

**ELK CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2019**

Supervisors Present:

Donald Burroughs
Shirley Hyre
Clark Mollohan
John Pitsenbarger
Mike Smalley
Ken Stowers

Supervisors Absent:

Carly Triplett

Others Present: Suzie Steele, WVCA/ECD DM; Russell Young, WVCD/ECD Conservation Specialist; Cassidy James, ECD Assistant; Kirk Burroughs, ECD Equipment/OM&R Manager; Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Director; Judith Lyons, WVCA Watershed Manager; Andy Sentz, NRCS DC; Debbie Friend, Braxton Co. WVU Extension Agent; Brian Sparks, Nicholas Co. WVU Extension Agent

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mollohan called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Ms. Hyre**.

AGENDA: **Mr. Pitsenbarger** moved to approve the agenda; **Mr. Smalley** seconded; motion passed.

January 24, 2019 Minutes: **Ms. Hyre** moved to approve the minutes; **Mr. Pitsenbarger** seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report/January 2019 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: **Ms. Hyre** reported that all accounts are in good order and reported on the balance in the Supervisor Support Account. **Ms. Hyre** moved to approve the financials and file for audit; second by **Mr. Pitsenbarger**; motion passed.

PAYMENT OF BILLS: **Mr. Pitsenbarger** moved to approve the payment of bills (list provided at meeting and attached); **Ms. Hyre** seconded; motion passed.

REPORTS

DISTRICT EQUIPMENT/OM&R MANAGER'S REPORT: None

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT: **Mrs. Steele** reported on the tree and plant sale, the monthly district newsletter, the receipt of safety certifications for the Salt Lick dam sites, the upcoming extension services dinner meetings, receipt of sediment control plan from S&S Engineers for Braxton County Schools/Little Birch Elementary, tree cutting at one of the Salt Lick dams on the right of way for the power company, Big Ditch dam inspection report, and repairs to Williams River Road in Webster County.

***Donald & Kirk Burroughs arrived at 10:20 am.**

DISTRICT ASSISTANT'S REPORT: None

WVCA CONSERVATION SPECIALIST REPORT: **Mr. Young** reported that he has reached out to cooperators about attending the Appalachian Grazing Conference. Waiting on responses. There will be a State AgEP meeting at ECD on Monday, March 18.

AREA DIRECTOR'S REPORT: **Mrs. Fisher** reviewed the Agency's report (copy attached). She informed the board that a district news section will be added to this report.

WVCA PERSONNEL: **Ms. Lyons** thanked the board members for attending the meeting with the Braxton County Commission. She reviewed her written report (copy attached). CCR's are on hold while transitioning to the new program. At Salt Lick site 7, the Division of Highways will be replacing a culvert. Discussed erosion issues at the Herndon Dam and informed the board that site 6 will need equipment brought in for some of the work needed there.

SWA Reports: **Ms. Hyre (Braxton)** reported they are working on grant reports and applications. They are requesting bids for their audit. They have met with Braxton Board of Education concerning recycling within the schools. **Mr. Stowers (Nicholas)** reported that the transfer station is almost complete.

FSA Personnel: None

WVU Extension: **Debbie Friend, Braxton County,** reported that Ed Rayburn will be the presenter at the Braxton Farm Bureau meeting on March 18, to speak on rehabbing grasslands from damage caused by how wet the year has been. Reseeding is recommended, and he will discuss the correct process. She also asked the board to make sure to inform cooperators of the importance of using the proper crop code when sending in soil samples. The recommendations are

different based upon this code. The Braxton and Clay Extension Services will be offering a Master Gardeners class in the fall. This will probably be held at Big Otter. **Brian Sparks, Nicholas County**, reported on a growers meeting held yesterday. This focused on high tunnels. He attended the Small Farms Conference and stated this was a very good event. They are holding a dinner meeting this evening on Animal Health and Nutrition. Hay crops this year were not very good and supplementing may have to happen. He discussed the upcoming bull test sales, the Nicholas County Fair, and the Nicholas County Potato Festival. He thanked the board for support of the dinner meetings.

Forestry Division: None

CD SUPERVISORS: **Mr. Smalley** reported that he attended the Small Farms Conference. He has assisted at Birch River Elementary School with the construction of their high tunnel. This project was discussed further. **Mr. Pitsenbarger** reported that Ag Day at the Capitol went well. The presentation from the state conservation farm was very good. He attended the meeting with the Braxton County Commission concerning the watersheds. The Nicholas County Fair date has been moved to later in the summer to accommodate the growing season. The Department of Ag will be having a program concerning hay shortage. **Ms. Hyre** reminded everyone of the Envirothon competition on April 17 & 18 at Canaan Valley. Next Envirothon meeting is March 6 at the ECD/WVACD conference room. The April meeting will be at Canaan Valley. She asked that anyone attending the Appalachian Grazing Conference please sign up as soon as possible.

