

Southern Conservation District
Minutes of Meeting
July 18, 2019

The Southern Conservation District July 18, 2019 monthly board meeting was held at their office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Bill Harris led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting in prayer. Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 am.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Dvon Duncan who passed away on July 7, 2019.

Supervisors Present

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

Supervisors Absent

John Brenemen

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Marty Walker, WVCA	Katy McBride, NRCS
Jamie Darlington, NRCS	

Virgel Caldwell welcomed Bill Harris to the board as a Raleigh County Supervisor.

Ray Lafferty reported the state RC&D board is requesting approval for a special plaque to be placed in the SCD office in memory of Dvon. Ray will work with the RC&D to help develop what to place on the plaque.

Oscar Vecellio reported the board will process Dvon's June expenses and forward the check to her daughter Amanda Fulk.

Dennis discussed the need to continue pursuing hiring a full-time education person as part of carrying out Dvon's goal of hiring a VISTA or full-time person to carry out 319 work and conservation education.

Randall Patton moved to approve the June 13, 2019 board meeting minutes as mailed. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of June Southern Conservation District Financial Reports

Randall Patton moved to approve the June SCD financial reports as prepared by Akers and Associates. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Dennis Bailey moved to approve the accounts receivable report for June as prepared by Akers and Associates. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Virgel reported John Wooton is continuing discussions with Jack Taylor regarding his past due invoice and requests he made to the district concerning his invoice and his pond.

Southern Conservation District Crew Technician/Supervisor Report

Dave Parkulo gave an update on work the district employees completed including completion of cost share work.

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Becky Floyd presented the June financial reports for the co-administered accounts. **Randall Patton moved to approve the reports as prepared by WVCA fiscal staff. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented the following invoice for payment approval:

SCD Invoice 4816	WVCA blockage work	\$4,362.80
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Oscar Vecellio moved to approve invoice 4816 for payment. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Becky reported Kimberly Neal submitted the Emergency Action Plan for Brush Creek Site 10 for board approval and signature. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the Emergency Action Plan for Brush Creek Site 10. S Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky reported the Area Farm Tour will be held August 8 for the SCD conservation farm. Judges will arrive at the DeHart Farm on August 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Becky discussed the call from Norm Bailey concerning a hiking trail being developed outside of the district area and constructed by the district crew with the possibility of needing to use the district's engineering firm for survey work. Becky explained the agreement with CEC still needs to be approved by the board and accepted by Harold Wolfe. A copy of the draft agreement reflecting Harold's comments was provided to board members. **Dennis Bailey moved to approve the Engineering Expression of Interest based upon changes being made as suggested by Harold Wolfe. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.** Dave Parkulo discussed his contact with Rob Pate to see if Rob can provide the engineering soil survey information for the project. Rob has agreed to work with the district on this if the job is offered to the district. Dave requested approval to work with Randall Patton on the cost to hire Rob to do the necessary survey work if needed. The board agreed.

Becky reported she has updated the AgEP database for the SCD for FY19 other than posting check numbers after the final applications are approved today for payment. Becky reported the FY 19 database has also been completed for the AgEP emergency funds.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker reported 90 applications were taken during the week of sign-ups for FY20 AgEP program. Marty presented the breakdown of the applications: 39 lime; 16 pasture division fences; 15 pond cleanouts; 7 heavy use area protection area; 9 exclusion fences; and 4 water system applications.

Marty discussed available funding to carry out the FY20 program.

Marty reviewed the remaining FY19 completed contracts for payment approval:

Pond Cleanout Contract	
Fred Akerberg (Tucker Creek Farm)	\$2,000.00
Lime Contracts	
Rosemary Smith	\$2,000.00
Benjamin Farley	\$1,040.75
Water System	
Stoughton Gilkeson	\$1,000.00
Larry McClintic	\$971.84

Curtis Murphy moved to approve the FY19 AgEP payments for complete contracts as presented by Marty. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.

Marty reviewed the FY19 cancelations for approval:

Chris Jackson	Exclusion Fence	\$1,000.00
Michael Barnes	Pond Cleanout	\$2,000.00
Dean Bailey	Water System	\$500.00

Curtis Murphy moved to approve the FY19 AgEP contract cancelations as presented by Marty. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

319 Updates

Marty reported the 319-demonstration project on the Testerman farm is on hold until September or after the FY20 AgEP ranking is complete.

Visiting Agencies

WV Conservation Agency

Jeremy Salyer asked if board members need a new ID Card. Bill Harris needs a Supervisor ID card.

Jeremy discussed the area farm tour on August 8. Virgel will meet Jeremy and the judges at the Princeton office at 1:30 to help direct judges to the farm.

Jeremy reviewed the Agencies written report. Public comment period for the Legislative Rule ended June 29th. Ag Day is scheduled for January 31, 2020. The WV Association of Conservation

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Districts legislative committee is working to possibly change the date for the annual Legislative Breakfast usually held on Ag Day since the 31st is on a Friday.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Katy McBride introduced Jamie Darlington who is the acting Resource Conservationist.

Katy thanked the board for working with her during her work assignment in the Princeton Office. Matt Murphy will be in the Princeton Office next for a 120-day detail.

WV Association of Conservation Districts

Ray Lafferty gave a detailed report on the April WVACD quarterly meeting. The Association is recommending each district have a Water Resource Committee and task the committee to work towards getting dam monitors and hold a dinner meeting once a year to encourage landowners to volunteer for a dam monitor and provide training on this volunteer position.

The Association is planning supervisor training beginning with a tentative date of September 24 and would be held in the Little Kanawha District with the cost of \$65.00 for each supervisor to attend. The training will provide grant writing training. John reported the date has been changed to September 26th. Virgel asked for a volunteer. Dennis reported he has changed positions with his job and he will not be able to travel to attend the training. He will still be able to attend board meetings.

John and Ray discussed fund raising avenues to raise funds for scholarships for students in WV to attend college. Encouragement is needed from all districts by providing items for the WVACD auction held each year at the annual meeting.

Supervisor Reports

Virgel read the request from Mike Akers for a monthly salary increase of \$150.00. **Randall Patton moved to approve the \$150.00 salary increase for Mike Akers. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel discussed representation on the Mountain RC&D board as the SCD representation. Randall Patton volunteered to serve and will contact Mountain RC&D members with his information.

Virgel Caldwell asked Bill Harris which committees he would like to serve on as a new supervisor. Bill Harris agreed to serve on the committees Don Windon had served on during his term as district supervisor. Virgel asked Becky to place this on the agenda again for August for Dvon's position on several committees.

John is working with Leo Lester on a date for September to schedule a chain saw safety forestry workshop. Dave stated he is hoping to incorporate training at the September 7 conservation field day. Dave will have the portable sawmill at the field day.

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Randall Patton read the request letter from the City of Keystone for assistance with repairs to their City Park. Randall stated this park is used by children in the area. Randall **Patton moved the district donate \$500.00 from CDO funds to help with the repairs to the park. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel requested the board to change the August 8 board meeting to August 15 due to area farm tour being August 8. Members agreed to change the meeting date to the 15th with the board meeting beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman