

BOND COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
1111 E. Harris Ave., Greenville, IL 62246
Regular Monthly Board Meeting, Wednesday, March 05, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Bond County Soil and Water Conservation District's Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, March 05, 2008 at the USDA Building. Mike Bingham called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Directors present: Mike Bingham, Harold Gehrig, Wes Pourchot, Lester Harnetiaux, and Karen File. Absent: Artie Myers. Also present: Emily Hartmann, Administrative Coordinator; Dan Feldmann, Resource Conservationist, Justin King, District Conservationist, and Rob Rinehart, Soil Technician.

The first item of business was to hold officer elections. 2007 Vice-Chairman Mike Bingham called for nominations for the office of Chairman. Wes Pourchot nominated Mike Bingham. Mr. Bingham called for other nominations. There were no other nominations. Wes Pourchot moved to accept Mike Bingham as Chairman by acclamation, Harold Gehrig seconded. Voting was unanimous. Chairman Bingham called for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Harold Gehrig nominated Wes Pourchot for Vice-Chairman. Bingham called for other nominations. There were none. Wes Pourchot was accepted as Vice-Chairman by acclamation. Chairman Bingham asked for nominations for secretary. Wes Pourchot nominated Harold Gehrig. There were no other nominations. Dr. Harold Gehrig was accepted by acclamation to the office of secretary. Chairman Bingham asked for nominations for treasurer. Wes Pourchot nominated Lester Harnetiaux. There were no other nominations and he was accepted by acclamation.

Directors reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Lester Harnetiaux moved for approval of the minutes as written; Harold Gehrig seconded this motion; carried.

Directors reviewed the financial reports and reviewed the budget. The budget needs to be amended to reflect correct amounts for insurance, and credit card charges. Hartmann explained she is investigating what is causing the error in the credit card charges line item. In addition, Hartmann has amended the budget to more correctly reflect employee expenses. Previously all employee training, travel, mileage, taxes, lodging and other employee expenses were all included under EMPLOYEE SALARY EXPENSES. These expenses are now being itemized under different line items. Further changes in budget categories may be necessary in the future. Harnetiaux and Hartmann will work together to update the records to more accurately reflect the status of the budget. Hartmann reported the state funding has not yet been released, but based on information received from Rich Nichols, AISWCD, the allocation for FY08 should have been \$85,000. He feels we still have a good chance at getting a good portion of our funding. This is a 13% increase over FY07. Our FY09 budget is \$85000. Outstanding balances were also reviewed and the board discussed what action should be taken to collect overdue balances. Wes Pourchot moved to establish the following policy: After 90 days a letter will be sent to those with overdue balances requesting they contact our office to set up a payment plan. If no contact is made with our office after 120 days, a certified letter will be

sent notifying them further action may be taken through small claims court. Dr. Gehrig seconded; motion carried. Bills are processed on first business day of each month and mailed thereafter. The terms are net due 30 days. Lester Harnetiaux moved for the approval of the financial reports. Wes Pourchot seconded; carried.

Administrative Coordinator's Report: Hartmann reported the Annual Meeting attendance was 75 people with 55 registered voters. The Hall expense was \$325, 100 meals \$795 including mileage, \$495 for the speaker and \$100 in floral arrangements. Lester Harnetiaux asked Hartmann to contact Ed Weilbacher, SW IL RC&D, for feedback regarding ideas to improve future annual meetings.

Larry Gruner has applied for CPP FY06 Bond Funding for a Grassed Waterway. NRCS has completed surveying the project and the estimated cost share is \$2,836.00. Wes Pourchot moved to approve the CPP contract. Harold Gehrig seconded; motion carried. A waiting list has been developed for any future CPP money that may become available. NMP Training is moving forward. Training certification is being completed over the next few days. Spring Fish and Tree sales are moving forward, but the weather has really hurt our sales so far. We are way below normal on sales. We have had 8 fish orders and we are currently at a loss of \$82.50 due to advertising expenses. We have 80 tree orders and have sold ½ the quantity of trees we have currently ordered. We will likely have to significantly reduce our order quantities within the next few days to keep from taking a huge loss.

We are receiving donations for prizes for our poster contest. We are moving forward on the planning for the poster contest. We have a commitment from CVS in Greenville and will be contacting Wal-Mart, Dairy Queen, McDonalds, & Globe Theatre.

Our upcoming activities include the LUC meeting in Litchfield on March 18, Tree Bundling on March 27, Tree Sale on March 28-29, Fish Sale on April 2, Board Meeting on April 9, 5th Grade Soil & Water Day on April 17, and Soil Stewardship week on April 24-May 1.

Resource Conservationist's Report: Dan has been working on getting the equipment ready. The drill arms need repair. We are expecting early April delivery of the drills. Workman Installation has completed the installation of the security lights at the shed. While there Dan asked them to install an additional light on the inside of the shed to increase the lighting for working on equipment. Dan needs a trailer to haul the trees back from Tennessee. He has asked Kevin Hartmann to use his bumper hitch 12 ft trailer. Wes Pourchot moved to allow Hartmann the use of Bond SWCD equipment rent in exchange for trailer rent. Harold Gehrig seconded. Motion carried. There has also been an issue with Mick's Auto Body towing wrecked semi-tractor trailers onto Bond SWCD property near our Equipment Shed. Mick previously had permission from Jim McCasland to tow the tractor trailers to that location. Feldmann has notified Mick in the past that McCasland no longer owns that property and he should no longer tow wrecks to that location. Bond SWCD is concerned about safety and liability. After discussion Wes Pourchot made the motion that if any additional wrecks are parked on Bond SWCD property we are to send a bill of \$500 per day to Mick's Towing for

parking and storage. Harold Gehrig seconded; carried. He also requested that Feldmann notify Mick of the Board's discussion and decision regarding the matter.

NRCS Report: King reported technical assistance has been provided to for multiple forestry management plans, and a possible future streambank restoration. Three EQIP forestry management plans have been approved. He's working on CRP, a WRP for Mark Conway , several HEL and Wetland Determinations, and met with Dave Willey regarding the plans for a future city lake. He is also checking into the possibility of digitizing our old 1938 and 1955 maps.

Old Business:

New Business: Emily will be contacting the company providing construction fabric for Fayette County next month to check into delivery options. Hartmann learned from Clinton County they are donation \$500 to NACD, Fayette County had not yet made a decision, Montgomery County was donation \$775, but learned that several other counties were making no donation at all. Lester Harnetiaux moved to donate \$50 to NACD with the explanation that with our current financial situation we cannot donate additional funds at this time. Harold Gehrig seconded, carried.

RC&D: Harnetiaux, King, Feldmann all attended the Kaskaskia Watershed meeting in Carlyle on March 3. Information on Coal Rights was shared. Gathering information on possibility holding a public meeting on coal rights is of interest within the board.

The next meeting will be held at 8:30 am on April 9.

Harold Gehrig moved to adjourn at 10:45 a.m. Wes Pourchot seconded; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Gehrig

Secretary, Bond County SWCD

Notes taken by Emily Hartmann, AC