

MINUTES

Western Conservation District Board Meeting

May 16, 2019

In Attendance

Supervisors: Charles Lipscomb, Chairman; Oscar Harris, Vice-Chairman; Jim Withrow, Secretary; Don Stephens, Treasurer; D.W. "Peachie" Arthur
Absent: Jeremy Grant

Others: Dennis Brumfield, CPA, District Bookkeeper; Jackie Byars, District Conservationist; Kim Fisher, Area Director, Russell Kidwell, CT, Judith Lyons, Watershed Manager; Ben Goff, WVU Extension Agent.

Call to Order

Chairman Lipscomb called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. at the district office in Point Pleasant.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Agenda accepted on a Harris/Withrow motion. Passed.
Minutes approved on a Stephens/Arthur motion. Passed.

Financial Reports

General & CDO Funds - District CPA, Dennis Brumfield reviewed the financial reports.

Dennis explained removal of obsolete equipment from inventory. The inventory removed as obsolete and the potato equipment that was sold is as follows: Display Unit, Sharp Camcorder, Xerox Copier, Laptop, Potato Planter, Potato Digger #1 and Potato Digger #2. It was noted that funds from the sale of the potato equipment was deposited in to the Co-Administered Account under the Potato Funds.

Co-Administered Funds - WCD Co-Administered Funds Report as prepared by WVCA.

On a Harris/Stephens motion Financial Reports were accepted and will be filed for audit. Passed.

Financial Transactions for May were approved as listed on a Harris/Stephens motion. Passed.

Closure of Non-Interest-Bearing Account- As per a memo from Andrew Riffe, asking the district to close the non-interest-bearing account because it is no longer needed for 319 Funds. It has been determined that since the 319 money the agency receives comes from DEP as a reimbursement it is technically WVCA funds. Therefore, it can be put in an interest-bearing account. **On a Stephens/Withrow motion the board approved the request to close the Non-Interest-Bearing Account held at Ohio Valley Bank. Motion Passed.**

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Stephens presented the payroll report with a total of \$2,505.70. **On a Harris/Stephens motion payroll was approved. Motion Passed.**

BUFFALO HIGH SCHOOL AG ISSUES TEAM PRESENTATION – Students from the Ag Issues Team made an outstanding presentation about WV Senate Bill 329.

Agency Reports

BEN GOFF, WVU EXTENSION AGENT/MASON/PUTNAM CO'S – Presented a request for \$300 to be used at 4-H Camps to build butterfly houses and bee hotels to improve native pollinator habitat at three camps in Mason and Putnam counties. **Funding of \$300 was approved on a Harris/Withrow motion. Motion Passed.**

JACKIE BYARS, DISTRICT CONSERVATIONIST – NRCS: Jackie talked about possibility of getting NRCS employees that we missed last year. They would be a coop employee with the WCD to be supervised by NRCS Conservationist. A new southern WV Assistant Conservationist has been hired.

JUDITH LYONS, WATERSHED MANAGER, SOUTH: There is more stream bank work being done. There may be grant funding available under the SSRP program in the future. The proposal is out now for public comment. **Oscar Harris was given authority to take care of Mill Creek 5 Poison Hemlock problem on a Stephens/Arthur motion. Passed.**

- ♦ **Emergency Action Plans / EAP's – On a Stephens/Harris motion to approve Emergency Action Plans for Mill Creek's 4,5,8,9,10 & 13 and Pocatalico 28. Motion Passed.**

Correspondence

Ravenswood FFA Grassland Request – A letter was received from the State Grassland Team, Ravenswood FFA asking for support to attend the Mid-American Grassland Contest. **On a Harris/Withrow motion \$250 was approved. Motion Passed.**

Programs

Agriculture Enhancement Program

About thirty AgEP projects are yet to be finalized. Some are near completion and sign-up is going well this year.

The following payments were approved on a Harris/Stephens motion. Motion Passed.

LIME

Danny Roush	\$1,239.00
Vernon Jones	\$ 168.00
Gary Elkins	\$ 630.00
Jeremy Grant	\$1,060.00
Tim Kidwell	\$ 525.00
Scott Casto	\$ 609.00
Chad Russell	\$ 756.00

WATER SYSTEM

David McClung	\$1,954.00
Shane Loomis	\$1,892.50

DIVISION FENCE

David J. Deweese	\$ 765.00
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EXCLUSION FENCE

George B. Hoffman	\$ 975.00
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EMERGENCY REVEGETATION PROGRAM

Forty-Seven applications have been submitted from 41 people. A total of 498.55 acres signed up for at a cost of \$29,000. An LOR has been submitted for \$31,400, to fund our Emergency AgEP Program.

CHERRY FORK 319 PROJECT

Community Meeting at Confidence Elementary: Russell said nobody showed up for the meeting. Several invalid addresses on the materials sent out may have been a cause.

There is no contract written yet for the Arthur demonstration farm but will work on it later.

319 Lab Payment Approval – **On a Harris/Stephens the payment of \$65.00 was approved to Analabs, Inc. Motion Passed.** This was billed to Greenbrier Valley CD but was a Cherry Fork sample to be paid by WCD.

Old Business

- ◆ County Conservation Farms-
Chris Deweese, Putnam County
Mark Casto, Jackson County
Donald Hussell, Mason County

New Business

- ◆ District Farm Tour - Farms were named with the District tour set for May 28th at 8:30 to meet at the WCD office.
- ◆ **FY20 LOR's – On a Stephens/Withrow motion the board authorized the Chairman's signatures on the FY20 LOR's. Motion Passed.** An error was made on the amounts listed on the agenda for LOR#8207 it was corrected to \$16,692. LOR #8206 \$33,082; LOR #8208 \$16,691; LOR #8209 \$12,668. Amounts approved were listed on WCD FY20 Quick Reference.
- ◆ **AgEP Administrative Agreement for FY2020 was approved on a Withrow/Stephens motion. Motion Passed.**
- ◆ **Partnership Plan of Work with changes indicated on the accompanying sheet was approved on a Stephens/Harris motion. Motion Passed.**

Report of Supervisors

Don Stephens – Reported on attending the Little Kanawha RC&D Council Meeting. Mini grants were approved. Project sharing is not doing well financially. A committee is at work on the problem of how can finances be approved.

Jim Withrow – District Director – WVACD Quarterly

Dues to the National Association of Conservation Districts. May need to take more advantage of NACD programs. State Fair meeting is coming up. Need workers for the conservation booth.

Chuck Lipscomb- District Director – WVACD Quarterly

Passed around Joe Gumm's report of NACD activities. A field day is to be held this summer. The SSRP program is still on hold, may be under grant authority. Dam monitors may need training. Plans for dam rehab completed with none of WCD dams included. Envirothon results were given with Ravenswood 1st and Moorefield High School 2nd. Century Farms have 17 applied from nine districts. There were two scholarships awarded in WCD out of eight given. All district supervisors can vote for state officers. A Training Committee appointed by the president with Brian to provide money for training. AgDay breakfast will be held again next year. Each CD can appoint one person to be on the State Legislative Committee. **On a Harris/Withrow motion Don Stephens was elected to service on the Legislative Committee. Motion Passed. AgEP**

meeting this fall. Himalayan black berries to be added to Invasive Species List. Technical assistance grants thru NACD.

Adjournment

The date of the next meeting was changed due to **WV Day** holiday. The date of Thursday, June 27th was set.

With no further business, Chairman Lipscomb adjourned the meeting.

Minutes recorded by: Oscar Harris, Vice-Chair

Approved by: _____

Transcribed by: Sherry Pearson,DM

James Withrow, Secretary

Attachments