Conservation Comments

Kankakee County Soil and Water Conservation District

VOLUME 32, ISSUE I

FEBRUARY 2017

KCSWCD Holds Sixty-ninth Annual Meeting

IMPORTANT DATES!

Spring Fish Sale Orders due March 24th

Spring Tree Sale orders due April 7th

See last page for more details!

Chairman Jeff O'Connor opened the business portion of the Annual Meeting at 6:00 p.m. Board members and staff present: Directors Jeff O'Connor and Larry Kirchner, Associate Director John Settle, Resource Conservationist Kymber Nakaerts and Administrative Coordinator Linda Settle.

The agenda was presented; a

motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Larry Kirchner and seconded by John Settle.

Larry Kirchner reported the minutes of the 68th Annual Meeting were provided for everyone and are being published in the Annual Report. A motion was made by Larry Kirchner to approve the minutes as printed; it was seconded by John Settle. Motion passed.

John Settle reported the financial statement was provided for everyone and is being published in the Annual Report. A motion was made by John Settle to approve the report as printed; it was seconded by Larry Kirchner. Motion passed.

Jeff O'Connor reported for the nominating committee and presented the names of Larry Kirchner of Salina Township, Alan Wissmiller of Limestone Township, and David Peters of Manteno Township in nomination of 2-year terms each. He then asked for nominations from the floor and when none were received he moved to accept the nominated candidates as duly elected. It was seconded by Linda Settle. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Jeff O'Connor and seconded by John Settle to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Kids Day at the Farm

Kid's Day at the Farm is an educational, fun fieldtrip to the County fairgrounds where 4th grade students learn the importance of farming and increase their understanding of the origins of their food, clothing, and other farm-based products. This year, around 1000 students from area schools attended the event. Classes cycled through stations with various topics relating to agriculture, conservation, and the envi-

ronment. The Soil and Water Conservation District manned two stations, soil conservation and water conservation, to teach children the importance of conserving our natural resources. This two day event was possible with the help of many volunteers, including local FFA students. Kid's Day at the Farm continues to be a fantastic way to in-

volve and educate students about agriculture.

Kid's Day at the Farm 2017

March 15th & 16

2016 Section 10 Land Use Judging

Contest

The 2016 Section 10 Land Use Judging Contest was held on the Salzman Farm west of Chebanse. Six FFA chapters (Peotone, Tri-Point, Herscher, Iroquois West, Central, and Cissna Park) competed. Students determined best management practices and limitations on four soils pits based on color, structure, texture, drainage, percent organic matter and slope. Teams consisted of five students with the high three students scor-

ing the team points.

Herscher FFA won the 2016
Land Use Judging competition with
962 points. Cissna Park finished second with 939 points
and Central FFA was third with
935 points. Top individual
scores were: 5th— Marcus
Schmid (Cissna Park) 325
points, 3rd (tie)- Austin Yest
(Herscher) and Brian Spooner
(Central) 328 points, 2nd—
Christian Stadeli (Cissna Park)

343 points, and the top individual score went to Cale Rollins of Central FFA with 349 points.



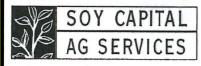
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Envirothon 2016

Envirothon is much more than a competition. It is a fun, outdoor, team-based program designed to help students better understand their environment through exploration of ecology, natural resource management, and current environmental issues.

The Envirothon program combines class-room learning with hands-on field experiences focused on five major topics-Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife and Current Environmental Issues. The five member teams rotate through five testing stations, where their knowledge is evaluated and scored through written examination.

The 2016 Land Use Council 3 Envirothon was once again held at Seneca High School in Grundy County. Land Use Council 3 includes Grundy, Iroquois, Kankakee, Kendall, LaSalle, and Livingston counties. Fourteen teams from 9 schools competed for a trip to the state competition in Monticello. This year's winner was Morris High School in Grundy County.

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Financial Report - July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016

Income

State of Illinois Grant	\$ 0.00
CREP Enrollment	0.00
Newsletter Ads	1,780.00
Sales	92,526.54
Interest Income	38.48
NRI Production	2,175.00
E & SC Plans	4,545.00
Forest Preserve Program	1,750.00
Reimbursement	1,041.00
(Retired Employee Health Insurance)	
Total Income	\$ 111.989.02

Expenses

Staff	\$ 33,619.90
Contract Labor	8,662.72
Promotional Activities	100.00

Sales79,374.34	
Travel and Training1,687.07	
Printing and Reproduction3,200.00	
Office Operations2,382.44	
Dues and Subscriptions20.00	
Insurance3,126.82	
CPP Projects/Well Sealing168.12	
CREP Enrollment Expense0.00	
Reimbursed Expense9,174.00	
(retired employee health insurance	,

Total Expense	\$ 141,515.41

Net Income.....(\$ 29,526.39)

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SWCD STAFF

Kymber Nakaerts, Resource Conservationist Linda Settle, Administrative Coordinator

NRCS STAFF

Trenton Rader, District Conservationist Tatiana Gil, Soil Conservationist

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff O'Connor, Chairman Larry Kirchner, Vice-Chairman Alan Wissmiller, Secretary/Treasurer Dave Peters, Director Tim McCorkle, Director

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
John Settle

All programs and services are offered on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

Spring Sales!

Fish Sale

Orders due: March 24th

(If ordering Carp: due March 17th)

Pick-Up: April 4th

Tree Sale

Orders due: April 7th

Pick-Up: April 21st

If you would like to order or want more information, please contact the office at 815-937-8940 or stop in and see us!!