

The Southern Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on April 11, 2019 at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Oscar Vecellio led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting in prayer.

Supervisors Present

Virgel Caldwell	Curtis Murphy
Dvon Duncan	Randall Patton
Randy Prince	John Farrell
Dennis Bailey	Ray Lafferty
Oscar Vecellio	

Supervisors Absent

John Brenemen

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Marty Walker, WVCA	Jeremy Salyer, WVCA
Bill Harris, Visitor	Katy McBride, NRCS

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the March 14, 2019 board meeting as mailed. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

Southern Conservation District March Financial Reports

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the district financial reports for March as prepared by Akers and Associates. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.

A discussion was held on the accounts receivable report. Dvon questioned who the owner is of Henderson Rental? Virgel asked Dave to get the phone number and name of the owner of Henderson Rental. **Dennis Bailey moved to approve the accounts receivable report for March as prepared by Akers and Associates. John Farrell seconded. Motion carried.**

Oscar Vecellio reported John Wooton was contacted by an attorney for Beverly Whitehead to inquire what amount the district would take to settle the delinquent invoice. Oscar advised John the district would settle for the original amount of the invoice owed minus any interest that would have accrued in addition to legal fees.

Southern CD District Crew Technician/Supervisor Report

Dave Parkulo reported on work completed by the crew during the last month.

Dave presented a map of the districts he will be working with in addition to the WVCA to submit cost estimates for OM&R work. He is working with Judith Lyons on the work estimates and dates to view each job site. Dave stated estimates are due to Judith by April 16.

Jeremy discussed the workload and the discussions with Dave on the short period the work is to be completed and encouraged the district if they do not have enough staff to complete the work to let the Agency and the districts know up front.

Dave reported Donny Dodd has submitted the design for the OM&R work at Grant's Supermarket.

Dave reported on the recent SCD Policy Committee meeting and read the proposed change to remove the number of year limitation to board chair as recommended by the committee.

Randall Patton moved to accept the policy change as presented. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Equipment Committee Update

Randall Patton reported the SCD Equipment Committee met to review district crew employees' hourly wages and/or salaries. Randall distributed a sheet showing the wage increases being recommended by the committee. Dvon Duncan requested the board move into an Executive Session to discuss the wages. No action taken.

Randall Patton moved to approve a 50-cent hourly increase for Kenneth Meadows as recommended by the Equipment Committee. Curtis Murphy seconded. Dennis Bailey questioned why the difference in wage increases for Kenneth Meadows and Joseph Badtke? Randall stated the difference is in their job skills and work knowledge in addition to Joseph having his CDL license. **Motion carried.**

Randall Patton moved to approve a \$2.00 hourly increase for Joseph Badtke due to him obtaining his CDL's. Dave Parkulo stated Joseph also keeps daily job summaries. **Curtis Murphy seconded.** Dvon Duncan asked again the board move into executive session. No action taken on the suggestion. **Motion carried with Dvon Duncan and Randy Prince voting no on the motion.**

Randall Patton moved to approve a \$2.50 hour increase for Dave Parkulo on his current salary. Virgel stated the increase in the salary totals \$6,500.00 and questioned the hourly rate verses an increase to his salary. Randall Patton's motion died for lack of a second. A discussion followed on if Dave's work hours under his current salary pay. **Randy Prince moved to table the discussion on salary increase for this position until the next board meeting to give board members time to review work hours and the salary increase proposed by the Equipment Committee. Dvon Duncan seconded.** Dave stated when he was hired his salary was based upon a 50-hour work week. **Motion did not pass due to only two yes votes by Dvon Duncan and Randy Prince. Oscar Vecellio moved to increase Dave Parkulo's salary by \$3,250.00. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel questioned if Don Fink would get an increase in his hourly wage as a part time worker? Dave Parkulo proposed a 25-cent hourly wage increase. **Randall Patton moved to approve a 25-cent hourly increase for Don Fink. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

Randall Patton moved based upon a recommendation from the SCD Building Committee Chairman to increase the janitorial contract for Debbie Lehman from \$850.00 to 1,050.00 a month. Dennis Bailey suggested a smaller increase of \$150.00 month to bring the contract to \$1,000.00 per month. **Ray Lafferty seconded.** Dvon discussed concerns on the women's bathroom and other building janitorial concerns needing to be cleaned better each week. Oscar stated he will address these concerns with Ms. Lehman. **Motion carried.**

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Becky Floyd presented the March co-administered financial report as prepared by WVCA fiscal staff. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the March co-administered report as prepared. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented the Letter of Request to the WV Conservation Agency requesting \$3,300.00 for reimbursement for the FY19 audit cost. **Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the Letter of Request to the WVCA totaling \$3,300.00 for reimbursement for the audit cost. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented SCD invoice 4727 for work at Brush Creek totaling \$2,200.00 for payment approval upon approval from WVCA. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve payment on Invoice 4727 based upon WVCA approval. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky updated the board on plans for the April 22 farm tour and picnic associated with the WVACD meeting at Pipestem State Park.

