

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *July 25, 2016* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the district's office in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Sigrid Teets.

Supervisors Present: Dave Bonner, Jim Nester, James Dean, Robert True, Rex Reeder, Joe Gumm, John Sencindiver, Joe Shaffer, and Sigrid Teets – TVCD/WesMonTy RC&D.

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Caleb Smith - WVCA, Mary Jouver - FSA, and Jeremy Salyer – WVCA (via teleconference).

Sencindiver led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

July 25, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda & June, 27, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes: Reeder moved to approve the agenda & minutes as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: None

Treasurer Report: Frey reviewed her reports (copies attached). Sencindiver asked if there were any cuts to the supervisor per diem and travel allotments for FY17, and Woofter replied there was not. True asked if the AR Aging Summary reflected the outstanding work for the WVCA Lambert had mentioned in the last board meeting, and Frey replied it did not. She inquired about the possibility of billing out the flood work upfront, as the crew progressed. The board's consensus was to contact Saurborn for more details. True added that the Governor has extended the State of Emergency so the crew would potentially be working for another month. Frey commented that the office had been receiving calls about when the crew would be around to do their EQIP projects as quoted by Lambert. True asked if there was any state code that would mandate the NRCS to extend contracts. Salyer said that the board should ask Collier about any extensions that may be possible. Frey passed around a list of the July 2016 check register for supervisor review and initial. **Gumm moved to accept the fiscal reports as presented and file for audit; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

District Report: Nester reported that Lambert had sent him an e-mail stating that he and the work crew were busy removing blockages in the Elk CD. Lambert had been assisting the WVCA in acquiring land rights. Teets added that she had received the same email from Lambert. Frey reviewed the work crew's current work hours and gas bills. (There was no building/maintenance report.) True stated that he believes the district should reconsider selling the D5 and 312. Had recently talked to Karl in the shop and reviewed what work needed to be done on the equipment to get it back in operating condition. Commented that the labor expense would be high initially, and would take about 2-3 weeks to get the excavator up and running. *Discussed at length.* True

asked the board to consider rescinding their original motion. Sencindiver expressed concerns that Lambert be consulted before the board make any decision. *Discussed at length who should have authority over the decision.* **Gumm moved to give authority to the equipment committee as to whether the equipment be sold or repaired; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.** Nester to hold an equipment committee meeting and proceed accordingly with the repairs or sale.

District Manager Report: Woofter reviewed her written report (copy attached) and passed around the bank reconciliations for June 2016 for review and signature.

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

I. July

- a. **Tuesday 26th – Area 3 Farm Tour Judging**
- b. **Friday 29th – AgEP signup deadline**

II. August

- a. **Wednesday 3rd – State Envirothon Meeting 10am WVACD Office**
- b. **Thursday 4th – NRCS Local Work Group 9am TVCD Office**
- c. **Friday 12th – WV State Fair Begins (Runs through the 21st)**
- d. **Tuesday 23rd – WesMonTy RC&D Meeting Marketplace Café Philippi**
- e. **Monday 29th – TVCD Regular Board Meeting 9am TVCD Office**

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: *Salyer* reviewed his written report (copy attached).

Smith reported that the AgEP signups for Tygarts Valley were underway. He had spent two weeks working on EWP in Clendenin earlier in the month and may be called out again within the coming month. Had nearly completed all the ranking for WFCD.

WVU Extension: No report, but Teets commented that Peplowski had transferred to the Greenbrier County Extension Office. Woofter added that he would be coming back to work on several projects in Barbour County he had already committed to, such as the fair.

NRCS: Woofter commented that Collier apologized for not being able to attend the meeting but provided a written report in his absence (copy attached).

FSA: *Jouver* reported that county elections are due August 1st. The crop reporting deadline was July 15th but they will still accept reports they receive. Interviews to fill the vacancy in Weston to be held the next day.

WesMonTy RC&D: *Teets* reported that the RC&D met the previous week in Fairmont. Will be receiving the same amount of funding for FY17. Will be sending a request letter to the district,

and the approval of the MOU is up for board discussion later today. *Discussed at length.* Officers were elected at the last RC&D meeting.

