

# CLARE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Clare County Courthouse Meeting Room B

Board Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2009

**CD Directors Present:** Larry Gross, Roberta Schunk, Kurt Krug, Sandy Duggan

**CD Directors Absent:** Scott Taylor

**Others Present:** Kristina Sigafoose, George Randall

**Board Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Chairman Larry Gross.**

## **Additions/Deletions to Agenda:**

**Motion** made by SCHUNK to approve agenda.

**Seconded** by DUGGAN

**YEAS:** Gross, Schunk, Krug, Duggan

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Taylor

**- Agenda Approved.**

## **Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion** made by DUGGAN to approve June 10, 2009 Meeting Minutes.

**Seconded** by KRUG

**YEAS:** Gross, Schunk, Krug, Duggan

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Taylor

**- June Meeting Minutes Approved.**

## **Approval of Financial Statements:**

**Motion** made by DUGGAN to approve Financial Information for May & June.

\*We did not receive May's bank statements prior to May's meeting\*

**Seconded** by SCHUNK.

**YEAS:** Gross, Schunk, Krug, Duggan

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Taylor

**- May & June Financial Reports and paid bills Approved.**

## **TECHNICIAN AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**NRCS, Jim Iaquina:** Not present, no report.

**Groundwater Stewardship Program Technician, Kurt Krug:** Verbal Report – update. Discussed the Year to Date Deliverables of the MGSP Program. Clare has completed the necessary percentage for funding.

**Soil Erosion, Stephen Conroy:** Not required permits are holding steady. We are down about 35% for the YTD on required permits, however on the month comparison; we are up 200% for the month of June.

**Forester, Gary Bucklin:** Not present, no report.

**Administrator, Kristina Sigafoose:** Completed rain barrel and native plant sales. The summer youth employment is off to a good start. Already completing lots of projects including, rain garden at Clare County Courthouse, partnered with other organizations, one grant preproposal completed. Working on another grant and planning fall bulb/tree sale.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- \* **Rain Barrel Workshop** – Provided final account of Rain Barrel workshop and that we sold all barrels.
- \* **Native Plant Sales** – Provided final account and we ended up with a \$41.00 profit, not much but we gained some additional exposure.
- \* **MEC Crews/Summer Employment** - We received two workers and they have already started completed a list of projects.
- \* **Grant Application** – Kristina provided a copy of the preproposal that was sent to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation regarding the Green Pine Pathway project geared toward native plants and invasive species.
- \* **Rain Garden at Courthouse** – The rain garden has been planted, now we hope for rain. The trustees from the jail are assisting with watering every night so hopefully, it will continue to blossom.
- \* **CPA Review** – Kristina provided a copy of the letter that was received from Jim Van Arkel. Basically it states that we need to complete an amended appropriations act every year and that we need to maintain liability insurance.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- \* **Muskegon River Grant** – Kristina suggested applying for this grant. She will be contacting Phil Duggan to use his expertise on the river and what projects are necessary.
- \* **Conservation Fact Sheet** – Nice form provided by Lori Phalen was distributed to all board members to use when contacting legislative bodies. Great facts and information that shows how important districts are.
- \* **Legislative Budget Updates** – The word is still that the Senate is trying to cut Conservation Districts all together. Not much word on where the Governor stands. Our hope is with the House they are proposing to keep districts as a line item but cut our funding about 50%.
- \* **County Budget Updates** – Again everyone is making cuts. We are still locked in with a contract for the soil erosion department for one more year. Kristina is going to provide some information to Bill Newkirk in hopes of keeping our allocation from the county as well.
- \* **Budget Worksheets** – Projections are a little grim. Kristina provided suggestions on saving money now to ensure more funds are in the bank for next year. One suggestion was to reduce office hours for the remainder of this fiscal year.

**Motion** made by DUGGAN that the Administrator will maintain a work week between 24 and 30 hours per week and will adjust as necessary until August 30, 2009.

**Seconded** by SCHUNK

**YEAS:** Gross, Schunk, Krug, Duggan

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** Taylor

**- Motion made to change the Administrator's hours approved.**

- \* **Advertisement Letters** – Copies of letters and new ad sizes were provided to all members. Getting a decent response. Deadline for fall newsletter is July 31, 2009.
- \* **Fall Bulb Sale** – Kristina has been discussing fall sales with other districts and board members and everyone seems to agree that it cannot hurt to try so we are going to have the fall bulb sale and include conifers.

**EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Motion to adjourn:**

**Motion** made by DUGGAN

**YEAS:** Gross, Schunk, Krug, Duggan

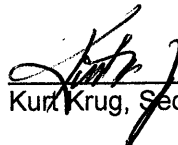
**Motion Seconded** by KRUG.

**NAYS:** None. **ABSENT:** Taylor

**- Motion to adjourn Approved.**

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m. Next regular meeting will be held on August 19, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

Date: 8-19-09

  
Kurt Krug, Secretary