

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *April 27, 2015* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the district conference room in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Wolfe.

Supervisors Present: Robert Wolfe, James B. Nester, Sr., Sam Wright, Joe Gumm, Tom Warner, Sheldon Findley, David Bonner, and Rex Reeder.

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Jeremy Salyer – WVCA, Ben Collier- NRCS, and Ronnie Helmondollar- WVU Ext.

Reeder led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: Wright addressed the board over an ongoing district personnel issue that arose in March 2013, and what constitutes as a conflict of interest for a district supervisor. He felt the situation had been blown out of proportion, and because of that, he was resigning from his position as a conservation district supervisor. *Wright left his resignation letter with the board and left the meeting at 9:03 AM.* Chairman Wolfe reviewed the issue in question with those present, and read Wright's letter to the board.

Gumm moved to accept Wright's letter of resignation; seconded by Nester; motion carried.

Wolfe asked that it be added to the next meeting agenda for him to appoint a new authorized signature for district checks, and to remove Wright as an authorized signature.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

April 27, 2015 Board Meeting Agenda: **Reeder moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**

April 8, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes: **Gumm moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

Treasurer Report: Frey presented and reviewed the following reports: A/R Aging Summary, Transaction list by Vendor, and a Profit & Loss by Class for this fiscal year. She commented that there is \$34,794 left in the district's general checking account. She then reviewed the recent expenses put into district vehicles. Gumm questioned the extent of damage to district equipment and if it was due to normal wear and tear or recklessness by the user. Frey suggested that the board consider setting aside a portion of monthly revenue into an emergency fund, and that it would help relieve the costs of equipment repair. *(Discussed at length.)*

District Report: Lambert reported that the building hadn't needed many recent repairs. EWP jobs for Mon CD had taken longer than anticipated. District employee Brad Streets worked his last day on the Friday before. A safety committee meeting was held earlier that morning. There had been a brake issue on the district's green truck the week prior, and is still trying to get a diagnosis on the CAT so we can begin repairs. Karl had been providing routine maintenance on the district's rental equipment. Warner brought up the upcoming OMR work needing to be done at Elkwater Fork Dam, and that he hopes to have it started by mid-May. Suggested that the district strongly consider purchasing a building for storing necessary O&M equipment in at the dam. *Discussed at length the best location for the storage building.*

Nester moved to advertise for an opening for a class A CDL driver/laborer; seconded by Findley; motion carried.

District Manager Report: Woofter reviewed her written report. (Copy attached)

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

- I. April 28th – Elkwater Annual Inspection 9:00 am TVCD Office
- II. April 29th – Pecks & Shooks Annual Inspections 9:00 am TVCD Office
 - a. Meeting regarding easement issues on Pecks Run before departing
- III. May 4th – Upshur Ag in the Classroom (8:00 AM Union Elementary)
- IV. May 12th – NRCS Work Session 9:00 am TVCD Office
- V. May 12th – Planning session for WVCA MOU & Per Diem Policy 10:00 am TVCD Office
- VI. May 13th – TVCD Regular Board Meeting 9:00 am
- VII. May 21st – Pollinator Seminar 6:30 PM TVCD Office
- VIII. May 25th – Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED

Lambert excused himself from the meeting to help Karl repair the district's dozer.

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: Salyer did not have much to report following Woofter. He reviewed Stickley's report (copy attached) and discussed the possibility of SPRP becoming a cost-share program.

Poling was unable to attend the meeting, but left a written report which Woofter reviewed for the board. (Copy attached)

WVU Extension: *Helmondollar* reported that extension agents are still working on planning the regional field day on June 27th. On May 20th there is an "Enhancing Public Understanding of Natural Gas Issues" workshop at the Bridgeport Conference Center. They are also looking in to hosting several workshops on cattle in June, with Jim Gerrish in Greenbrier County. Announced that he was selected to act as interim director of WVU Extension Agriculture Services and that his time will be split between the Randolph and Morgantown offices until the vacancy is filled.

NRCS: *Collier* reviewed his written report (copy attached).

FSA: None

WesMonTy RC&D: None

WVDOF: None

Others: None

Correspondence Received: Authorization Decision from Brickstreet for Everson; WVDEP Pending Mine Permit (Taylor County); WV DEP Dam Safety Workshop flyer; WVCA confirmation of funds transferred to Elkwater Fork Litigation

Old Business:

Farmland Preservation: Reeder reported that they held a meeting the week prior, and that starting immediately, they will instead meet quarterly.

Approval of funds for SPRP/OM&R: The board elected to meet with Stickley and Jones on April 29th to discuss eligible SPRP sites within the district and possible funding.

