

MINUTES

Western Conservation District Board Meeting

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

In Attendance

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

Others: Dennis Brumfield, CPA, District Bookkeeper; Kim Fisher, Area Director; and Sherry Pearson, District Manager; WVCA.

Call to Order

Chairman Lipscomb called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the district office in Point Pleasant.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

On a Harris/Withrow motion the agenda was adopted. Motion carried. On a Stephens/Arthur motion the minutes were approved as presented, motion carried.

Financial Reports

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

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

Financial Transactions for October were approved as presented with on a Withrow/Harris motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Don sent a report in his absence. The report was reviewed by the board. **On a Withrow/Harris motion the total per diem was corrected to \$1,440 and the total report to \$3,202.68. Motion carried. On a Harris/Arthur motion the corrected report was approved. Motion carried.**

Report of Supervisors

Oscar Harris reported on the Little Kanawha RC&D Council meeting. The RC&D have a warehouse where materials are available for non-profits. They cannot charge for the items, but donations can be made from those receiving the items. He also attended the dam inspections along with Peachie. Oscar said we only have funds to maintain the structure no funds for renovations. Problem areas need to be checked.

Jim Withrow attended a meeting in Flatwoods that was generated from the agriculture listening session. The meeting talked about ways to acquire land for farming.

Programs

OM&R – Judith Lyons, Watershed Manager South – Provided a written report

A work estimate has been received from Southern CD for the work needed at Mill Creek 9. Oscar explained the crew will haul the debris to a DNR dump site and will need to pay the landfill charge. There will be no charge for the truck. The estimate is for \$3,329 plus the landfill charge. **On a Harris/Stephens motion WCD will**

contract with Southern CD to do the job for \$3,329 plus the landfill fee to complete the project. Motion carried.

AgEP – Oscar Harris, Committee Chairman

Due to the extremely wet weather this fall the board has agreed to extend the January deadline on all lime and water system practices. A draft letter was reviewed, and changes made. It was decided to extend the deadline until May 31st to coincide with the other AgEP practices deadline. The letters will be mailed out the first week of December with December 14th deadline to return the signed form to either cancel or extend their contract.

AgEP

The following payments were approved on a Stephens/Harris motion, motion carried.

LIME

Neil Bumgarner	\$2,100.00
Sandra Bourgeois	\$ 903.00
Rex Miihlbach	\$1,050.00

WATER SYSTEM

Roger Hatcher	\$1,940.00
William West	\$2,605.00

FENCE

William West	\$ 750.00
Kenneth Keebaugh	\$1,500.00
Gordon Hopper	\$ 750.00

Total AgEP: \$11,598.00

Correspondence

- ◆ Letter from Louis Aspey, State Conservationist, USDA-NRCS was read aloud by Chairman Lipscomb. The letter was regarding Focused Conservation and the suggested projects of the local workgroup. The following local workgroup projects were approved for implementation: *Animal Waste on Specific Soils; Cover Crop Initiative, Inefficient Grazing – Headwaters of Thirteen Mile Creek and Monarch Butterfly & Pollinator Habitat Development.*
- ◆ Memo from Louis Aspey that Greg Stone has been selected as the new State Conservationist in Kentucky. He expects that Greg will be leaving no later than early January 2019. He expects to select an individual to temporarily serve in that role until he can fill permanently.
- ◆ Jim Foster has sent a letter requested to know the number of road signs each district needs by December 15th. The cost of the signs is \$200. The board had previously voted to purchase 10 signs without knowing the cost per sign. After a brief discussion it was decided to order 10 signs.

Old Business

- ◆ Per Diem & Travel Amendment – **On a Harris/Arthur motion effective January 1st, per diem will increase for supervisors to \$80 four hours or more and \$40 two-four hours. Motion carried.** Chairman Lipscomb discussed his idea of three payment amounts for different work hours. **On a Harris/Arthur motion the district’s travel and per diem policy will be revised to reflect this update. Motion carried.**

- ◆ Agreed Procedures – Sherry reported the cost for this year’s audit will be \$1,400 instead of \$1,350 as in the past and on the supplemental funds report. This amount was agreed to last year when the board extended the contract with Rod Lowe. **On a Harris/Withrow motion the board will change the LOR to reflect the amount of \$1,400. Motion carried.** She has scheduled FY18 procedural audit for December 4-5th.
- ◆ WVACD Scholarship Auction – Jim had attended the auction and wanted the board to purchase a certificate for use of the soil trailer for \$400. Kim stated that Brian Farkas thinks that Jim purchased the item at the auction out of his pocket. He had no prior authority from the board to make this purchase. Jim explained that he did not purchase it but asked if the district decided to purchase this for educational purposes if the purchase at \$400 would be honored. He said that supervisors from Northern and Guyan CD’s had done this in the past. He thought the board could approve of the purchase now. Kim said the auction is closed and the second ticket offered was not meant to be a second offer. Jim said he would call Brian after the meeting and straighten it out.

New Business

- ◆ SSRP Program - This was tabled until the information is available.
- ◆ WVACD Questions – Tabled until December
- ◆ LOR Ag Listening Session – **On a Harris/Withrow motion the board approved the LOR for \$111.54 for the Ag Listening Session expense reimbursement. Motion carried.**

Agency Reports

West Virginia Conservation Agency

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

The State Committee will meet on January 8th at 10:30. She gave dates for next year’s fall meeting with the farm awards and Carroll Greene awards. AgEP timeline shows that any changes to be made need to be submitted by the end of January. There are 18 practices currently available. AgDay at the Capitol is January 30th. The O&R sponsors letters have been mailed out. As these are scheduled in our area, supervisors should be there and be involved in the meeting. Reminded supervisors that Kimberly Neal is the contact for any stream issues in the district. Her contact number is always on the monthly WVCA report.

Adjournment

Chairman Lipscomb stated the date of the next meeting will be Thursday, December 20th, at 9 a.m. With no further business, Chairman Lipscomb adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by: Sherry Pearson

Approved by: _____

James Withrow, Secretary

Attachments