

The Richland Soil & Water Conservation District held their **Regular June Board Meeting** on the 14th, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. located at 1495 West Longview Ave. Mansfield, Ohio.

Cook called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. with the following in attendance, Bob Winbigler, Wayne Weirick, John Hildreth, Bonnie Thomas, and Gary Mathes.

Secretary Report –Weirick motioned to accept April’s minutes as typed. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Financials-

Winbigler motioned to approve May’s District Fund of 4 transactions totaling \$6,845.93 (check # 4174- 4177), May’s Special Fund of 22 transactions totaling \$14,592.69, June’s District fund of 11 transactions totaling \$6,822.28 (check # 4178-4188), June’s Special Fund of 18 transactions totaling \$12,393.43 and to accept CPA’s April & May report as printed. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye. Motion passed 3-0.

Winger arrived at 7:06

Old Business

Handbook Recommendations– Winbigler motioned to approve the recommendations made by the handbook/policy review committee and to make adjustments and submit to John Burton for his review and bring back to the board. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye. Motion passed 4-0.

New Business

Annual Meeting Banquet Ticket Price- Weirick motioned to set the ticket price for the 2007 Annual Meeting & Banquet at \$12.00 per ticket. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Schumacher arrived at 7:20 and took over as Chairman

Nomination Report- Cook reported he is waiting to hear back from several individuals he approached on running for supervisor in the upcoming election. Cook said he will follow up and call Bonnie on Monday.

Division/OFSWCD Contest Allocate Funds-Hildreth reviewed the with the board the Division of Soil & Water Conservation and the OFSWCD have developed a project that will showcase the artistic talents of soil and water conservation districts, and help market our programs. The plan is to solicit a work of art from each SWCD that illustrates unique or important natural, environmental, agricultural or historic features of the county, watershed or other area. Canvas and acrylic paints will be provided. Hildreth recommended contacting the local art center to locate a student artist to paint the picture for the district and consider allocating funds for a better quality canvas and paints and scholarship. Winbigler motioned to allocate \$500 to purchase canvas and paint if needed and to provide a scholarship for the student artist. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Contribution Agreement- Cook motioned to approve the agreement between OFSWCD and USDA/NRCS for technical assistance. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Authorized Payroll & Bookkeeping Signatures- Winbigler motioned to authorize John Hildreth and Bonnie Thomas as authorized payroll functions signatures, John Hildreth as authorized warrant and requisition signature, and Bonnie Thomas as contact person to finance department. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Archived Pictures- Hildreth reported NRCS has consented the use & management of pictures & slides to the District of area farms and people. Due to the volume of space required to store them Hildreth suggested the district create a separate website to house the pictures. Winbigler motioned to allow the transfer of images to electronic format and the district's IT person get started on website and to allocate \$2,500 for start up cost for this project. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Blimp- Cook motioned to order a 17 ft blimp to use at district events to promote districts name, and not to exceed \$1,500. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Form 11- The form 11 was signed by fiscal agent and submitted to Columbus in the amount of \$225,000.

Promo Items- Cook motioned to purchase the pads/pens and bracelet promo items presented by Thomas to use at county fair and district events not to exceed \$1,780. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Tree Planter Repair- Cook motioned to allow Weirick to sign a check for the purchase of a coultter for the tree planter not to exceed \$150.00. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Hildreth reported he will be contacting Ashley.

Policies for Approval

1.06 District Vehicle Use-Winger motioned to approve revisions to policy 1.06 District Vehicle Policy. Cook seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Agreements-

Bierly Cost Share- Winbigler motioned to approve Cost Share Agreement for Bill Bierly in the amount of \$257.81. Winger seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

EQIP Contracts- Winger motioned to approve 31 conservation plans, names are attached. Weirick seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Reports-

Tree Program- Thomas reviewed handout on 2007 tree seedling sales.

Summer Supervisor School- Weirick and Winger will be attending

Rain Gauge program- Hildreth reported this is a unique program utilizing the district web Site. Volunteers will keep records of rainfall and input into website so public can see rainfall amounts throughout Richland County.

Backyard Conservation- Thomas reported the Mansfield News Journal is partnering with the district and will be highlighting conservation practices submitted to the district. Anyone interested can contact district office and request a packet which includes 10 tip sheets, DVD, and colorful booklet that outlines the 10 conservation practices.

U.S. Wildlife Visit- Hildreth and Weirick arranged a meeting with US Fish & Wildlife to assess Ron Sautter's property along St Rt 97 & Ogle Street, Village Administrator and two councilman also attended. Will identify options to address the eroding ox-bow on the Sautter property.

Business Development- Schumacher is interested in having wood products ground for mulch. Thinking long term this could generate income for the district, save the landfill and help the county's conservation effort.

Hildreth recommended the board schedule a tour and speak to owner of Price Farms Organics. Hildreth is willing to assist the board in this journey but needs the board's direction. Board requested Hildreth schedule tour the week of September 10th.

Winger motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. Winbigler seconded the motion. Winbigler aye; Weirick aye; Cook aye; Winger aye; Schumacher aye. Motion passed 5-0.

Chairman

Secretary

Recorded Minutes