

CLARE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Clare County Courthouse Meeting Room B

Board Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2009

CD Directors Present: Larry Gross, Roberta Schunk, Kurt Krug, Scott Taylor, Sandy Duggan (late)

CD Directors Absent: N/A

Others Present: Kristina Sigafoose, Scott Zeeb

Board Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Chairman Larry Gross.

Additions/Deletions to Agenda: There were three items deleted from the agenda because the publication did not go in the paper in time.

1. Amended Appropriations Act
2. 2010 Budget
3. 2010 Appropriations Act

Motion made by KRUG to approve the amended agenda.

Seconded by SCHUNK

YEAS: Gross, Schunk, Krug, Taylor

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Duggan at this time.
- Amended Agenda Approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by DUGGAN to approve August 19, 2009 Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by KRUG

YEAS: Gross, Schunk, Krug, Taylor, Duggan

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

- August Meeting Minutes Approved.

Approval of Financial Statements:

Motion made by DUGGAN to approve Financial Information.

Seconded by TAYLOR.

YEAS: Gross, Schunk, Krug, Taylor, Duggan

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

- August Financial Reports and paid bills Approved.

TECHNICIAN AND DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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. Kurt's last day is 9/30/09. He will make sure his desk is in order and give the proper records to the landowners and dispose of anything not needed or required to keep.

NRCS, Jim Iaquina: Not present. Please see report. – EQIP processed payments, met with Cornwell Ranch. WHIP – One new application, and processed payments. CREP – completed eligibility checks.

Soil Erosion, Stephen Conroy: Not required permits are holding increase over last year. August was up for required permits but overall down about 30% for the YTD. Price increases go into effect on 10/1/09.

Forester, Gary Bucklin: Not present, short report. He has met with three property owners recently. One for QFA, one for EQIP/WHIP and the last person regarding planting in the spring.

Administrator, Kristina Sigafoose: Discussed all of the budget information that has been coming into the office. Updated the board about the ANR tour with MSU Extension, upcoming fall sale and end of the year stuff.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott Zeeb was present and he discussed that the MDA Budget passed. There are no details at this time but we are looking at a maximum of \$4,000 or less. CREP has ended. There is not any money left. MGSP is still active but as we all know it has been moved to Isabella County. Everyone has great hopes for GLRI funding to funnel down and hopefully provide some funding for technical staff for all districts. It is going to be a group effort though because they want to limit the number of responses they get and they do not want a bunch of little mini-grants. The RFP has not yet been released.

OLD BUSINESS

- * **Youth Summer Employment** – Still going well, program has again been extended. We have replaced one youth that did not work out on a short term basis with Jason High. Jason will be leaving soon for culinary school but will work through the fall sale.

- * **Muskegon Rive Grants** – Discussed the presentation that was given to the Foundation. Discussed that if we do not get the grants we have some ideas on how to improve to request next year.
- * **County Budget Updates - Have** not received any further information about what funding we will receive. We will receive our contract amount for soil erosion. Bill Newkirk recommended that we receive our \$3000 allocation.
- * **Fall Bulb Sale** – Orders are placed and the bulbs will be delivered a week in advance to separate and the seedlings/transplants will be delivered on 9/30/09. Kristina is optimistic that we should profit about \$1,200. Will have to wait until after completed. Nick and Jason are going to help with the sale. It is very organized already so it should go smoothly.
- * **Booth at the Clare County Fair** - Kristina thanked all of the volunteers and everyone discussed that overall it did help the District with exposure and by partnering with the other 2 departments, it kept costs down.
- * **Fall Newsletter** – The time is upon us and Kristina requested articles from board members. She would like to get this completed before the summer program ends so that she will have assistance with getting the newsletter out.
- * **Budget Worksheets** – Handed out updated worksheets that have the changes from the previous meeting that needed to be made to balance. Of course, again the budgets are making assumptions on the funding we will be receiving. We will need to vote on the budget at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- * **Region 6 Meeting** – Kristina and Larry discussed how the meeting went. Our District sponsored it this time at the Surrey House. Lori was unable to attend but die provide a written update. Basically budget is the main concern and there is nothing decided yet.
- * **2010 Annual Plan of Work** – Rough draft given to the board members to review and we will vote on at next meeting.
- * **Succession Planning Workshop** - Packets were given to the board members as a follow up to the webinar that Kristina and Kurt tried to participate in. There were some technical difficulties. Good information in the handouts though.
- * **Upcoming Elections** - Brief discussion on what terms were up and some thoughts on who would be rerunning and who we may be able to recruit. Discussion turned to time of meetings and day of the week and that seems to be part of the problem with attendance.

Motion made by KRUG to change the meetings for November and December to the 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Seconded by DUGGAN

YEAS: Gross, Schunk, Krug, Taylor Duggan

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

- **Motion passed to change meeting dates and times.**

EXTENDED PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion to adjourn:

Motion made by KRUG

YEAS: Gross, Schunk, Krug, Taylor, Duggan

Motion Seconded by DUGGAN

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

- **Motion to adjourn Approved.**

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 7:56 p.m. Next regular meeting will be held on October 14, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

Date: _____

Kurt Krug, Secretary