



Hamilton County  
Soil & Water  
Conservation District

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- SECTIONS:
- Agriculture
  - Classroom Education
  - Earthworks
  - Land Owner Education
  - Public Involvement
  - Soil Fertility
  - Urban Streams

**Annual Meeting  
September 26, 2015**

The Annual Meeting for the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District was held on September 26, 2015, at The Turpin Farms, 3295 Turpin Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45244. The Annual Meeting was the District's 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

Scott Huber called the meeting order at 2:10 pm and asked everyone to recited the pledge of allegiance. In attendance were:

Chairman	Scott Huber
Vice Chairman	Denny Benson
Secretary	Steve Johns
Treasurer	Pam Simmons
Program Chairman	Sam McKinley

Also, in attendance were the following: District Administrator, Holly Utrata-Halcomb; Administrative Assistant, Susan Juriga; Urban Conservationist, Dan Taphorn; Urban Technician, Chey Alberto, Urban Technician, Steve Eberts; Stream Specialist, Brian Bohl, Public Relations Specialist, John Nelson; Education Specialist, Gwen Roth; Education Assistant, Sara Fehring; Program Assistant, Carrie Gibbons; John Williams, NRCS District Conservationist and ODNR Program Specialist, Liz Cline.

**The meeting consisted of the following:**

The annual meeting was a Conservation Celebration for celebrating the District 70 years of urban and rural Conservation. Pam Simmons gave a brief history of Turpin Farms. Scott Huber introduced the distinguished guests, board members, and staff.

Pam Simmons gave the Treasure of the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District. Pam Simmons read the unaudited financial report for January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. The District's account beginning balance was \$24,320 and the year end balance for the District account's - \$36,176, Soil and Water Special Account – beginning balance was \$298,359 and the yearend balance was \$307,347 less 20% contingency fund and payroll liabilities of \$149,538 for total of \$157,809, Storm Water Special Account – beginning balance was \$517,075 and the year balance was \$396,440 less 20% contingency fund and payroll liabilities of \$227,247 for total of \$169,193, and the Storm Center Special Account – beginning balance of \$88,014 and yearend balance was \$67,722.

Our quest speaker, Erik Zarnitz a meteorologist with WLWT, Channel 5 gave a speech on weather and climate change.

The District's awards were as follows:

John Nelson presented Erik Zarnitz with the 2015 Outstanding Conservation Communicator award for his innovation and passion in spreading the conservation message.

Scott Huber thanked three of District's local legislators for their past support, especially during the 2016 budget process. He presented Representative Denise Driehaus with the 2015 Steadfast Support of Environmental Conservation Award. Scott also acknowledged Representative Louis W. Blessing III and Senator Bill Seitz did receive the same award and could not attend the meeting. He thanked all of the legislators for their support.

Holly Utrata-Halcomb presented William Knollman of Knollman Farms, Inc. with the 2015 Cooperator of the Year award for their leadership in Agriculture Conservation.

Brian Bohl presented Roland and Clare Johnson with the 2015 Water Quality Partner of the Year for preservation of land and water resources in Hamilton County.

Chey Alberto presented Dave Knopf of Fischer Homes with the 2015 Outstanding Urban Cooperator award for the installation and maintenance of Earthwork best management practices at Monte Vista Phase III at Indian Walk and Magnolia Woods Subdivisions.

Steve Eberts presented Mark Billman of Selhorst Equipment Services with the 2015 Outstanding Urban Cooperator award for the installation and maintenance of Earthwork best management practices at Harrison Greene Commercial project.

Gwen Roth presented Joy Mc Osker of Withrow High School with the 2015 Outstanding Conservation Teacher Award for her exceptional efforts in environmental education.

Rod Kuykendall, NRCS, Natural Resources Field Manager, presented the District with a 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Plaque.

Scott Huber presented awards and recognized staff for their years of service with the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District:

Holly Utrata-Halcomb for 25 years of service  
Daniel Taphorn for 20 years of service  
Marcello Alberto for 15 years of service  
Brian Bohl for 15 years of service

Sam McKinley, District's Program Chair gave the results of the election and introduced the new District Supervisor for 2016 which is Denny Benson.

**Adjournment: Scott Huber made a motion to adjourn the board meeting at 3:15 pm. Denny Benson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Scott Huber, Sam McKinley, Steve Johns, Pam Simmons and Denny Benson.**

Final bids and closing of the silent proceeded after the meeting until it was completed.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Huber, Chairman



Steve Johns, Secretary



Susan Juriga, Adm. Assistant