



MINUTES

Western Conservation District Board Meeting June 21, 2018

In Attendance

Supervisors: Charles Lipscomb, Chairman; Oscar Harris, Vice-Chairman; Jim Withrow, Secretary; Bob Siebel, Treasurer; Donald Stephens Absent: Jeremy Grant

Others: Dennis Brumfield, CPA, District Bookkeeper; Jackie Byars, District Conservationist, USDA; Kim Fisher, Area Director; Russell Kidwell, Conservation Technician and Sherry Pearson, District Manager; WVCA.

Call to Order

Chairman Lipscomb called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the district office in Point Pleasant.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

**On a Withrow/Siebel motion the agenda was adopted as presented, motion carried.
Siebel/Stephens motion made a motion to approve the minutes, motion carried.**

Financial Reports

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

Co-Administered Funds - WCD Co-Administered Funds Report was presented by DM as prepared by WVCA. Both reports will be field for audit

Financial Transactions for June were approved as presented on a Stephens/Withrow Motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Provided report of monthly payroll in the amount of \$1,538.21. **On a Harris/Stephens motion the report and payroll were approved. Motion carried.**

Report of Supervisors

Bob Siebel provided a written and verbal report of the Great Kanawha RC&D
Chuck attended a field day at an Amish dairy in Mason County

Programs

OM&R

◆ City of Ripley Cost-Share

Oscar Harris

Oscar & Don stopped after last meeting and spoke to the Mayor. She told them to tell the secretary to have Armstrong write the check. He wasn't there but the check has not been received. Sherry will send an invoice for a reminder. They told the Mayor if we had the City's share we wouldn't have to transfer funds to pay for this year's OM&R.

◆ Scheduled for July by Southern CD

Oscar said he had been in contract with Brian over the poison hemlock growing on Site 5. He said the Agency dropped the ball. It was over his head and going to seed. Judith said she doesn't have an employee available. Oscar will continue to monitor the situation. He feels it needs sprayed at least twice a year just for control it won't eradicate it. It was asked if we could contract someone to spray. Not sure what process that would be and if funds would be available.

◆ Statement of Reviews

Oscar reported he has reviewed and signed the Statement of Reviews on all seven dams provided by WVCA as required by Dam Safety.

Cost Share Programs

Agriculture Enhancement Program

Oscar Harris

AgEP Payment Approvals

◆ **The final payments for FY18 total \$20,036.26 were approved on a Harris/Siebel motion.**

◆ FY18 Close Out Balance is \$23,767.12

Only a little over \$9,000 of that amount is left from this year. Sherry reported there were 52 paid and 12 cancellations for this past year. **On a Stephens/Siebel motion all 12 not completed contracts were cancelled. Motion carried.**

◆ FY 19 Sign Up Results

A sheet was handed out with results from the sign up in May. A total of 85 Cooperators applied for 114 practices. Of those 30 cooperators applied for lime only and 84 cooperators applied for two practices. A rough estimate would be a potential total of \$399,000 worth of practices were applied for by cooperators. With only \$81,000 FY19 allocation and \$23,676.12 to carry over a total of \$104,676.12 is available to fund our applications. Russell reports he had over 50 visits to make and is down to about 27 visits left to schedule. He will be out of the office next week for training and the third week of July for farm judging. He hopes to have all rankings ready for next board meeting so contracts can be approved.

◆ 319 – Saunders Project – Russell reports that these 319 contracts are to be cancelled. The landowner has not completed the project and has had no progress in the past months.

He was informed of a May 31, 2019 deadline several months ago. Russell has made efforts to get in touch with the landowner and visited the site. Pam Russell, 319 Program Director has told Russell this project is to be cancelled and the funds returned. Chairman Lipscomb asked for a 319 Program update in July along with details about the contract before the board issues a cancellation.

Correspondence

DEP – Certificates of Approval for Mill Creek Sites #4, #5, #8 – Letter stating the COA's are extended from March 28, 2015 to March 28, 2019.

New Business

Election of Officers of the Board

Jim Withrow made a motion to leave the Officers the same and fill the position of Treasurer with Don Stephens, seconded by Oscar. Motion carried. Bob Siebel is the acting Treasurer and will be going off the board July 1st. **On a Harris/Stephens motion Bob Siebel will attend the July Great Kanawha RC&D meeting representing the board and will be reimbursed by the board. Motion carried.**

District Directors – Oscar suggests that he would like for Don to take his place as a District Director. **On a Harris/Stephens motion Chairman Lipscomb was appointed to be the District Director to replace Oscar and Jim was reappointed. Motion carried.** It was decided that when Chairman Lipscomb could not attend that Don would go by Proxy. This is for a two-year 2018-2020 term.

Items District Offers for Sale

Plates & Bolts order to be placed, 199 needed for NRCS projects. Jackie mentioned that other field offices out of our area have been calling here for the plates, suggesting we order additional. Sherry was instructed to order 300 plates and 600 bolts. Also, Russell had brought a new type of float valve to the district's attention that is more expensive but may be better than what we offer now. The board gave permission to order five of the stainless-steel floats.

Promotional Items

Sherry requested permission to order some promotional items using FY18 Grant Funds that had \$1,800 marked for such. **On a Harris/Withrow motion the board approved that Sherry be authorized to order promotional items with these funds. Motion carried.** Such items were caps, thumb drives, totes for farmers markets, and a lapel pin with the WCD logo or coins.

Vote on Existing EQIP Projects Jackie Byars, District Conservationist

Jackie provided a handout showing the proposals from last year. They were Animal Waste, Cover Crop and Grazing -13 Mile Creek. The chart showed the amount requested the amount provided by the state compared to the amount spent. The amount she suggested to be proposed for 2019 and the suggested request for 2019. **On a Stephens/Harris motion the board approved of Jackie's recommendation to continue with project and request the suggested amount for 2019. Motion carried.** The board agreed to send a letter if needed. These amounts are for animal waste \$437,612 for Cover Crop \$290,840 and 13 Mile Creek grazing \$150,000. Last year animal waste spent \$657,710; cover crop \$556,563 and grazing 13 Mile Creek was \$47,000 in our three counties. The new proposals for 2019 and 2020 will have a two-year period that will give a year of outreach to inform applicants of the programs. Right now, staff is working on 28 applications for CSP.

Old Business

WV Envirothon Team Support to Ravenswood

WCD will give the team some t-shirts, caps, insulated bags, and pens to take to trade with other states.

Agency Reports

West Virginia Conservation Agency

Kim Fisher, Area Director - Written Report Submitted (attached)

Judith Lyons, Watershed Manager – Written Report

Sherry reviewed Judith’s report with the board. The office had received several calls about the flooding in Putnam County which are referred to Judith’s staff. There were two CCR’s and three stream permits and two EWP visits. Nate Taylor with WVDNR had contacted the WCD about a request from a gas company, Trans Canada to take water from Mill Creek 13. WVCA sent them a letter of items to be addressed and advised them to request permission from the State Conservation Committee. She noted that OM&R has been scheduled with Southern CD for July as the board requested.

WV Division of Forestry

Charles Copeland, LOA Specialist – Written Report Submitted (attached)

Adjournment

Chairman Lipscomb stated the date of the next meeting will be Thursday, July 19 at 9 a.m. With no further business, Chairman Lipscomb adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sherry Pearson

Approved by: _____

James Withrow, Secretary

Attachments