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

AG ENHANCEMENT: **Mr. Pitsenbarger** reported that they met after the Executive Committee meeting. Recommendations will be covered later in meeting.

BUILDING: None. A meeting needs to be set up with the renters of the building in Gassaway to inspect and make sure all is well.

COMMUNICATION: **Ms. Hyre** reported on the conference call meeting yesterday. Had 10 districts in attendance. They discussed district events, field days, and farm tours.

EDUCATION: Ms. Hyre reported that the CEC will be meeting on March 26 at WFCD at 10 am.

***Andy Sentz, NRCS, arrived at 11:08 am.**

EQUIPMENT: None

FINANCE: **Ms. Hyre** reported the committee will meet on March 12 following the Executive Committee meeting.

FORESTRY: None

GRASSLANDS: **Mr. Burroughs** reported that the next meeting is in July.

LEGISLATIVE: **Mr. Pitsenbarger** reported on some of the bills at the state legislature. The regular session is almost up. The Farm Bureau pushed a right to farm bill. There is a bill that will ask for donations to 4-H, FFA, etc. when renewing licenses at DMV.

PROJECT: **Mrs. Steele** reported that the construction on the high tunnel at Birch River Elementary School has begun. All seems to be going very well.

WATER QUALITY: None

NRCS Personnel Report: **Mr. Sentz** reported that they are working on rankings. They may be done by this Friday but hoping to be granted an extension. They have approximately 70 eligible applications. Jeff Barr with the Forest Service will be working with Camp Caesar and with others concerning 2 ponds on Bishop Knob that were drained. They are wanting to put these ponds back. Camp Caesar will be having meetings. NRCS personnel will be assisting at the Grasslands Contest at the Beef Expo in April at Jackson's Mill. NRCS is working on status reviews. The Farm Bill should be complete, and they are just waiting to obligate contracts. Please encourage cooperators to sign up for the Focused Conservation Programs. Need to schedule Local Work Group meeting(s). Would like to have meeting(s) first week of April.

OLD BUSINESS

- **SPRP Contract: ECD 2018-08-22 SPRP Buffalo Creek Widen Project** - Nothing at present time
- **Appointment of Clay County Supervisor** - No responses to date
- **Envirothon Workshop** - Scheduled for March 16 at the ECD office. Open to teams from outside of the district for a cost of \$5.00 per person to cover lunch. This has been shared with all other districts, put on the district's Facebook page, and added to the Envirothon site.

NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE

- **FY18 DRAFT Audit Report** - **Mr. Smalley** moved to accept the report as presented; **Ms. Hyre** seconded; motion passed. (Copy Attached)

NEW BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

- **FY20 District Personnel Plan** – Mr. Pitsenbarger moved to submit the personnel plan as presented; Mr. Burroughs seconded; motion passed. (Copy Attached)
- **Transfer of Big Ditch OM&R Funds to Camp Caesar Flood Repair Co-Admin Account** – The letter received from Mr. Farkas in response to the request was discussed. The district will submit a response that will include the history of the original funds and the plan from Camp Caesar.
- **Supervisor Mileage Reimbursement Rate** – Mr. Pitsenbarger reported that the federal rate has raised to \$0.58 per mile. Board consensus is to leave their reimbursement rate at \$0.54 per mile.
- **2019 Conservation Farms, Grasslands Farms, & Forestry Recognition** – Supervisors were reminded to submit their nominations as soon as possible.

AgEP Payments

Steve Miller – Nicholas County – Fence - \$1,000.00

Mr. Pitsenbarger moved to approve payment; Ms. Hyre seconded; motion passed.

COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS

William Kincaid – Nicholas County

Freddie Parsons – Braxton County

James Stone – Nicholas County

Ms. Hyre moved to approve the agreements; Mr. Pitsenbarger seconded; motion passed.

AgEP APPLICATIONS

Exclusion Fence:	Debbie Hamric - Braxton	\$1,000.00
\$3,000.00	William Kincaid - Nicholas	\$1,000.00
	Johnny Singleton - Braxton	\$1,000.00