WVU Ext. Internet Use: No update.

Ongoing Myles Lumber Case: Gumm summarized what happened at mediation on April 15th. Wolfe then reviewed the recent e-mails from Jamie at Steptoe & Johnson. Per an e-mail from Brian Farkas, additional funding may be available to make up the difference between what was already offered to Myles and what is being asked.

Findley moved that the district offer the additional \$422,000 as suggested by the mediator; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Ongoing investigation with Mr. Powers Deputy Director- Commission on Special Investigations: Wolfe reviewed recent updates to the case, noting that Frey, Poling and Waugaman all received summons to appear in court this June.

Findley moved that the district pay Frey's and Waugaman's wages for time at the Smith Trial; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: No report

Equipment/Safety Committee: *Nester* reported that he held a safety meeting with the district work crew earlier that morning, and he stressed that the crew keep the shop, work area, and their trucks clean.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: No report

Legislative Committee: No report

Grassland/AEP Committee: *Reeder* shared that their next meeting will be on July 17, 2015.

Conservation Agreements: None.

AgEP Applications: None

AgEP Cancellations: None

AgEP Payments:

1. Cassidy Marsh (Barbour) Lime \$256.50
2. Charles Miller (Barbour) Fertilizer \$1200.00
3. Michael Pritt (Randolph) Fertilizer \$560.00
4. David Shaffer (Barbour) Fertilizer \$400.00
5. Stanford White (Upshur) Fertilizer \$1200.00

Total: 3616.50

Reeder moved to pay the AgEP contracts as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.

Water Resource Committee: *Wolfe* reported that a Barbour County Commissioner had recently approached him regarding the funding TVCD still had allocated to the Barbour County Water Project. *Wolfe* informed him that since no progress had been made on the project, the money had since been reallocated. Consol Energy has reportedly pulled their funding as well on the project.

WVACD Directors Report: No report.

Personnel Committee:

Reeder moved to go into executive session per WV state code 6-9A-4a to discuss a personnel issue; seconded by Gumm; motion carried. The board went in to executive session at 10:43 AM.

Nester moved to resume regular board meeting at 11:01 AM; motion carried.

New Business:

- **Steptoe & Johnson Invoice for Services through March 2015 – \$9,867.05 –** *Reeder moved to pay the invoice as presented; seconded by Findley; motion carried.*
- **LOR FY15 Supplemental OMR for Elkwater \$10,000.00-** *Gumm moved to approve the LOR as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.*
- **LOR FY15 Supplemental OMR for Pecks Run \$3,900.00-** *Gumm moved to approve the LOR as presented; seconded by Findley; motion carried.*
- **LOR FY15 Supplemental OMR for Shooks Run \$2,500.00-** *Nester moved to approve the LOR as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.*
- **FFA Regional Land Judging Contest Sponsorship-** *Woofter reviewed the issue regarding this year's Tri-District Land Judging Competition and the opportunity to instead host a regional FFA contest in its place. No motion.*

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Nester – Attended the WV Beef Expo and the Grassland Contest.

Shaffer – Attended the WV Beef Expo and talked to Ryan Bennett about participating in the Conservation Farm of the Year program.

Warner – Huttonsville is still having a few water issues, but stopped paying Beverly for their supply. Is working on correcting the problem with the PSD.

Findley – Asked that we investigate the possibility of the Huttonsville PSD contributing towards Elkwater's OMR. Thanked Gumm for attending the quarterly meeting on his behalf.

Reeder – Received a card on the NCGL conference and hopes to attend later this year. The Farm Bureau would be having a dinner meeting the next evening.

Gumm – Asked that the board appoint someone to go to Huttonsville PSD regarding OMR funding. Wolfe asked that Gumm go with Warner to discuss with their PSD. It was approved for there to be another Appalachian grazing Conference in 2017, though there is no date or location yet. The NRCS notified him that the National Watershed Coalition wants to tour Elkwater Dam on May 5th and that the board is welcome to attend. Following a discussion at a recent WesMonTy RC&D meeting, reports on recycling operations in each county are coming in slow. The figures for Randolph County are: 40 tons per month of cardboard, 30 tons per month of office paper, 15 tons per months of newspaper, 12 5tons per month of magazines, 1000 lbs. per

month of #1 plastic, and 1000 lbs. per month of #2 plastic. Additionally, his recycling service buy 9 tons of cardboard, 1 ton of newspaper, and 500 lbs. of plastic a month from Barbour County. They have received a large quantity of electronics, however, they are very hard to sell.

Public Comment Period: None

There being no further business to attend to, Nester moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Reeder. Chairman Wolfe declared the meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM.

Secretary

As prepared by