DoF: None

Others: None

Correspondence Received: (4) Junior Conservation Camp Thankyou Cards; Thankyou card from Elkins-Randolph County Public Library; Thankyou letter from Taylor County Public Library; (4) Authorization Decision letters from Brickstreet regarding Everson; WesMonTy RC&D Funding Request, DEP Pending Mine Permit

Old Business:

- **Farmland Preservation** – Next meeting to be held July 28th.
 - **Approval of funds for SPRP/OM&R** – No new projects at this time
 - i. **Completed SPRP Invoices for Payment Approval & Processing** – None
 - **Conservation Farmer of the Year (Ongoing/update)** - Area judging scheduled for July 26th and would meet at TVCD office around 3:00pm.
 - **Sale of district equipment (Ongoing/update)** – *Please refer to district report.*
 - **Elkwater Fork Litigation Funds & Title/Deed Transfer (Ongoing/update)** – *Please refer to District Manager report.*
 - **EOI for Engineering Services (Ongoing/update)** – Gumm moved to approve the two year service agreement as prepared/submitted by Potesta Engineering; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
 - **Elkwater Dam storage building and mowing (Ongoing/update)** – No update: Gumm still working on determining needed building size.
 - **District Fuel Card (Ongoing/update)** – No update.
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Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: No report.

Equipment/Safety Committee: No report.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: Sencindiver had no report. Frey commented that she had given a presentation on bees to a group of children at Shiloh Church and to the Upshur County Beekeepers.

Legislative Committee: Gumm reported that the WVCAD was still working on planning a meeting with the federal representatives in the Eastern Panhandle CD for a lunch and site visit. Reminded the group that plans need to be underway for the legislative dinner. This year's dinner to be scheduled in Tucker County. Jim Nester agreed to start making arrangements for October 27th at 6:00pm.

Grassland/AEP Committee: Reeder reported that the WV Grazing Steering Committee met on July 15th in Weston. Gumm added that the Appalachian Grazing Conference Committee has begun meeting monthly to plan for the conference next spring.

- **Conservation Agreements:**

- Nick Gibson (Barbour County)
- Peter & Wilda Lynch (Upshur County) 340 Acres

Sencindiver moved to approve the agreements as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.

- **AgEP Applications:** None

- **AgEP Cancellations:** None

- **AgEP Payments:** None

Water Resource Committee: Shaffer reported that he still has not received any updates on the Barbour County water project. Still no progress on Wickwire Creek, but the DoH has been doing ditch work on Wickwire Road in Taylor County. Discussed at length the Barbour County Water Project and the possibility of setting up a meeting with local representatives.

WVACD Directors Report: Sencindiver attended the WVACD quarterly meeting at Glade Springs on the 13th and 14th. There was a low turnout, and roughly 22 directors from across the state attended. Some districts had no representatives attend. The new association officers are:

President: Timothy VanReenen from GVCD

1st President: Bill Stewart from GCD

2nd President: John Sencindiver from TVCD

Secretary: Jim Foster from WFCD

Treasurer: Shirley Hyre from ECD

Gary Sawyers will remain as the association's last president. The association appointed partners to the AV Ag and Forestry Hall of Fame. The Education Committee reviewed nominations for the District of the Year, and won't announce the winner until October. The association approved hiring a part time secretary to work for 12 hours a week for \$12/hour. They are continuing to work on the job announcement. Plans are still in place to hold a legislative breakfast at WV Ag Day on February 22nd. Findley is the Vice Chairman of the associations Natural Resources Committee. A motion was passed for the WVACD to send correspondence to the WVDof, asking them to reconsider their decision to terminate the large number of forestry employees. The Water Resources Committee discussed the ongoing flood cleanup through the state. All districts have been participating in the NRCS grant for the community garden project. Aspey with the NRCS would like to see an expansion in the programs for US Veterans. Farkas discussed the FY17 budget cuts and added that each district's EWP funds would be reallocated, to the districts that were flooded. Supervisor training was held on the 14th for all new and re-elected supervisors. Gumm stressed that budget cuts are why supervisors need to talk to state legislators. True commented that the training was very good and informative.

Personnel Committee: No report.

