

**Upper Ohio Conservation District Monthly Meeting Minutes
Middlebourne, WV
March 18, 2019**

Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman
Wayne McKeever, Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Gellner, Vice-Chairman
Audra Cunningham, Member
Holly Morgan, Member
Patricia Thomas, Members

Others Present

Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Manager
David Shipman, UOCD/NPCD

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS – David Shipman reviewed the attached report. Local Work Group meeting is May 6 at the New Martinsville Library. 6:30 pm.

WVCA – Kim Fisher reviewed the attached report.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – None

SWA – None

Meeting Minutes

McKeever made the motion to approve the February Board Meeting Minutes. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial Report

McKeever made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion that UOCD bills be paid as funds permit and coordinated by office staff. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Funding Request

Gellner made a motion to pay \$500.00 to sponsor the NPCD Women in Ag. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Supervisor Reports

McKeever – Quarterly meeting at Pipestem. Reservations this Friday the 22nd. Envirothon competition April 17 – 18 at Canaan-on state website. Attended the Grazing Conference. Highlights – toured livestock farm, soil compaction detrimental, soil testing lab speaker was interesting, talked about instruments for testing and beneath the surface. Summary of the Fall meeting and Future of Ag is available online. 83 pages.

Gellner – made a trip to the courthouse. Office is in the city limits, there is no mention of minerals here. Property was purchased from Keith Yoho in 1999. Shop property was purchased in 1981 from John Hall, with ½ mineral rights. Suggest Tony Francis from Bordas & Bordas to represent us & call Antero. Attended an open house at Chris Metz, Cedar Run Farm, for maple syrup production. Attended the RC&D meeting. Stated they are having financial difficulties. Attended a high tunnel meeting at Ohio Co. Ext. Service with Lewis Jett. 2019 standards for Mid Atlantic region-don't use herbicides – organic matter 4% or less.

Attended AgEP meeting morning. Lengthy and upsetting. Trying to rearrange funds. Ended by doing funding same as last 2 years. Four new things passed in State Committee; Forest Stand Improvements, Pollinator Habitat – 3-acre parcels, Riparian Forest Buffer, and Silvo Pasture. Board actions on applications, to include approval, cancellations and payments, must occur within the July 1 – June 30 program year.

Cunningham – Attended the Grazing Conference. Alan Williams spoke on pasturing in woods for short periods only during extreme heat. Fence guy – PVC resilient. Two new cooperators in Pleasants Co. sign up and attend the Grazing Conference. Did some things with the trailer for the bed layer which is on the agenda and will discuss later. Went to Pleasants WVU Ext. Service Committee meeting.

Morgan – Scheduled Jr. Master Gardener Class at WV Northern July 8th. Teachers to teach teachers. Created Facebook page for association. Sat in on communications meeting. Attended the WVU Ext. meeting in Wetzel Co. Budgeting programs and members at large. Our Facebook page is up by 40%. We have used no boost yet. Engaged 166. Richard Thomas – Lime spreader (email)

Thomas – sent a photo and information to Dave Shipman for the newsletter. Went to UBTC for bank papers, signed District checks and paperwork. Met several times with Mrs. Franks on Envirothon, updated Wayne and answered

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questions she had. Encouraged students to be a part of the Envirothon Team. Invited Reba & Chase Bartrug to the Grazing Conference. Unable to go. Unable to get an Envirothon Team together this year, due to conflicts with other events. Will be forming an Envirothon Club next year, and they will be meeting once a month.

Rush – Attended the same High Tunnel class as Bill did. Gave WV specific information. Would be topic for State meeting along with SWA. Field Day, Maple syrup with Brittany Harvey-Farris, Family Roots Wellsville...over 100 people were there. Rocket stove 3-4 ton compressed fuel. Put a new light on NRCS entrance, old one was acting like a strobe light and bulbs were not replaceable. Did normal District stuff, fabric rolled off the roll outside the shop, purchased new tools for District use, kept here at the office. Purchased hitches needed for trailer, etc. Purchased barrels to be delivered March 27. \$13.50 per barrel. Allen will be working; Bill and Wayne will be available to unload.

Certificate of Deposit

Tabled to next meeting.

Barrels

Barrels will be delivered last week of March.

Envirothon Practice/Location

Envirothon Practice will be canceled, lack of attendance from within the District.

Facebook

Holly has added and shared several items. Views are up by 40%.

Trailer for Bed Layer

Audra reported the trailer is now at her place. They loaded the layer on the trailer using their tractor with no issues, but a smaller tractor will still have problems. It's about 2" too tall. Feels the trailer needs labeling and signage. Lower suspension, needs lid latch, need contract to sign. **Gellner made a motion to take to the best place for priming and coating and stay within limitations of the original estimated cost. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

Lime Spreader

Cunningham made a motion to purchase a 2-ton Landco spreader from Knights Equipment. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Lease

McKeever made a motion to get information to Bordas & Bordas. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Snow Removal

Contact Mr. Leek again.

Grazing Conference

Gellner made a motion to reimburse Harry Huff for the registration cost to the Appalachian Grazing Conference. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

McKeever made a motion to donate \$500 to the Appalachian Grazing Conference. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Stem Class

July 8th at the WVNCC.

Land Judging Contest

May 17th, Morgan to check on availability of a backhoe at the location.

Local Work Group Meeting

May 6th at New Martinsville Library at 6:30pm.

Conservation Agreements

None.

SWA Representative

Still searching for a Tyler Co. rep.

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CDO Budget Approval

Cunningham made a motion to approve the CDO Budget as presented. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to approve additional charge for lawn maintenance. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Correspondence

Rush reviewed minor correspondence.

Adjournment

McKeever made a motion to adjourn. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be April 15 at 6:00 pm, located at the UOCD office in Middlebourne.

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, District Manager

Signature of Chairman

Signature of Secretary

Date

Date