

The Richland Soil & Water Conservation District held their **Regular March Board Meeting** on the 9th, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. located at 1495 West Longview Ave. Mansfield, Ohio.

Charles Winger called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. with the following in attendance, Wayne Weirick, Ken Burrer, Bonnie Thomas, John Hildreth, Tony Studer, Matt Christian, Diana Kelley, Jeff Van Loon and Richland County Commissioner Tim Wert. Jerry Schumacher and Roger Cook were absent.

Secretary Report – Burrer motioned to accept the February minutes as written. Weirick seconded the motion. Weirick aye; Burrer aye; Winger aye, Motion passed 3-0.

Treasurer Report – Burrer motioned to approve March's District Fund of 4 transactions totaling \$2,903.11 (check # 4079-4082), and the Special Fund of 21 transactions totaling \$11,137.87 and to accept CPA's January & February reports as presented. Weirick seconded the motion. Weirick aye; Burrer; Winger aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Richland Co. Stormwater Fund– Commissioner Tim Wert stated the Storm Water fund was created after he came to the board so they would have money in reserve to fund Phase II and any regulatory issues that come up. It is a discretionary fund.

Old Business

State Cost Share Transfer of Funds- Jeff Van Loon stated the Soil & Water Conservation Commission who authorizes state matching and doles out state cost share funds intended for districts who were housing unused cost share funds to transfer them to your county auditor and consider as part of final state match. Jeff noticed in February's minutes the board had voted to keep state cost share funds. Weirick motioned to transfer state cost share funds of \$6,323.00 to districts special fund based on new information and guidance. Burrer seconded the motion. Weirick aye; Burrer aye; winger aye. Motion passed 3-0.

County appropriations- Hildreth stated the county has had to adjust the District's budget in order for the county to meet the deficit. Original request for 2006 was \$238,111.00. It has been adjusted to \$225,000.00. Total dollar amount with factoring in the state match is approximately a \$25,000.00 decrease. This would affect previously discussed water quality services.

New Business

Internal Audit- Hildreth reported the District's audit is scheduled for May 23, 2006. Hildreth stated they are making necessary correction from last audit and he and Bonnie are ready. Hildreth invited any available board members to attend.

Annual Plan of Operations- Hildreth passed out an updated draft copy of the APO for the Board and staff to review. Kelley passed out proposed changes for education. Hildreth stated there will be further discussion at April's board meeting.

Discussion on Drive Access Program – Winger voiced concern regarding the amount of time the inspections would take. Burrer said he felt agriculture should be taken out of regulations.

Reports

Van Loon- Discussed the importance of equine education. Jeff handed out copies of Ohio's top 30 Counties for Agriculture & Livestock. Brad Ross will probably be named the new Executive Director of the Federation, a new position that has been created. Jeff told the board Bonnie has been helpful at the division level helping put together the Administrative Assistant Development Program along with others.

Hildreth - No report

Matt- Preparing for a busy season of surveying applicants for EQIP and CRP programs.

Tony- Continuing to stay close to Tim and learn. Attending TDP training and will be attending the conservation training program in October.

Ken- Asked Tim Wert if there was anything we could do for him. Tim Wert commented Tim Brandt, John Hildreth and he have good communication, and he is pleased with the work Tim Brandt is doing on the Storm Water Regulations.

Kelley- Reported March 20th the district is holding a Mennonite workshop, and March 27th a teacher's workshop. Tomorrow she will be taking the district display to the Butler Twp. Institute.

Weirick- No report

Thomas- Reported clickacoupon.com is a new avenue for marketing the districts web site. Fish pick-up is March 28th, tree sales April 19, 20, 21.

Burrer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 p.m. Weirick seconded the motion. Weirick aye; Winger aye; Burrer aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded Minutes