

Southern Conservation District
May 9, 2019
Board Meeting Minutes

The Southern Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on May 9, 2019 at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Randy Prince led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Randall Patton opened the meeting in prayer.

Supervisors Present:

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

Supervisors Absent

John Brenemen

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Jeremy Salyer, WVCA
Marty Walker, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Katy McBride, NRCS	Gary Redden, NRCS
Jack Taylor, Visitor	Inara Montalvo, NRCS

Randy Prince moved to approve the April 9, 2019 board meeting minutes as mailed. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.

Randall Patton moved to approve the April 16, 2019 special meeting minutes as mailed. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Randall Patton moved to approve the April 19, 2019 special meeting minutes as mailed. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

Review/Approval of Southern Conservation District April Financial Reports

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the April financial reports for district accounts as prepared by Akers and Associates. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.

Dennis Bailey moved to approve the April accounts receivable report as prepared by Akers and Associates. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried. Virgel Caldwell reported the Beverly Whitehead delinquent invoice has been paid in full.

Jack Taylor addressed the board concerning the delinquent invoice on file at the district related to pond work performed by the district crew on his property. Mr. Taylor discussed the request for service he signed for repairs to be made to his pond. He presented his drawing of the pond and repairs including the drain line area that he feels was snagged and ruptured during the excavation work. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Taylor stated he hopes to reach an amicable agreement with the board on this matter instead of taking legal action but that due to placing his farm on the market the repairs that he has submitted to Dave Parkulo by email including restocking his pond need to be made by district or he should receive just compensation for repairs to be made to the pond. Mr. Taylor requested the board provide him written commitment that the repairs would be made at no cost when the weather is permittable, so he can submit this to his realtor. Randall Patton

suggested an onsite visit with Mr. Taylor. John Farrell will schedule the visit. Randall, John and Virgel will meet with Mr. Taylor. No decisions on the work or invoice were made at this time.

Southern Conservation District Crew Technician/Supervisor Report

Dave Parkulo reported on work the crew completed during the last month including spreading lime and beginning the mowing for the spring. Dave submitted the list of estimates he submitted to Gene Saurborn and Judith Lyons on OM&R work in Greenbrier, Little Kanawha, Elk and Capitol districts and for OM&R work in the SCD. Jeremy Salyer discussed the three-part agreement that is being developed to be signed by districts performing OM&R work in other districts. The agreements will be forthcoming.

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Becky Floyd presented the co-administered financial report for April. Randall Patton moved to approve the April financial report as prepared by WVCA fiscal staff. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Becky presented the following FY20 Letters of Request for board approval:

WVCA	District Support	Quarter 1	\$47,163.00
WVCA	District Support	Quarter 2	\$26,750.00
WVCA	District Support	Quarter 3	\$26,749.00
WVCA	District Support	Quarter 4	\$18,703.00
WVCA	Emergency Seed Revegetation Program		\$14,200.00

Curtis Murphy recused himself from the room for the vote due to being on the application list for the emergency seed revegetation program. **Randall Patton moved to approve the Letter of Request as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried. Curtis returned to the meeting room.**

Becky presented the following district invoices for payment approval:

SCD Invoice 4761	OM&R work	\$24,560.50
SCD Invoice 4762	OM&R work	\$3,600.00
SCD Invoice 4772	OM&R work	\$8,828.00

Randall Patton moved to approve the invoices for payment upon WVCA approval. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried. Oscar Vecellio reported he has been working with Virgel Caldwell and Becky on the OM&R finances. Oscar and Virgel will be transferring funds from the Brush Creek CD to the SCD Project Account for Mercer County OM&R work.

Becky distributed the new supervisor ID cards.

Becky announced the 2019 Poster Contest Winners:

Division 4-6

1st Place Emil Ashley

Division 7-9

1st Place Izabella Goode

Division 10-12

1st Place Carmen Whittaker

2nd Place Ashlyn Williams

3rd Place Amethyst Cochran

Honorable Mention Harlee Blankenship

Becky provided copies of the WV Conservation District Supervisor Handbook to each board member.

Becky presented the following OM&R funding agreements for board approval:

City of Beckley – Cranberry Creek Channel	\$5,500.00
Mercer County Commission – Mercer County Flood Control Structures	\$20,000.00

Randall Patton moved to approve the funding agreements as presented. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the request from Amanda Harvey for reimbursement for the Shady Spring Envirothon Team expenses to attend and participate in the 2019 Envirothon. **Ray Lafferty moved to reimburse the team for their expenses, totaling \$652.00. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

The board scheduled a Plan of Work meeting for May 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Becky reported the vacancy for the Raleigh County Supervisor was advertised in the local paper. The district received an application from William Harris. **Ray Lafferty moved to submit the application from William Harris to the State Conservation Committee for appointment to the Raleigh County supervisor vacant position. John Farrell seconded. Motion carried.**

