

Board Report

June 2010

Jonathon Manuel, Resource Conservationist

Water Initiatives

Allerton Park is letting Drew and Barbara go this April. The head of the ground crew has assured me that the project is going to still move forward.

Joe Bybee had me request at least \$10,000 in 2011 Bond money for the County

It also sounds like we may get the Lake Mansfield Special Project.

Natural Resources Initiatives

The e-waste collection is going very well. We are requiring a new trailer every two weeks.

Farm Land Initiatives

John Leishcner's waterway has had the tile in stalled, the earth shaped (our bench mark was lost) so the contractor tried to keep it to grade based on our cut sheet. The waterway should only need seeded and fabric checks put in to be completed by the board meeting. Stan Foley's waterway is waiting for the creek to go down so that Matt D. and I can get some shots in the creek.

The two terraces for Bruce Stoddard are built and payment should be going out soon.

Larry Simonton and Sam Brandenburg waterways are built. We are told that the tiller will not be putting the tile in until this fall.

John Gyorr's waterway rebuild project is underway. I believe they have the earth shaped and are waiting on the tile to be put in. I have asked the NRCS engineer to take a look at this project.

Steve Catlin is fixing his waterway; this is on hold until the old tile can be replaced and the fabric checks can be installed. Spoke with Seevers this month, things should be moving along.

Charles Hendrix waterway system has been designed. They have begun work on it.

I meet with Fred Amdor, James McClure, and Ken Dalenburg about their waterway projects. They are on hold at the moment as we try and work on a problem with the new Highway commissioner and the railroad. I meet with the old and new County Highway Commisioner on the Fourth of June. They gave permission to move ahead but would not give any money to the project. I have also heard a little from the Railroad, still not sure where they stand on the project. My next step is to try and get the next property to sign up for EQIP to get some cost share.

William Gallagher's waterway is designed; I hope he will be starting construction soon.

I have surveyed Patrick Hayes and Terry March waterways. The designs are done and awaiting NRCS approval. Terry March Waterway should be completed soon.

Michelle and I surveyed two of George Riley's waterways. I meet with Seevers on the site; they hope to be stating them before the end of the month. That will only leave one waterway to get laid out and surveyed for him.

I will see what we can do about a possible fall tillage day.

Education Initiatives

With Earth Partners, Piatt County Farm Bureau held a Stewardship Day on May 27th at White Heath. This was a wonderful day! The teachers really enjoyed the stations and you could tell that they had the kids study for what they were going to see and do! On Wednesday June 9th I worked at the Pheasants Forever booth at the FFA State Convention. This was a good thing as we hope PF is going to try and sponsor the State Envirothon for the next several years with \$1000 or \$2000 if money raising events go well.

District Operations Initiatives

We are well over half way done with this year's contribution agreement. I have asked if we can modify this year's agreement, for another \$4380.

As you know the RC&D has a few empty committee seats for Piatt County. If you know of anyone willing to take one please let me know.

I have been working with Terry Lieb, Joel Hertz, and Seevers to see about a LICA show for next year. This is still in the discussion phase and may not materialize due to costs and time restraints.

We learned a little at the Area 5 meeting in Altamont on June 7th.

Our records and site visits went very well when Joe Bybee came to look at everything on June 11th.