

Soil Conservation

DAVIS COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS

Robert Boatman	Chairman
Don Chickering	Vice-Chairman
Phillip Melvin	Treasurer
LaVern Weilbrenner	Member
Don Herteen	Member
Tim Hooper	Assistant
Wayne Birchmier	Assistant
C.I. Heady	Assistant

OFFICE STAFF

Fred Hainline	District Conservationist
Julie Falcon	Conservation Technician
Edwin Cossel	Conservation Aide (part-time)
Roger Fry	State Engineering Aid
Christine Botts	Clerk & District Secretary

Budgets

REVOLVING FUND

Balance on hand January 1, 1982	\$1,367.81
INCOME	
Contribution	\$ 10.00
Flags	185.00
State Comptroller (reimbursement)	1,203.53
Certificate and NOW interest	283.88
No till planter project	7,277.20
EXPENSES	
State and National dues	337.50
Time certificate	2,000.00
Meeting expense	238.18
Office supplies & expense	896.03
Soil stewardship material	98.17
Planter project expense	4,326.54
Combine & clean switchgrass seed	259.00
Camp CO-HO Tuition	104.00
Balance on hand December 31, 1982	\$2,068.00

We are grateful to the Iowa Legislature for providing three budgets to operate the district and provide 50 per cent cost sharing for needed soil conservation practices on farms within this district.

I-M BUDGET (Fiscal Year 1982)

TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$1,600.00
Commissioners Expense	\$444.84
Office Supplies & Expense	737.40
Released to Department of Soil Conservation	\$417.76

II-M BUDGET (1982 Fiscal Year)

TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$32,230.00
Salaries	\$32,070.77
Travel	106.59
Equipment	22.50
Released to Department of Soil Conservation	\$30.14

III-M BUDGET (1979-80 Funds)

TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$59,052.19
Total spent to install 38 practices	59,052.19
Balance	0.00

III-M BUDGET (1980-81 Funds)

TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$49,631.32
Total spent to install 26 practices	49,631.32
Balance	0.00

III-M BUDGET (1981-82 Funds)

TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$68,051.00
Total spent to install 48 practices	65,357.18
One practice left to complete	2,693.82
Also 6 practices installed with Special State Lakes funds in Lake Wapello watershed	\$18,977.28

1982 District Conservation activities

The district commissioners reorganized for the year with the same officers serving again in 1982. Chairman Robert Boatman appointed Tim Hooper, Wayne Birchmier and Iles Heady to serve as assistant commissioners during the year. Tim Hooper attended the Commissioners Short Course in Ames in January.

Davis County SCD was host to a contractors training meeting for Wapello and Davis County dirt contractors. Dinner was furnished by the two soil districts.

Plans were discussed for the district no-till planter project for the second year. Edwin Cossel will operate the tractor and planter with fertilizer attachment, furnished by Bloomfield Machinery. Planting will be done on class 1, 2, 3 and 4 soils, with all slopes over three per cent to be planted on a reasonable contour. State cost-sharing is at \$10 per acre for no-till planted cropping with a maximum of 30 acres for all approved requests.

Soil Stewardship material was furnished to the ministers of Davis County through the Davis County Ministerial Association. The Soil Stewardship materials were used in May to observe the special week set for these services.

All requests made to the district for cost-sharing payment for no-till planting crops were approved by the commissioners. The extremely wet planting season, delayed final planting of these

crops until late in June.

In July, 12 farmers, representing 127 farmers, in the Soap Creek watershed, who are interested in forming a sub-district for the purpose of watershed protection and flood prevention met with the commissioners. The severe flooding twice in July made it imperative to start doing something to control the water pouring through this watershed. Chairman Boatman sent letters to the Department of Soil Conservation and to the Soil Conservation Service, recommending their immediate assistance in getting the needed measures installed.

The commissioners requested the SCS to look into the possibility of obtaining current photos to use for planning on farms in the district. Photos presently used were made in 1969.

Prior to the August regular meeting, the group drove to the switchgrass plot at the county farm. After inspecting the site, they decided to mow the plot in September and interseed in the spring of 1983.

Inspection of the constructed sites in Big Wyacondah watershed was held September 14 and the Davis County Board of Supervisors helped with inspection of sites. Repairs must be done in 1983 at Site 47 where severe shoreline erosion on the face of the dam and the trash rack is loose. Edwin Cossel was employed to check fences and clear brush at sites

needing attention.

The district placed a "No-Till" sign near the Raymond Mathews no-till corn plot at the south edge of Bloomfield on Highway 63.

