

**EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
April 17, 2013  
MINUTES**

The Eastern Panhandle Conservation District's monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by James Moore, Chairman, at the USDA Service Center in Martinsburg, WV.

Pledge of Allegiance  
Prayer

Introductions

The following were in attendance of the meeting:

**District Supervisors:** James Michael, Lin Dunham, James Moore, Robert Gruber, Robert Boarman and Floyd Kursey

**Associate Supervisor:** Susannah Flanagan

**WVCA/EPCD:** Sherry Duncan, Barbie Elliott and Jeremy Salyer

**FSA:**

**NRCS:** Ford Grissett, Howard Butts, Jr.

**WVU Extension:**

**OTHER:** Ronda Lehman, John Maxey and Willis Nowell-BRWC, Aimee Weldon and James Remuzzi-Potomac Conservancy

**Agenda Approval-**Jim Michael moved to approve the agenda as amended. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried.

**Minutes-** Jim Moore requested a correction on page 3 under National Watershed Coalition Membership dues; change NACD to National Watershed Coalition. Lin Dunham moved to accept the minutes as corrected for the March 13 meeting. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**Agency Reports:**

**WVCA/EPCD:**

*Sherry Duncan*-reported for Heather that she will need help delivering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade trees to Paw Paw and Tomahawk Elementary. Also request a date be set for a Plan of Work and Policy review meeting.

*Barbie Elliott*- needs to schedule an AEP committee meeting to discuss next program.

*Jeremy Salyer*-Thanked supervisors for attending Ag-Day. He reviewed the WVCA Conservation District report for April and Quarterly meeting. He reviewed the actions at the state committee meeting and reviewed budget cuts.

**NRCS-***Ford Grissett*- Ford reviewed number of contracts funded in our area.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Potomac Conservancy**-Aimee Weldon and James Remuzzi are working to contact absentee landowners about conservation programs available. They want to educate the landowner and advise them about what BMP's would benefit their land. They have a program in Maryland and are hoping to expand to WV. They have a list of landowners they would like us to review to see if we are currently working with any of them. They would also like to have a letter of support from the district. Barbie asked how the confidentiality laws affect them getting information from the districts. Aimee stated that the issue was never raised. Lin Dunham hopes that their information would not affect the farmer/landowner relationship. Discussion was tabled and will be on next month's agenda.

**Blue Ridge Watershed Coalition**-Ronda Lehman and John Maxey presented a very nice PowerPoint showing what the BRWC has accomplished in the last year. They have received a grant to enable them to buy equipment to do water monitoring on the Shenandoah River. They will be monitoring water coming into and going out of WV. Their volunteers are attending classes on water monitoring and their results will meet EPA guidelines. They thanked the district for its grant of \$1000 to help with stream cleanup projects. BRWC was voted Best New Watershed of the Year for 2012. They have secured enough funding to complete this year, and hopes that the district will be willing to help if they need money in 2014 to continue the water monitoring. Supervisors were very impressed with what BRWD has accomplished and look forward to seeing the results of their water monitoring.

**CNB Bank-support request**-Lin Dunham moved to write a letter to CNB requesting funding in the amount of \$400. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried.

**Chesapeake Bay Journal-request for donation**-no action

**LOR-State Farm winner reimbursement**-Robert Gruber moves to send an LOR for \$1238.11 for reimbursement for a sign for the state winner, conference registration and travel. Floyd Kursey seconded. Discussion on whom it should be sent to. Jeremy will find out and let the AO know. Motion carried.

**Reimburse Robert Boarman for barrels**-Jim Moore thinks that Robbie should get the Outstanding New Supervisor award for his effort in obtaining barrels for the rain barrel program. Robert Gruber moved to reimburse Robert Boarman \$880 for barrels obtained for the EPCD rain barrel program. Jim Michael seconded. Motion carried.

**Provide lunch for land judging contest**-Land judging will be April 23 at Floyd Kursey's farm. Lin Dunham moved to spend up to \$200 for lunch for the participants and judges. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried.