Becky reported the joint land judging contest with Greenbrier Valley Conservation District will be held May 8 at the Plant Materials Center. The contest will begin at 9:30 a.m. Katy McBride reported NRCS will have signs placed to help direct everyone to the PMC.

Becky reported the state ID machine is working again and Davin has asked if any supervisors need ID cards. Several cards have expired so the board agreed to request new cards for the supervisors needing new cards.

Becky reported Shady Spring High School has an Envirothon team this year and will probably be submitting a request for reimbursement cost for attending the Envirothon.

Becky reported posters are being submitted to the district this week for the 2019 poster contest.

Becky distributed copies of the WVCA news release for the Emergency Assistance for Revegetation Program approved by the WV State Conservation Committee. The window of time the applications will be accepted so each district will need to move quickly to accept the program and set dates to take applications. Marty Walker reviewed the program and reported

the deadline for conservation specialist to provide a report to the WVCA on the number of applications received, total cost of the applications and total acres is May 3. Districts will be notified after May 3 of the amount of dollars available for their district. Practice completion deadline is May 31. Retroactive payments will not be allowed. Seed mixtures and specifications will be provided to landowners. Jeremy Salyer apologized for the quick turn around but stated the Agency is doing the best they can with the time frame and open window to carryout the emergency program. A discussion was held on the concerns that seeding should have already been completed. The board members called for a special meeting to be held on April 16, 2019 to review the program and adopt the program as developed by the WVSCC. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Virgel asked Dave what the hourly rate is for the new seasonal employee he hired? Dave reported Ryan Motley has been hired as a seasonal laborer at \$10.00 hour.

Conservation Farms

The board agreed select county conservation farms by the May board meeting. Virgel questioned Katy on what is needed for a landowner to obtain a farm plan from NRCS? Virgel is working with Marty on the DeHart farm and a conservation plan is required if the board decides to run the farm in the conservation farm contest. Katy will work with Marty to contact the DeHart's to set up a visit to meet to discuss a conservation farm plan.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty discussed the need to extend the FY19 AgEP contract deadline and suggested the deadline be moved to June 14. **Dvon Duncan moved to extend the FY19 AgEP contract deadline to June 14, 2019. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

Dvon Duncan and Dennis Bailey recused themselves from the meeting due to being related to Michael Mines.

Marty presented the following completed FY19 AgEP contracts for payment:

Lime

Gary Hall	\$1,274.75
Timothy Cox	\$2,000.00

Woodland Exclusion Fence

Caylee Perkins	\$2,000.00
Allison Cyrus	\$2,000.00

Pasture Division Fence

Michael Mines	\$2,000.00
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Curtis Murphy moved to approve the lime, woodland exclusion fence and pasture division fence completed contracts as presented for payment. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried. Dvon and Dennis returned to the meeting.

Visiting Agency Reports

WV Conservation Agency

Jeremy reviewed the written report for the Agency. Jeremy reported he is working with Donny Dodd to try and schedule a meeting for Site 3 for April 22 or 23rd. He will let Virgel know as soon as the meeting date is set.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Katy McBride reviewed the written report for the NRCS Princeton Field Office.

WV Association of Conservation Districts

John Farrell encouraged board members to attend the April 22-23 meeting at Pipestem State Park.

SCD Supervisor Reports/Updates

Dvon reported Jennifer Liddle with WVDEP has requested the district donate funding for the food expenses for the April 27 Southern Watershed meeting being held at Sandstone Visitor Center. **Dvon Duncan moved to donate up to \$300.00 from the CDO account for the cost of the food for lunch for the Southern Watershed Meeting. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.**

John Farrell thanked Marty and Dave for their help with the April 9 Forestry Workshop on growing shiitake mushrooms. The next forestry committee meeting will be held April 30 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman

Dvon Duncan
Secretary