

**IL Chapter Soil and Water Conservation Society
Board Meeting Minutes
May 31, 2006**

Call to Order: Harry Hendrickson called the meeting to order at 10:18 A.M. at the Hartzhold cabin near Danvers. Those attending: Dave Rahe, Shannon Allen, Jim McQuilkin, Rich Stewart, Mark Kaiser, Kent Bohnhoff, Steve Hollister, Alan Gulso, Jim Rospono and Sharon Hartzhold.

Minutes: March 7, 2006 board meeting, Moved by Alan Gulso, seconded by Jim McQuilkin. Motion approved to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: submitted by Mark Kaiser. Motion to approve by Kent Bohnhoff seconded by Steve Hollister. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Education Soil Game Committee: Nobody from the committee was present so Harry Hendrickson provided an update. They are doing a test run to the Ag-Literacy coordinators. Cost for a soft case is \$1.00/CD for 1500, then for 2500 it would cost \$2,300.00, and for 3000 it would cost \$2,700.00. They are still trying to find a URL to host the program. Rick Macho is conducting teachers workshop at Eastern IL University will ask the teacher there what they think of the product if available. The committee and the board received a thank you letter from Mike Rahe at the Illinois Department of Agriculture thanking us for our donation, the computer game will be active at Watershed Park during the State Fair.

WNC Leadership Meeting Report: The meeting was held in Platteville, WI, Rich reported. They talked about the X and Y generation and how to get them to join SWCS. They are looking for something tangible (what is in it for me concept) what are they getting for their money or dues. They are more time orientated would rather tele-conference. Harry thought it was a good location to have the meeting. Discussion followed about the Mo. proposal of cluster membership or a reduced rate if you do not get the Journal. They believe membership of \$80.00 is too expensive. Maybe reduce it for new members and retirees. SWCS needs to do a better job story telling for its membership and tell more success stories from current members. There is a need to stress networking at state, national and regional conferences.

Nominating Committee: Steve and Bob are working on this.

Newsletter/ Website: Jim R. reported that the web page needs updating. Would be interested in having our student chapters assist in updating the web page. We could cut back on the amount of host site space we are paying for saving us some money per year. The National SWCS site could host it but it would be more expensive than what we are currently paying. Jim will look into a national site host and software cost to update the web page. Jim is looking for articles for the next newsletter-- tentative deadline is June 15th for the July newsletter.

Jim made the motion to pay up to \$100.00 for the lower amount of 50 Meg on the Web site. Second by Mark, motion passed all ayes.

Awards Committee: Martha Sheppard has agreed to be awards chairperson. Several names and organizations were discussed for 2007 awards.

CPESC Committee: Shannon updated the board as to the plans of hosting another training session in Illinois. Shannon stated that Rick Macho was elected as the Midwest Representative on the Council and Shannon has agreed to be the State of Illinois Representative.

Membership Committee: Sharon H. noted we currently have 175 members in Illinois.

IL SWCS Chapter Shirts and Caps: Kim St. John orders them as needed. The board thought that these order forms need to be on the web page and in the newsletter also.

New Business:

There was discussion on starting a revolving fall educational tour. Martha Sheppard has agreed to look into possibly putting on a fall Agro-tourism tour in Western Illinois. It would be set up through the RC&D. Everyone agreed it would be a good idea.

AISWCD Annual Meeting; there is a \$75.00 fee for booth rental.

Jim M made the motion to pay the rental fee and set up the display, second by Kent B. motion passed all ayes.

FFA \$100 Bond Award: Alan Gulso will present the winner with the award.

Combined natural resources professional meeting: Fisheries Society, Wildlife Society and Forestry Society are all interested in a combined meeting in the spring of 2008. Kent B. will head a committee to see this through.

Fast-track policy development process: Harry presented to the board that he believes that conservation will be a big issue in the next election. Do we want a white paper on the issue? Look into CEAP and see what they did.

Student Chapter Reports: Nothing to report

Section Activities Report:

Section 1- No Report

Section 2- No Report

Section 3- No Report

Section 4- No replacement for Kent B. yet.

Section 5- No Report

Section 6- No Report

Section 7- No Report

Upcoming Meetings:

Dates: July 23-26, National SWCD conference in Keystone, Colorado

September 19, 2006, quarterly board meeting E. Peoria or Teleconference

December 12, 2006, quarterly board meeting Bloomington, F.O.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Steve H. Second by Jim M. Motion passed at 12:10 pm. Thanks were expressed to Sharon for wonderful weather, an excellent bbq lunch, and excellent outdoor meeting arrangements.

Minutes recorded by,

Shannon Allen, Secretary