**State/Junior Conservation Camp Scholarships**-Robert Boarman moved to sponsor two scholarships per county per camp for a total of 12 scholarships up to \$2220. If one county does not use its scholarships they can be transferred to another county. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried.

**Rain Garden Dedication-I81/refreshments**-Floyd Kursey moved to provide up to \$150 for refreshments for the I8S rain garden dedication. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried.

**Support watershed group meeting/refreshments**-Watershed group meeting will be May 22. Jim Michael moved to provide refreshments up to \$100. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

**Frack Ban Booth at 5K/volunteers for event**-Jim Michael moved to deny request of Lori Steppleton to set up a booth at the 5K booth. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried. How many will be attending the 5K and

willing to help? Floyd Kursey will be there, Robert Boarman volunteered his daughter and a friend and Lin may be available.

**Approve Century Farm application**-Linton Brothers, Inc., has submitted an application for Century Farm. Floyd Kursey moved to approve Linton Brothers, Inc. application for Century Farm. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

**Purchase Haybuster drill**-Equipment chairman, Robert Gruber called three dealers to get prices for a 10 foot no-till Haybuster 107Cdrill. Wilkins Farm and Home Supply's price was \$27,990 and James River's price was \$23,000. The third dealer did not get back to him with a price. Robert Boarman moved to authorize the equipment committee to purchase the 107C Haybuster drill from the dealer with the lowest price. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried. Discussion ensued over disposal of the two old Haybuster drills. Jeremy is going to check on proper procedures to follow and let the equipment committee know. Robert Boarman moved to authorize the equipment committee to sell the 2 Haybuster drills according to proper procedure. Jim Michael seconded. Motion carried.

**Purchase cover for truck bed**-\$500-Jim Michael moved to purchase a cover for the bed of the district truck. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried.

**Conservation farmers**-Morgan County supervisors nominate Daniel and Beth Ullman for Morgan County Conservation Farm for 2013. Jefferson and Berkeley did not have a farm at this time. Supervisors were reminded that a district winner needs to be submitted to WVCA by May 31. The Area III tour is the week of July 15.

#### Cooperators

**Approvals**- none

#### AEP Program

**Budget approval**-EPCD received \$24000 for fencing from Chesapeake Bay, so the recommendation of the AEP Committee is to move \$12000 from the stream fencing budget to lime and \$12000 to pasture reseeding. Robert Boarman moved to approve the AEP committee's recommendation. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried.

**Reseeding Payment Approval**- James Michael moved to approve the following payments: Tim Smith-50 acres-\$915.75, Thomas Newcomer-18 acres-\$714.83 and Lyle C. Tabb & Sons-20 acres-\$1060.05. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

**Lime Payment Approvals**-Robert Gruber moved to approve the following payments provided that Buds Farm and High Horizons Farm can provide proof of WV certified lime: James Butler-97.1 tons-\$1591.96, Buds Farm-60 tons-\$1200.00 and High Horizons Farm-100 tons-\$2000.00. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried.

#### Elks Run /Jefferson County WWOIP

**Septic Approval**: James Michael moved to approve Susan Glenn, Christine Marshall, Chastidy Bender and Lynn Yellott for septic pumping. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

**Septic Payments**-Lin Dunham moved to approve a payment for Tina Fritts of \$150 for septic pumping. Floyd Kursey seconded. Motion carried.