LaVern Weilbrenner and Wayne Birchmier were appointed to serve on the Davis County Land Preservation and Use Commission, required by the 1982 legislative law.

Ken Breune, Field Representative for the Department of Soil Conservation, also Greg Jones, Jerry Hill and Wilbur Spect, representing the Iowa Conservation Com-

mission, were present at the December regular meeting. The Iowa Conservation Commission is urging the district to encourage landowners in the Lake Wapello watershed to install erosion control practices with 75 per cent state cost-sharing funds during the next five years. Each year a maximum of \$35,000.00 will be allowed for cost-sharing by the state at the 75 per cent rate for this special state lake project.

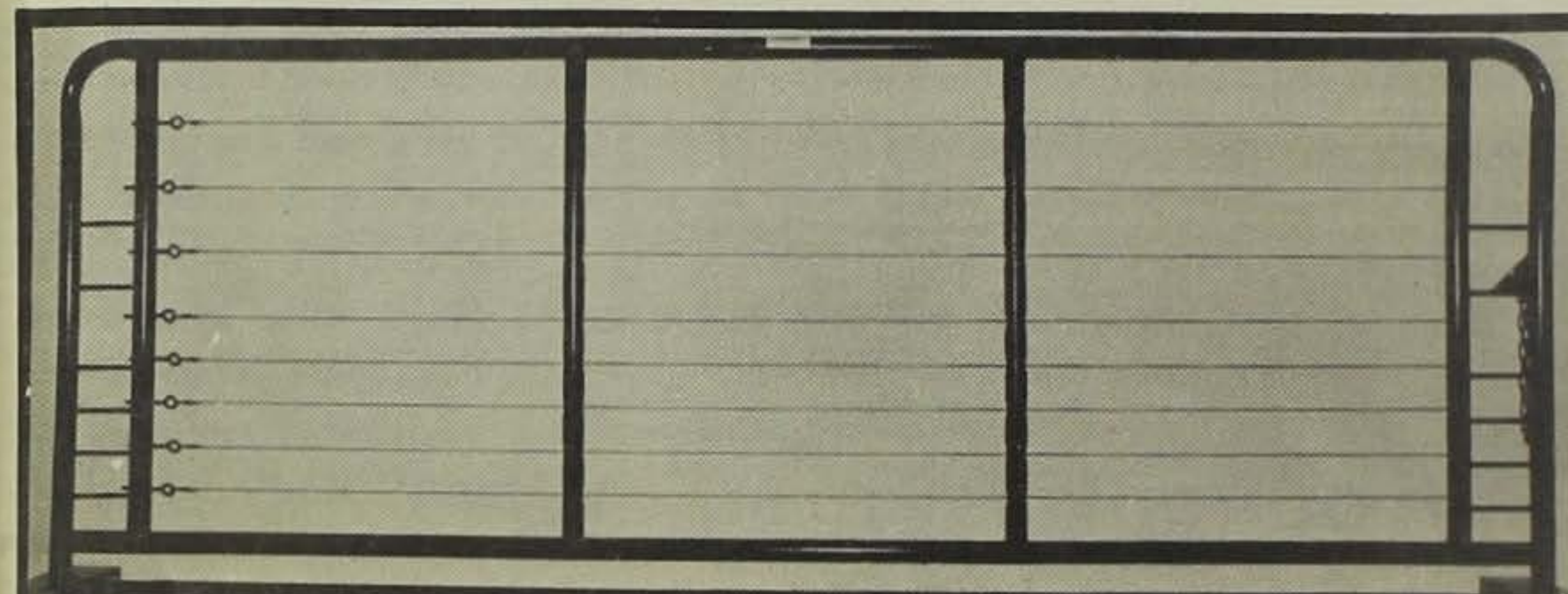
LaVern Weilbrenner was re-elected to serve a six-year term as district commissioner in the November 1982 general election.

Accomplishments

FOR

1982 FISCAL YEAR

PRACTICE	NUMBER	ACRES	FEET
New Cooperators	25	4,656	
Farmers Contacted	301		
Farms Applying Practices	105		
Ponds and Structures	11		
Terraces			81,990
Water and Sediment Control Basins			5,765
Conservation Tillage		3,364	
Cropland Benefitted		3,988	
Cropland Adequately Protected		2,395	
Soil Survey Completed		70,618	



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Erosion can't be stopped completely. But with soil conservation system designed to fit individual farming operations and soils, it can be limited to a rate that will allow sustained soil productivity.