

MINUTES

Howard County SWCD Supervisor's Meeting Tuesday, September 20, 2011 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Jim Stites, Secretary. Those present were Sarah Brichford, Myron Maish, Paul Marcellino, Calvin Hartman, Glenn Stephens, Kerry Smith, and Rene' Weaver. Michelle Gilbert and Shane Campbell arrived later.

Glenn made a motion to approve the August minutes as written. Myron seconded, motion carried and supervisor's signed the minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

The next meeting date was discussed. It was decided that Tuesday, October 4 would be a better date. Myron and Glenn will be out of town on the 18th and we could be into harvest. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 4 at 9:00 a.m.

AGENCY BUSINESS:

Paul reported that they have been working on year-end reporting. They are gearing up for the school programs. He had a venison workshop that was very successful. Paul worked with Sarah Brichford on a program for Central Middle School which was very well received. They also assisted with the canoe trip.

Lisa reported for FSA that they are also working on year-end reporting. There were 51 re-enrolls and most of them are completed. They are working on farm records and re-cons for the 2012 fiscal year. Final 2011 payments are scheduled October 7. CRP payments will be made first followed by DCP and ACRE. There are also special ACRE payments for wheat, barley, and oats.

Sarah Brichford reported for the county stormwater. She mentioned the Central Middle School program and the canoe trip. The canoe trip seems to conflict with the budget hearings so we may want to re-consider the days if we would like to have council members or commissioners attend this event. The Darrough Chapel sewer project looks as if it will proceed. Next step is to apply for the grant through the state.

The United Way Day of Caring was held last Saturday. It was very successful. There was a tire removal. Firestone/Bridgestone will pick up the tires for free.

Kerry reported for NRCS. We have received a couple of EQIP sign-ups for 2012. Calvin and Bill have assisted with the re-enrolls. Jane had some topics she wanted Kerry to pass along. NRCS is working with EPA advising on farm industry. As a result there were fewer regulations in 2009/2010 than in 2007/2008 for the farming industry. He also discussed some of the rumors that have been buzzing around concerning dairy milk spills and farm dust. These rumors are not true.

Calvin reported that the district helped out with the canoe trip for two days. He has laid out a couple of waterways and 3 structures. He has also been working on three or four stream crossing that have to do

with the US 31 project. He has been working with the surveyor's office along with the landowners for the crossings. There are several surveys coming up once harvest begins. We have received the equipment for the 4 wheeler. Calvin will be using it this fall. He asked if he could take the district truck home when he knew he would be using the 4-wheeler the next day to survey. This was approved by the supervisors.

Stalk testing for the CWI grant may take place yet this week. Calvin and Paul will schedule days to do this.

ACTIVITY REPORTS:

Kerry had no additional comments to add.

Rene' reported that the application for a 2012 CWI grant was send in last Thursday. If selected it will be for cover crop analysis throughout the Wildcat Creek Watershed.

Michelle reported that she has completed one nutrient management plan and is working on another one. The water blitz was held last Friday. She and Calvin work on this. She is working on a WHIP poster that will be at the tour on Wednesday.

Calvin reported that the RC&D is hosting a Master Naturalist Program. They have received additional grant funds and are currently reviewing applications for the position.

Rene' reported that the trees and plants are ordered. The letter was mailed on Monday to the Parks Department requesting the use of the facilities at Jackson Morrow Park.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Rene' presented the claims for payment. Shane moved to approve all claims as presented. Jim seconded, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The contract with Adam Hartman to maintain the district website will expire in October. Rene' presented a new contract. Shane moved to continue to use Adam as our web administrator. Glenn seconded, motion carried.

Tour at Shane's is tomorrow evening. Everyone should plan to be at Shane's by 4:00 so we can get set up. Stations are 25 minutes and we will need you to take a group and make sure they get to all of the stations.

Calvin mentioned upgrading his personal phone to allow him to tether when he uses the GPS survey equipment from the surveyor. He will explore the options and report back to the board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Minutes were recorded and written by Rene' Weaver _____.

WE AGREE THAT THE ABOVE MINUTES ARE CORRECT.

DATE: _____