our area engineers than to sign off on most construction practices or plans. In order to be able to use his authority the district chairperson must sign the letter. Shane moved to allow the signing of the job approval authority for Calvin. Susan seconded, motion passed and Shane signed the letter.

Rene' gave a report of the region meeting that she and Calvin attended on March 13 in West Lafayette. The speaker Donya Lester, Director of Purdue Ag Alumni was excellent. Her talk was about marrying a farmer and her lack of ag experience and what she has learned throughout her 18 year marriage.

IDEM gave a brief presentation which prompted a question as to whether a district could apply for funding in a watershed that has an existing watershed management plan. Geneva will check into this. Overall opinion of the meeting was good. It is always nice to get together will districts and talk about the different activities that are happening.

Rene' reported that the flood open house that was held on Tuesday, March 4 was well attended. Several were those individuals that drafted a letter to all local agencies concerning the flooding we saw last April. Indiana American Water, IDNR, County/City Plan Commission, Surveyor, Stormwater, and SWCD were represented. Rene' stated she is not sure that all attendees were satisfied with the answers received but it was a good way for residents to meet and ask questions of those agencies that deal with flooding problems.

AGENCY REPORTS:

FSA – Lisa was able to share Farm Bill fact sheets. The first programs they will roll out are the Livestock Forage Disaster Program and the Livestock Indemnity Payments (LIP). The Price Loss Coverage (PLC) and Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) programs will be completed in the fall. It will be a one time selection to one of the two programs. Changes have been made to the Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL). If it is under \$100,000 it will require no additional security and can be done at the local level. Rates are very reasonable for the loan program.

Steve wanted to know if there would be roll-out type meetings when more information became available. Yes, there are plans to hold meetings to help get the information out to the public.

EXTENSION – Paul was unable to attend.

CITY/COUNTY STORMWATER – Sarah Brichford and Don Cree were not available

NRCS – Kerry was not available.

SWCD – Majority of Rene's time lately has been spent preparing information and supplies to Ag Day and Earth Day. She assisted Michelle in preparing the display for the flood meeting. Calvin reported with the help of Sarah he is caught up on designs. Once the weather breaks the focus will be on CRP re-enrolls. It could be a very busy construction season.

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

No technical report

RC&D – Water Blitz will be on Friday, April 11. Calvin encouraged anyone that is interested to help out. It is a good educational opportunity. The staging area more likely will be held in Russiaville which is where it has been every year. We just have to get confirmation. Rene' will forward an email she received from Michelle about the Water Blitz. Rene' will contact the health department and see if we can get some cold packs from them to use for transporting the samples.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Claims were presented. Shane moved to allow claims as presented, Susan seconded, motion carried .

OTHER BUSINESS:

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.

_____ DATE: _____