

ALLEN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

202 W. MILLER RD., IOLA, KANSAS

- January 8, 2008 -

Note: There was no meeting in December due to weather cancelling the scheduled meeting.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Craig Mentzer, at 7:30 PM, and was held in the USDA Service Center Building, Iola, Kansas, 66749.

ALSO PRESENT:

Donna Beebe, Member
Ryan Garrett, Treasurer
Kelli Kramer, District Manager
Matt Powe, District Conservationist, NRCS
Ann Houk, Temp. District Manager
Richard Houk, Guest

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: A Motion was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan to accept the minutes of November 6, 2007 as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Expenses for Operations Account \$1865, Enterprise Account \$9822.15, Petty Cash \$10.00, and Buffer Account \$0.00. The motion to do this was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan.

COMMUNICATIONS –

1. 12/17/07 – NACD news and views from National Association of Conservation Districts
2. 12/15/07 – Forestry Notes from National Association of Conservation Districts.
3. 12/25/07 – The results of the designated use attainability analyses done by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment are posted on www.kdheks.gov/befs. The Neosho River was included in the study.
4. 11/29/07 – The 16th Annual National No-Tillage Conference will be Jan 9-12 in Cincinnati, OH if interested.
5. 01/07/08 – CWN Grants are now available from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the State Conservation Commission. They are for Information and Educational programs, up to \$2500 is available.
6. 01/07/08 – Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom Newsletter
7. 12/06/07 – Feyh Farm Seed are interested in sponsoring an award at the annual meeting. They can give a sign or other type of award if we need another one.
8. 11/19/07 – All NRCS partners and contractors need to complete Computer Security Awareness Training FY 2008 and Privacy Basics FY08, which are available online.
9. 12/7/07 – According to Dee Turner from the State Conservation Commission, the reimbursement rate for mileage has been increased to 50.5 cents per mile as of January 1, 2008.
10. 12/8/07 - The president of the National Association of Conservation Districts, Olin Sims, was killed in a ranching accident.
11. 12/12/07 – Dee Turner from the SCC has sent a list of 2008 Important Dates.
12. 12/17/07 – NRCS sent out information regarding the Conservation Innovative Grants Sign Up. \$20 million in funds has been made available to apply for.
13. 12/19/07 – There are different exhibits that can be put up at an annual meeting available from NRCS
14. 12/19/07 – Kansas Foundation for Ag in the Classroom has two trainings coming up regarding making presentations in the classroom.
15. 12/19/07 – Robert Reschke, the coordinator for the Buffer Program is informing districts that that the cooperative agreement ended on December 31, 2007 regarding the district using government vehicles, etc, unless a continuing resolution or the Farm Bill has been passed.

16. 12/20/07 – From Dee Turner, changes have been made to the State Conservation Commission website regarding the logging on and off of the restricted web pages.
17. 01/01/08 – Pat Lehman announcing that 2008 membership dues are due, and an explanation of how the dues are figured.
18. 01/07/08 – There will be a Wind Energy Seminar on January 15 in Medicine Lodge, KS.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE REPORT: Matt Powe's NRCS report is attached.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT REPORT:

1. I will have Ann talk about what she has done while I have been on maternity leave.
2. I need to ask for some days off without pay this month. My brother is getting married this upcoming weekend, and I will need to have Thursday (01/10) and Friday (01/11) off. Also, after the death of my grandfather in November, the family is potentially going to settle the estate on Monday (01/14) or Tuesday (01/15) while everyone is home, so I may need to be there for that also. The end of this month is the Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers convention in Wichita, for which I am one of the county representatives. It begins on Friday 1/25, so can I also take this day off without pay? - The motion to do this was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan.
3. I will be in Topeka on Wednesday, Jan 23 for the legislative fair. I will be helping to work the booth.

NPS REPORT: There is one new contract, which leaves \$560 left in the fund.

WATER RESOURCES REPORT: We had four more contracts completed before the weather turned bad. We have also had one contract cancellation, so there is around \$700 available now.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION PLANS: 10 Conservation plans signed

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The Christmas dinner has been rescheduled for the first week of February. We will have short business meeting then the Annual meeting will be February 23, 2008. The motion to do this was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan.
2. The scheduling for the running of the grass drill will be done by the district from now on. This way operators will not have to keep calling Jeff Sellman over and over again. The motion to do this was made by Donna and seconded by Ryan.
3. The annual meeting was discussed and it was decided to add 2 \$25 checks to the door prizes instead of purchasing gift certificates.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be the first week of February at the 812 Bistro in Humboldt at 7:00 pm. The annual meeting will take place on February 23, 2008 at Iola High School at 6:00 pm.

MINUTES APPROVED _____ Date _____ CHAIRMAN

_____ DISTRICT MANAGER