

The Richland Soil & Water Conservation District held their **Regular April Board Meeting** on the 12th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. located at 1495 West Longview Ave. Mansfield, Ohio.

Schumacher called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following in attendance, Bob Winbigler, Charles Winger, John Hildreth, Bonnie Thomas, Clark Hutson, Diana Kelley and Gary Mathes. Weirick and Cook absent.

Secretary Report –Winbigler motioned to approve March minutes with a correction made to the District fund financial report to reflect 6 transactions, check # 4154-4160 totaling \$1,500.71. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Winbigler motioned to approve March's Special Meeting minutes as typed. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Financials- Winger motioned to transfer ODOT Route 30 project un-spent funds of \$3,559.30 from Star Ohio ODOT account to District's Key Bank checking account and transfer interest earned to Star Ohio District account. The District will close the Star Ohio ODOT account and return the unused funds to ODOT. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Winger motioned to pay for the purchase of both Trimble GPS units from the District fund. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Winbigler moved to have Fiscal agent sign check for Alpha Nursery payment after tree sale is completed and Wayne is satisfied with financial report. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Winger motioned to approve April's District Fund of 11 transactions totaling \$24,066.66 (check # 4161- 4173), April's Special Fund of 30 transactions totaling \$14,895.08 and to accept CPA's March report as printed. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Old Business

Audit Review– Thomas reviewed with Board that Kevin O'Connor has acknowledged his mistake and has apologized to John, Wayne and Board for the mistake. He will send a corrected report for Board to sign at June's board meeting.

New Business

Level II- Thomas reported she has recently completed Level I, AADP and reviewed the topics presented in the program with the Board. Clark Hutson, Program Specialist, Area I discussed the program and thanked the Board for allowing Thomas to attend and also to participate in the AADP development committee. Winbigler motioned to allow Bonnie Thomas to attend Level II AADP training and the district will pay the \$550.00 fee. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Clark Hutson reported Conservation Planning training in May. He hasn't heard anything on budget yet. Committed with Gary Mast in place, will put the spot light on Ohio. Will be meeting with Kevin O'Connor next week and one of the agenda items is district cell phone policy. April 24th, SWIMS training with office staff.

Urban Report—Tim Brandt reported on the workshop he presented to the Board of Realtors. Reviewed with the Board the folder he used and other information he presented. Workshop was well received with approximately 50 in attendance. Brandt gave a report on Stormwater. 2006 ended well, 2007 starting slow but is picking up. Pre-inspections have started. Software still not up and running, multiple deadlines have not been met. Prosecuting Attorney's office will take over if not completed by April 30th. Working with Bob Castor on Stormwater Regulations.

Hildreth reported Tony is responsible for Phase II reporting and he went before the County Commissioners and gave a report for 2006. Over-all he did well. Hildreth discussed with the Board the Stormwater program and how the County Commissioners have changed the role of the County Engineer.

Public Event Coordinator- Winger motioned to adopt the Public Event Coordinator job description. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Lap Top Ashley- Hildreth recommended Ashley have the ability to use the districts lap top & cell phone at home to do district work. Time will be tracked in SWIMS. Winger motioned to allow Ashley usage of lap top & cell phone at home to do district work and for the district to purchase her district clothing items according to district policy. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Conservationist of the Year- Winger motioned to nominate Niese Farms as Conservationist of the Year. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

District Education Scholarship- Winger motioned to create a \$500 Education Scholarship and to follow the parameters used by Putman SWCD. The district's education committee will judge the applications and select the recipient. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Thomas gave a verbal report on the Backyard Conservation Program/contest that is still in the process of being created. April 3rd, Holly Fackler from the News Journal came in during staff meeting and discussed the possibility of partnering with them.

Studer/Sick Leave- Hildreth requested he would like to transfer 50 hours of his sick leave to Tony Studer. Winbigler moved to allow Hildreth to transfer 50 hours if his sick leave to Tony Studer. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Reports-

Gary- 60 + EQIP applications, 29 pre-approved, not enough funding for the program. 4 Forestry projects and 1 ½ slug applications approved. Announced he will be retiring February 1st 2008. Meeting with Jefferson Township trustees to look at firehouse and Stormwater retention.

John- During one of the break out sessions at the January Annual Meeting in Columbus he learned of a new division, Fish & Wildlife Fund. Hildreth has arranged a meeting with a landowner and a guy from the Fish & Wildlife fund to check out an issue with erosion and to see if landowner qualifies for assistance.

Winbigler - Cut down locust trees with ½ inch growth rings.

Kelley- Tomorrow program in Shiloh, will be taking a 2 week break for tree programs.

Schumacher- Front bearing is out on the older tree planter. Has located an old motorcycle trailer for the nut planter.

Business Development- Hildreth discussed a COG would need to be developed and should include 1-2 district board members, a CPA, and community leaders. Hildreth stated he was hoping to get Joe Mudra to speak at tonight's meeting about the concept of a COG. Hildreth recommended the board decide what they want to do to generate revenue. The possibilities discussed were composting, wood pellets and wind turbines. Hildreth also mentioned taking care of log jams. Schumacher commented he has an unlimited supply of cardboard. Schumacher will bring in a CD that shows Windmills so the board can get a better idea of what is involved. The board would like more information before scheduling tours.

Winger- He and Diane attended the Ohio barn Conference tour. There is a great interest in preserving barns.

Winbigler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 p.m. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded Minutes