**Approve Affidavit letters to be sent to landowners**-Suzie attached a Septic Affidavit Form to her packet for supervisors to look at and decide if they wanted to use it for the Jefferson County WWQIP program. Discussion ensued. Supervisors decided to change one sentence on the affidavit. The sentence read, "I understand that a copy of this signed form will be given to the County Health Department." They changed the sentence to read, "I understand that a copy of this signed form *may* be given to the County Health Department." James Michael moved to approve the use of the form as changed. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

**Approve use of education funds to print/develop septic education material**-James Michael moved to approve use of education funds to develop and print septic education material to be distributed to applicants. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

**Tree sale (Barbie/Sherry)**-Barbie presented a slideshow of pictures taken at the tree sale. AO reported that due to providing lunch for volunteers for two days that the amount of \$200 approved for lunch was too low. Robert Boarman moved to change the amount approved for lunch for the tree sale volunteers to \$334.74. Floyd Kursey seconded. Motion carried. AO presented summary of the tree sale. Profit was \$8566.92. Barbie asked what to do with the extra trees and the orders not picked up. Floyd Kursey moved to sell the extra trees first come first serve at cost to anyone that is interested by April 26. Robert Gruber seconded. Motion carried. Robert Boarman moved to dispose of any trees left over on April 26. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried. Robert Boarman moved to dispose of any orders left on April 26. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried. Lin Dunham moved to send out thank-you notes to all of the volunteers and to include them in the banquet this year. James Michael seconded. Motion carried. Robert Gruber thought that since this is our only fund raiser that we should look at our price structure for next year.

**Office Space**-Board discussed letter from Berkeley-Morgan FAC committee offering EPCD the current RD space. This rescinds the original offer of building a wall and staying in our current space. Discussion ensued. Accept or reject offer. Robert Gruber thinks that we should reject because of the way it was handled and the fact that he states that we do not need a wall. Staff would simply like to move and get it over with. More discussion. Floyd Kursey moved to proceed forward with agreement from the Berkeley-Morgan FAC committee. Not handled the right way but it is time to move on. Lin Dunham seconded. Jim Moore asked if EPCD would be added as a member to the FAC committee. Robert Gruber felt that once we start paying rent we would be part of the FAC committee. Vote 4-yes 1-no. Motion carried. Robert Gruber wanted the record to show that he voted against it. He feels that this decision will aid in the closing of the Jefferson County NRCS/FSA office.

**5-K update**-none

**Approve Appalachian Grazing Conference scholarships-Simpson**-Jim Michael moved to approve \$100 scholarship payment for Stephanie Simpson for the Appalachian Grazing Conference. Lin Dunham seconded. Motion carried.

### **Financial Reports**

**Approve financial reports**-Floyd Kursey reviewed the financial reports. The financial reports will be filed for audit.

**Approve expenses**-Supervisors were provided a list of current expenses. James Michael moved to pay expenses as listed. Robert Boarman seconded. Motion carried.

### **Supervisor Reports**

4

EPCD Board Minutes-April 17, 2013

*Jim Michael*- watershed groups very active. The Statewide Watershed Celebration will be held at Cacapon State Park this year in November.

*Lin Dunham*-worked tree sale. Heard very good comments.

*Robert Boarman*-tree sale ran like a tight ship. It was nice to see supervisors there to help.

*Floyd Kursey*- Pikeside Channel needs some attention.

Farmland Protection signed off on Boydville. It now has a new owner.

Attended Quarterly meeting

Helped with tree sale

*Robert Gruber*-Thank you to the office staff for the great job with the tree sale. Quarterly meeting highlights: state committee cannot remove a supervisor because they are an elected official, supervisor training after the annual conference by supervisors, there is a committee formed to address the \$1000 limit for supervisors, AEP formula, Mike Worley is retired, health insurance for supervisors, NRCS budget cut 7.8% another 5-14% cut expected next year, Venture scouts (girls that are in the boy scouts), 29 scholarships received, 14 not filled out correctly, the Auxiliary sponsored 3 scholarships and the association sponsored 6 scholarships. EPCD received one out of the 9 scholarships offered.

*Susannah Flanagan*-impressed by knowledge, heartfelt dedication

*Jim Moore*-reviewed Section 6b-2-5-section that covers the \$1000 rule-committee will hopefully develop a form letter for supervisors to fill out and sign and submit to ethics

PEIA committee-supervisor coverage-each will pay their own

10 districts-support office space for WVACD and for supervisor training

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm.

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James Moore  
Chairman

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Robert Boarman  
Secretary