

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
LICKING COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
May 12th, 2008**

The Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District, Board of Supervisors met Monday, May 12th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Agriculture Service Center, Newark, Ohio. Those present were:

<u>Supervisors</u>	<u>District Staff</u>	<u>NRCS Staff</u>
Jeff Carr – C	Jim Kiracofe	John Johnson
Charles Warthen-F	Brandy Bline	
Jim Hoover- M	Pat Deering	
Jim Conrad – Sec/Treas		
Debra Walton - VC		

Guests: Michael Pitcher

Chairman Carr called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

DPA Kiracofe introduced the Board to Michael Pitcher. Mr. Pitcher has submitted an application for an Associate Board member position which was included in the board packets. He is a business consultant and farmer. His farm is currently enrolled in the EQIP program.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A motion to accept Items A-E on the agenda was made by Conrad and seconded by Warthen. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. Old Business:**

None

**IV. New Business:**

DPA Kiracofe reviewed the District's Associate Board Member policy with Mr. Pitcher and the Board. Chairman Carr then appointed Mr. Pitcher to a one year Associate Board Member position. The Board welcomed Mr. Pitcher, noting he is the District's first Associate Board member.

**V. Committee Reports:**

**A. Building/Equipment Committee** – Committee Chair Conrad advised the Board that the District plans to sign a 60 month lease for the Xerox copier they have been testing. This lease is according to the terms approved at the April 2008 Board meeting. A motion to remove the old Ricoh copier from the inventory list through the county's e-auction or other appropriate means was made by Conrad and seconded by Warthen. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. Budget Committee** – Committee Chair Warthen advised that he had nothing new to report.

**C. Program Committee** – Committee Chair Walton reported the committee met to discuss a proposal to support the urban research being conducted by the North Appalachian Hydrological Experiment Station. The committee also discussed the opportunity to facilitate an off-site demonstration research project. The committee discussed the merits of a summer internship to help with various educational projects. The committee reached consensus to advertise for a volunteer internship. The committee also discussed an inquiry from Luca Devault for a part time volunteer internship for an office

technology position. The committee noted there would be very limited opportunities to utilize a position of this nature. By consensus the committee decided to not recommend offering an office technology internship position at this time.

A motion to recommend support for the station and a demonstration research project was made by Hoover and seconded by Warthen. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to pursue an intern as a summer volunteer was made by Warthen and seconded by Conrad. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Policy/Personnel Committee** – Committee Chair Carr advised the committee met earlier to discuss DPA Kiracofe’s revised job description. The committee is recommending approval. A motion to adopt the revised job description was made by Hoover and seconded by Warthen. The motion passed unanimously.

**E. Nominating Committee** – Committee Chair Hoover advised that Board member Conrad has stated he would be running again in November for a position on the Board. Board Chairman Carr hasn’t made a decision at this time.

**F. NRCS Report** - DC Johnson reported NRCS is still without a budget. If the budget situation is not resolved soon, the president may recommend that Congress extend the 2002 Farm Bill for an additional year.

There are no new details of a summer EQIP signup. There is no budget to fund new CRP contracts. Field office staff is currently providing assistance to participants with scheduled practices for the 08 fiscal year. They are anticipating that 70% of conservation practices scheduled for the fiscal year will be completed by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

There are several pasture walks scheduled for this summer, with the first one in mid June.

**G. District Reports** – AA Bline gave the tree sale report to the Board. Sales were up this year from last.

DPA Kiracofe advised the Board that he has been in contact with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) regarding the Newark Processing site on E. Main Street. The ACE is currently armoring the north bank of the Licking River to prevent further erosion. This fall vegetation will be planted as part of the project. ACE would like the District to partner with them on the vegetation portion of the project.

The Buckeye Lake Civic Association was not awarded the \$60,000 YSI grant our District helped write. DPA Kiracofe noted the information gathered to write the YSI grant will be very useful when preparing ODNR’s Watershed Coordinator grant application.

**H. Board Members Report** – Board member Warthen reported that he recently attended the State Science Fair at The Ohio State University. He was one of five volunteers responsible for judging the Soil & Water category. He reported that he viewed a lot of great projects and had a nice time.

Board member Walton stated that she has some students studying agriculture in developing economies for the World Food Prize event through the OSU Ag department. They are responsible for writing a paper on what they have learned over the summer.

Board member Hoover reported that he took part in the first conference call for the operations committee for the Federation. Some of the things discussed were the mentoring program and revising the job descriptions for Directors.

Board Chairman Carr had questions regarding the practice of no-till. He also updated the Board of the parking lot status. The plans are done and the Commissioners are on board. Plant choices for the rain garden have been left for the District staff to make.

There was a short discussion as to the value of tech reports, site visit reports and other accounting of staff time for Board consideration,

At 8:10 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by Conrad and seconded by Warthen. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Brandy Bline- Administrative Assistant

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Jeff Carr - Chairman

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Jim Conrad, Secretary/Treasurer