Division Fence:	Randy Tucker - Nicholas	\$1,000.00
\$1,000.00		

Nutrient Management:	Giovanno Romano - Nicholas	\$855.59
\$34,263.43	Steven Claypool (Bull) - Braxton	\$804.00
	Steven Claypoole (Fuller) - Braxton	\$381.17
	Steven Claypoole (Wilson) - Braxton	\$695.64
	Benjamin Mullens - Nicholas	\$2,000.00
	James Cox - Nicholas	\$1,451.66
	John Wimmer (Bloom) - Braxton	\$764.43
	Lawrence A Shaver - Braxton	\$697.77
	Debbie Hamric (Hall) - Braxton	\$321.97
	Debbie Hamric (Hamric) - Braxton	\$1,062.82
	Joe Bell - Nicholas	\$676.64
	Linda Sparks (Rader) - Nicholas	\$2,000.00
	Freddie Parsons - Braxton	\$317.20
	Larry Grogg (Grogg) - Braxton	\$1,035.84
	Ronald Drake - Braxton	\$788.95
	Billy Carr - Braxton	\$309.39
	John Wimmer (Core) - Braxton	\$1,045.71
	John Wimmer (Marple) - Braxton	\$378.12
	John Wimmer (Wimmer) - Braxton	\$823.00
	Steven Claypoole (Brown) - Braxton	\$527.17
	Brandon Keiper (Lynn) - Nicholas	\$944.38
	Brandon Keiper (Tyree) - Nicholas	\$629.59
	Linda Brown - Braxton	\$2,000.00
	William Kincaid - Nicholas	\$1,364.61
	Brandon Keiper (Gawthrop) - Nicholas	\$786.98
	Larry Grogg (Craft) - Braxton	\$1,466.66
	Mike Nuckles - Braxton	\$1,386.31
	Carl Willey - Nicholas	\$391.12
	Robert Hart - Braxton	\$2,000.00

AgEP APPLICATIONS (cont.)

Nutrient Management: Tim Bailes - Nicholas	\$1,130.77
Phyllis Groves - Braxton	\$803.41
James Stone - Nicholas	\$291.79
Carl Johnson - Nicholas	\$790.76
Randy Tucker - Nicholas	\$1,867.68
Sherry Thomas - Nicholas	\$1,472.30

Mr. Pitsenbarger moved to approve the applications; Ms. Hyre seconded; motion passed.

(D/M) AgEP Extensions from fall sign up period

<u>Lime Applications:</u>	Keith Shaver (Shaver) - Braxton	\$2,152.50
\$20,213.56	James Short - Nicholas	\$1,575.00
	Arch Prince - Braxton	\$2,625.00
	Keith Shaver (Fleming) - Braxton	\$840.00
	Jerry Salisbury - Clay	\$560.00
	Merle Hartley (Toler) - Nicholas	\$495.60
	Keith Shaver (Hutchison) - Braxton	\$1,281.88
	Giovanno Romano - Nicholas	\$565.95
	Fred Thorne - Braxton	\$1,312.50
	Brian Smarr - Braxton	\$420.00
	Jerid Riffle - Braxton	\$1,260.00
	Oliver Rhodes - Clay	\$700.00
	Naomi Wolford - Braxton	\$927.50
	Bradley Meadows - Braxton	\$412.13
	James McClung - Nicholas	\$245.00
	Kathryn Boggs - Webster	\$927.50
	Merle Hartley (Vilacha) - Nicholas	\$210.00
	Steve Miller - Nicholas	\$700.00
	Rick Hart - Braxton	\$1,144.50
	James Bruffy - Nicholas	\$262.50
	Joe Singleton - Braxton	\$525.00
	John Pitsenbarger - Nicholas	\$1,071.00

Ms. Hyre moved to approve the extension and use district funds as needed to pay these reimbursements; Mr. Smalley seconded; motion passed with Mr. Pitsenbarger recused from voting.

Being no further business to attend to, and on **motion by Mr. Burroughs; seconded by Mr. Stowers; Chairman Mollohan declared the meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.**

_____, ECD Secretary/Treasurer

DATES TO REMEMBER: (OFFICE CLOSED/ECD MEETINGS)

Mar 6	Envirothon Meeting - 10 AM
Mar 7-9	Appalachian Grazing Conference at Morgantown Marriott at Waterfront Place Hotel
Mar 12	ECD Exec. Committee Meeting - 10 AM & Education/Finance/Budget Committee Meetings to follow
Mar 28	ECD Board Meeting - 10 AM & Policy Manual/Plan of Work Review to follow
Apr 3	Envirothon Meeting - 10 AM
Apr 9	ECD Executive Committee Meeting - 10 AM
Apr 12-13	WV Beef Expo at Jackson's Mill
Apr 17-18	WV Envirothon Competition at Canaan Valley
Apr 22-23	WVACD Quarterly Meeting @ Pipestem State Park
Apr 25	ECD Board Meeting - 10 AM
May 6-9	WVCA All Staff Training
May 14	ECD Executive Committee Meeting - 10 AM
May 23	ECD Board Meeting - 10 AM
Jul 15-16	WVACD Quarterly Meeting @ Highlands Event Center, Triadelphia, WV
Oct 21-22	WVACD Quarterly Meeting @ Flatwoods Days Hotel