



ALL OHIO CHAPTER

Winter Meeting Minutes February 3, 2009

President Elect Dave Libben provided a welcome.

Robert Mullen, State Specialist, OARDC and Lloyd Owens, USDA-ARS Coshocton presented preliminary results on Winter Manure Application in Wooster and Coshocton.

Dave Baker and Pete Richards provided an overview on increased dissolved phosphorus losses from agricultural watersheds: Extent and possible causes.

Rick Wilson, OEPA presented on how manure and nutrient management affects water quality and an update from the Ohio Lake Erie Phosphorus Task Force.

Tom Menke, Menke Consulting presented on Manure Digesters: reality vs. Wishful Thinking.

Kevin Elder, ODA presented on state regulations of manure.

The Luncheon speaker was Douglas Southgate, Professor, Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics on "Must Food Grow Scarcer"

President Brent Sohngen called the business meeting to order.

Secretary Report:

Sandy Chenal presented the minutes from the summer 2008 meeting. *Dave Libben moved, John Clark seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.*

Treasurer's report

Bob Parkinson presented the treasurer's report. Assets as of Jan 1, 2009 were \$26,284.21. *Norm Fausey moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Lloyd Owens, motion carried.*

NRCS Update

Michelle Lohstroh provided an update on NRCS. She discussed NRI will be completed this year, NRCS has stimulus money for dam rehab, EWP and PL-566; CSP payments have just been finished; an agency-wide audit of contracts was completed in December; Rules are out on new Farm bill; state technical meeting will be held March 19th; RC&D's are working on energy issues; new farmers and organics a part of new customers in the farm bill.

ODNR Update

John Kessler provided an ODNR update for Dave Hanselman. He said NACD national meeting was currently taking place; provided info on the state budget. He anticipated staff reductions, and reductions in cost share programs. What is being proposed is municipal waste tipping fees to pass through to SWCDs. There will be no additional cost share for pollution abatement. The Division is working on BMP's for drainage, watershed coordinator grants are on hold. New manager replacing Tim Gerber will be Neil Martin. They are hoping to get the Smithsonian soils exhibit to COSI in the next few years.



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Awards

Art Brate presented the Outstanding Member Award to Dr. Ted Napier. Dr. Napier has devoted his career to understanding the transfer of conservation technologies from engineering stages to the field. He has contributed to our knowledge about how and why farmers adopt different technologies and what the barriers to adoption are. He has served the mission of SWCD at the state, national and international level. Besides serving as the AOC President in 2000, he has served on numerous committees both for the chapter and society, presented 14 papers at various international SWCS meetings, and in 1999 was inducted as a Fellow of SWCS.

Brent discussed his proposal for an ad hoc committee on public policy. The executive council discussed Ohio issues, and thought the SWCS can help educate policy makers. The goals of this committee include:

1. Promote and advance implementation of the strategic plan
2. ID important trends
3. Educate membership and the broader community on issues.
4. Define positions the organization may take on issues from time to time.
5. Educate Ohio Legislature and Executive branch on issues.

Brent asked if anyone is interested in this committee to contact Dave Libben. Norm Fausey recommended press releases, and sending a letter of support for ODNR budget. Brent agreed this is the type of things the committee would address.

Brent reported that he and Jon Raush met with the student chapter, and shared ideas with them. We may need members to help with projects for the student chapter.

Brent thanked Bob Parkinson again for his service and Lloyd Owens who came back to fill a leadership void and helping with the conference. He thanked Chris Coulon for her efforts on bringing back the newsletter and website.

Installation of Officers & Executive Council

New officers are: President, Dave Libben, Vice President, Michelle Lohstroh, Treasurer Rick Wilson, Secretary, Sandy Chenal, and members include: Mary Ann Core and Jon Rausch.

Dave Libben took the chair of the meeting and thanked Brent for his leadership. He announced the international meeting in MI and encouraged everyone to consider attending. This spring Lloyd Owens is planning an East North Central leadership conference at Malabar farm and it is open to everyone.

President Libben challenged everyone to bring a young professional to SWCS, to help our organization grow.

Brent Sohngen moved to adjourn, seconded by Marry Ann Core. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Submitted by: Sandy Chenal