2019 SCD County Conservation Farms

Marty Walker suggested Steve and Debbie DeHart for the Mercer County Farm and Jim Tolliver for the Raleigh County Farm. No other suggestions were made. The board agreed to meet at the SCD office on May 24, at 10:00 a.m. to tour the two farms. Marty stated both farms have or will have NRCS conservation plans and have participated in the AgEP program.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker presented the following FY19 AgEP completed contracts for payment approval:

Lime

Ken Scott	\$805.75
Robert Jiranek	\$2,000.00
Pam Bailey	\$590.25
Lloyd Harrell	\$687.50

Heavy Use Area Protection

Harry Hylton	\$1,000.00
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Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the FY19 AgEP contracts as presented by Marty Walker. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Marty discussed the FY19 Emergency Seed Revegetation Program and reported 17 applications were received during the application sign up period. Curtis Murphy and Ray Lafferty recused themselves from the room due to being on the application list. Dennis Bailey recused himself from the room due to being related to Michal Mines. Marty presented the following applications for approval:

Harry Garrett	\$600.00
Rufus Reed	\$600.00

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Ronald and Vicky Reed	\$840.00
Curtis Murphy	\$1,080.00
Allison Cyrus	\$840.00
Jim Tolliver	\$3,000.00
James Bennett	\$540.00
Michael Mines	\$360.00
Alan Gunnoe	\$180.00
Ron Testerman	\$600.00
Rob Jiranek	\$900.00
Leremy Johnson	\$900.00
Pamela Bailey	\$300.00
Kevin Okes	\$240.00
Luther Bennett	\$420.00
David Mullins	\$1,800.00
Ray Lafferty	\$480.00

Marty reported the applications were reviewed by the SCD AgEP Committee at their May 7 meeting.

Jeremy Salyer will review the applications submitted by supervisors for approval. **Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the FY19 Emergency Seed Revegetation applications except for Curtis Murphy and Ray Lafferty. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried. Curtis Murphy, Ray Lafferty and Dennis Bailey returned to the meeting.**

Marty reported the SCD AgEP Committee reviewed the FY20 AgEP Addendum. Marty reviewed the practices and changes to the Addendum. **Dennis Bailey moved to approve the FY20 AgEP Addendum as presented. Curtis Murphy seconded. The motion carried.** The first application period for FY20 AgEP will be July 8th -12th. The completion deadline will be December 6, 2019. A second application period was not set, or a decision made on what practices if any will be offered during the second application period.

Visiting Agency Reports

WV Conservation Agency

Jeremy Salyer reviewed the Agency report and upcoming events and programs. Becky read Judith Lyon's report on Site 3 and the recent meeting held with sponsors and WV Department of Environmental Protection. Virgel reported Harold Wolfe attended the meeting and will provide his notes from the meeting to the district.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Gary Redden introduced Inara Montalvo. Ms. Montalvo discussed the April 10 letter the district from the McDowell County Commission concerning easement question on property acquired by NRCS in partnership with the District. NRCS will provide a written response to the district for the County Commission.

Gary updated the board on the high tunnel Puckett Greenhouses will be donating to the district for the Boy Scout Jamboree and then future education purposes. Gary will follow up with Puckett on the letter to the district.

Katy McBride reported for the Princeton Field Office.

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WV Association of Conservation Districts

Ray Lafferty reported on the April quarterly meeting held at Pipestem. Districts have been asked to appoint a supervisor to serve on the WVACD Legislative Committee. Dennis Bailey will represent the District on the WVACD Legislative Committee.

Supervisor Reports

Virgel Caldwell discussed the recent Grazing Land Conference and questioned if Dave Parkulo will reimburse the district for his cost to attend the Conference. A discussion was held on district policy related to employees attending meetings. **Oscar Vecellio moved to cover the expense of the trip however all future attendance to workshops or meetings will need prior board approval. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.**

Randall Patton reviewed the payroll increase and the mistake made on the effective date of the increase. **Randall Patton moved to make the payroll increases including the janitorial pay increase retroactive to April 1, clearing up the mistake made on the increase date. Ray Lafferty seconded. The motion carried with two negative votes from Randy Prince and Oscar Vecellio. Virgel Caldwell asked the minutes reflect he is against the retroactive date on the payroll increases.**

Dvon Duncan reported Jessica Blankenship accepted another position and therefore will not be recommended for the VISTA position. The group agreed to meet on May 31 following the 319 meeting to discuss options of hiring a VISTA or a full-time education coordinator.

Dvon gave an update on Water Festivals being held this month.

Dvon reported the district will receive 30 B3 American Chestnut seedlings next Tuesday, May 15. Becky Floyd, Curtis Murphy, Dennis Bailey, and Dvon Duncan will help deliver the seedlings to Camp Creek, Little Beaver, Pipestem and Twin Falls State Parks.

John Farrell reported on the April 30 Forestry Committee meeting. Plans are underway for a chainsaw safety workshop later this spring.

Dave Parkulo reported the SCD Field Day will be held September 7 at the Raleigh County Airport.

Virgel Caldwell appointed Randall Patton and Randy Prince to serve on a nominating committee for the district to provide a ballot for the June meeting to vote on the officers and directors for the district for the next fiscal year. Becky will place this on the June agenda.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman

Dvon Duncan
Secretary