

Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board
Minutes, May 5, 2003

The Jefferson County Farmland Protection Board met on May 5, 2003 at 7pm in the conference room of the Jefferson County Public Services Building, Bardane. Board members Shannon Donley, Jack Quinn, Janet Stine, Roger Dailey and Jane Tabb were present. In addition, Pat Bowen, Assistant State Conservationist, NRCS and Peg Reese, Public Affairs, NRCS attended.

Roger Dailey, treasurer, reported that invoices had been submitted for reimbursement from Budget Digest funds. Also received was April 2003 property transfer tax check in the amount of \$43,844.90. Scanner prices were discussed but no action taken.

Mr. Bowen commented on the review process for the federal farmland protection funds. The grants will be evaluated on the following points:

1. Written offer from the landowner.
2. Fifty percent of the offered acres are prime soil.
3. Documentation of archaeological, historical or environmentally sensitive areas.
4. Market: viable, economic unit, family farm, etc.

Peg Reese made comments on the draft brochure.

Shannon reported that the ordinance amendment regarding conservation easements passed the Planning Commission. Shannon discussed depositing the property transfer tax funds. By consensus, it was agreed to give Linda Anders of the Tax Office the FPB deposit slips plus a stamp – “payable to Jefferson County FPB” so she could deposit the monthly check. Shannon is also researching a “sweep” bank account for the Board.

Roger reported that Lavonne had located a building for possible shared office space for \$500/month. Roger is to get more information.

Jack Quinn reported on appraisers. Roger Dailey made the motion to allocate \$2,000 per easement for appraisals. Janet Stine seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Roger Dailey moved to go into executive session to discuss the opinion from the Ethics Commission. Jack Quinn seconded and the motion passed. After coming out of executive session, the consensus of the group was to present the ethics opinion to the County Commission. Jane Tabb agreed to place it on the agenda.

Jane Peters sent word that she had completed three properties evaluation at the clerk's office. Jane Tabb reported on the properties evaluated at the assessors and a question of ownership.

Janet Stine requested permission to change her offering price for the Oscar Stine property. The group consensus was not to allow any changes to the offering price once it was submitted.

The web page design was given approval.

Janet Stine and Shannon Donley are to meet with the Latterells to discuss their easement.

