

Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

The Sixty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at the American Legion in Vandalia.

Chairman Jake Hortenstine asked that everyone read the 2008 annual meeting minutes and study the Treasurer's Report as printed in the Annual Report.

Following the invocation by Pastor Roger Grimmatt from the 1st United Methodist Church of Vandalia, approximately 182 people enjoyed a buffet dinner catered by Good Old Days of Brownstown. During the meal the poster contest winners assisted the SWCD directors and staff in handing out door prizes.

Tony Pals introduced the entertainment for the evening, "The Birds of Prey" from Valley Park, MO.

Nelson Torbeck introduced directors, staff and various guests.

Poster contest winners Abby Hahn, Shawnee Street, and Jaisa Wehrle, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Jim Hardimon made a motion to approve the minutes of the 63rd annual meeting as printed in the Annual Report. Seconded by Floyd Meseke. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dave Marley to approve the Treasurer's Report as printed in the Annual Report. Seconded by Kelly Tarter. Motion carried.

Matthew Runge, of the Nominating Committee, presented the names of Gale Meseke and Elizabeth Heinzmann, to serve a two-year term as directors of the Fayette County Soil and Water Conservation District Board. The nominating committee consisted of Matthew Runge, Ray Meseke and Craig Opfer. Nominations were asked from the floor three times. There were no additional nominations. Motion made by Robert Runge to close nominations and proceed with the election, seconded by Dale Jahraus. Motion carried. Gale Meseke was re-elected and

Elizabeth Heinzmann was elected to serve as directors of the Fayette County Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Steve Henna, representing First National Bank of Vandalia (award sponsor), announced the Jim & Tim Hardimon Family as Fayette County's Conservation Farm Family, and presented them with a plaque and sign. Jim and Tim farm around 800 acres near Herrick. The family moved to the current homestead from a farm by Bement in 1952. The two brothers had an additional four brothers and three sisters, so the big two-story house was always full and busy.

Jim was drafted into the army and served in Vietnam. After the service, he started farming. Tim got a degree in ag education and taught vocational agriculture in surrounding schools for 30 years, helping on the farm on weekends and during the summer.

They started using no-till in the early 1980's and now use a continuous no-till system on a corn – soybeans rotation on all their cropland. They also have terraces and grass waterways as a further means of controlling soil erosion.

Both have expressed their conservation ethic outside of farming. Tim served as an associate board member on the Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District for four years. Teaching ag, he also got very involved with the soil judging contest, and teaching his students about soil erosion. Jim was a director on the district board for 34 years, serving as chairman for 10 years and Council 10 chairman for four.

Jerry Reed, President of the First National Bank of Brownstown, presented the poster contest winners with their savings bonds and trophies. The theme this year was "Dig It! The Secrets of Soil". The first place winner of a trophy and \$100 Savings Bond was Abby Hahn of South Central Elementary School. Second place winner of a trophy and \$75 Savings Bond was Shawnee Street, from the Brownstown Elementary School, and the third place winner of a trophy and \$50 Savings Bond was Jaisa Wehrle from Vandalia Elementary School.

Tony Pals then awarded the St. Elmo High School a plaque for winning the soil-judging contest for Fayette County. Members of the team included: Dylan Bullard, Blake Wright, Zeke Asher, Weston Parks, and

Mitch Buzzard. Filling in for Mitch Buzzard, Blake Wright, and Zeke Asher were Jeremy Warner, Jacob Putnum and Sarah Milburn. Their advisor is Bill Waggoner.

Tony informed everyone that South Central High School received first place at the Envirothon this year. The South Central High School team consisted of: Brady Kramer, Justin Schaal, Chris Beck, Billy Morris, Lincoln Sedlacek. The sponsoring teacher was Mr. Koester. The team was not present to receive their traveling trophy so it will be delivered to the school later.

Tony Pals then presented a \$100 Savings Bond to Stacy White from Vandalia for the winning Envirothon T-shirt logo.

Tony Pals made recognition of the Thank You banner that was displayed at the annual meeting. It was made by Mrs. Eyman's 2nd Grade Class in Vandalia Elementary School.

Tony then presented Lee Schaal with a clock for his support to the Fayette County Soil & Water Conservation District's.

Susan Holdeman presented Steve Henna with a clock for his time served on the board.

Jake Hortenstine presented Tony Pals with a 30 year service award.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim Hardimon and seconded by Connie Wieda. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Remaining door prizes were given out by poster contest winners.

Gale Meseke, Secretary