New Business:

- **WesMonTy MOU Draft-** Gumm moved to approved the MOU as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
- **LOR FY17 WesMonTy RC&D Funding \$17,575.00-** Sencindiver moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
- **LOR FY17 TVCD AgEP Funding \$74,000.00-** Nester moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.
- **FY17 TVCD Plan of Work and TVCD Policy and Procedure Handbook 2016 Revision-** Bonner moved to approve both the plan of work and policy handbook as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.
- **TVCD Committee Appointees-** Teets reviewed the committee recommendations she had received from Findley in his absence and added that she had added some personal appointments. After open comment from the board, the committees are:
 - **Building/Budget/Finance:** True (Chair), Reeder, Findley
 - **Equipment:** Nester (Chair), True, Bonner
 - **Education:** Sencindiver (Chair), Reeder, Dean, Teets, Gumm
 - **Legislative:** Gumm (Chair), Sencindiver, Nester
 - **Grassland:** Reeder (Chair), Gumm, Dean, Bonner, Nester, Teets
 - **Water Resources:** Shaffer (Chair), Findley, Sencindiver, True
 - **Personnel:** Teets (Chair), Shaffer, Dean, Reeder, Bonner
- **WesMonTy RC&D Appointees-** Teets reported that Findley did not submit any recommendations for appointees to the RC&D board, asking that Teets decide who should be on the board. Teets appointed Gumm, Reeder, Shaffer, True, and Nester.
- **Flood recovery work in ECD-** Woofter stated that Findley asked this be placed as a retroactive motion by the board to cover the district for having sent the crew to ECD. **Sencindiver moved to approve the TVCD work crew to do EWP work in ECD; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Nester: Attended the state FFA meeting; nearly 25,000 meals were packed by the FFA students and \$10,000.00 was donated to flood relief efforts. Attended the WesMonTy RC&D meeting and the Grassland Steering Committee meetings.

Dean: Attended supervisor training at Glade Springs

True: Danny Wagner wants to attend an upcoming district board meeting. Attended the WVACD quarterly meeting and supervisor training.

Shaffer: Visited flooded areas to deliver food and basic household/toiletry items. The Herbert Hoover High School in Clendenin is a total loss.

Sencindiver: The quarterly reports that were submitted to the WVACD from the other CDs were given to Woofter should any supervisors like to review them. Chairs the Century Farm

Committee and eight farms were nominated for the honor throughout the state. Bob Baird from WCD didn't run for re-election and has not been well due to cancer. Was saddened to hear about Carla Hardy's passing.

Gumm: Attended the WVACD quarterly meeting. The Appalachian Grazing Conference would be holding a meeting on July 29th. Attended the NACD summer meeting in Minnesota. Had a working tour of a housing development, plant materials center, and a 500 cattle dairy farm. Took a tour of the University of Minnesota's research labs and sampled cookies from a new strain of wheat. Very clean state and campus. Would be attended the state technical meeting on the 28th.

Teets: Thrilled with the teleconference equipment. Last NRCS local work group meeting has speakers attend from WV DEP and WVU.

Woofter stressed the importance of the next local work group meeting and asked that all supervisors try to attend.

Public Comment Period: None

There being no further business to attend to, Vice-Chairman Teets declared the meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.

Secretary

Minutes recorded and prepared by Hillary Woofter – WVCA District Manager/ASA 3.

July 25, 2016 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions

- 1. Reeder moved to approve the July 25th agenda & June 27th minutes as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 2. Gumm moved to accept the fiscal reports as presented and file for audit; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 3. Gumm moved to give authority to the equipment committee as to whether the equipment (D5 & 312) be sold or repaired; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- 4. Gumm moved to approve the two year service agreement as prepared/submitted by Potesta Engineering; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**
- 5. Sencindiver moved to approve the conservation agreements as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
 - Nick Gibson (Barbour County)
 - Peter & Wilda Lynch (Upshur County) 340 Acres
- 6. Gumm moved to approved the WesMonTy MOU as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- 7. Sencindiver moved to approve and submit the LOR for FY17 WesMonTy RC&D Funds (\$17,575.00) as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**
- 8. Nester moved to approve and submit the LOR for FY17 AgEP Funds (\$74,000) as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 9. Bonner moved to approve both the FY17 TVCD plan of work and 2016 TVCD Policy and Procedure Handbook as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 10. Sencindiver moved to approve the TVCD work crew to do EWP work in ECD; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**