

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *August 29, 2016* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the district's office in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sheldon Findley.

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

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Chris Starkey – City of Philippi, Ben Collier – NRCS, Corey Lambert – TVCD, Karen Weaver – City of Philippi, Mary Jouver - FSA, Danny Wagner – WV HOD, Robert Wolfe, and Jeremy Salyer – WVCA (via teleconference).

Gumm led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: True introduced Starkey and Weaver from the City of Philippi. Their attendance was to follow up per the district's Water Resource Committee meeting that was held the week prior. Weaver stated that she'd be happy to give a full report on the status of the project. Findley asked they wait until later in the meeting, having been informed that Wagner would be attending today's meeting as well and had not arrived yet.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

August 29, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda: **Gumm moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**

July 25, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes: **Gumm moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**

Treasurer Report: Frey reviewed her reports (copies attached). Commented that because of the lack of paperwork being submitted to her for invoicing, the district would likely need to take out a loan to make payroll. The flood work in ECD had not been billed out yet. True asked when the bill should be ready. Lambert said he's waiting to receive his paperwork back from Ed Martin in order to bill it.

- **BCBank CD Renewal** – Gumm moved to renew the district's CDs for 24 months at a rate of 1.242%; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.
- **Final FY16 CDO Report** – Sencindiver moved to approve the FY16 Final CDO Report as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.
- **Remaining FY16 Supervisor travel and per diem fund rollover to FY17-** Nester moved to approve the funds be rolled over; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Frey went on to address that she has been made aware of rumors spreading around Barbour County that the district has had money go missing and that it led to supervisors resigning. Teets said that the rumors have come about since the last board meeting, and the first instance was from a district employee and has since been spreading around the city.

Chairman Findley then gave the floor to the visitors regarding the Barbour County Water Project. True introduced Danny Wagner to the group. Karen Weaver apologized for not having attended last week's committee meeting. Weaver went on to say that the Philippi City Council voted years prior to take control of the project and a letter was drafted to be sent to affiliates

saying as such. Can get copies forwarded to TVCD. Thrasher drafted the engineering plan and Consol Energy pooled funding. The design was later modified to compensate for water withdrawals that Consol would make. Thrasher is in the process of filing for funding with the USDA. \$6 Million in total is needed for the project, and the USDA grant could supply \$1 million if approved. The city voted to take on the additional debt. As far as Weaver is aware, the original landowners who would be affected are still on board, and no property has been acquired at this time. They recently hit a snag with the Army Corp of Engineers having reviewed the project and the city now faces a mitigation cost due to the Laurel Run Stream intake. The mitigation cost is figured at \$3.5 million and the city is trying to get backing from state legislators due to how large the cost is. The installation of five new water tanks is a separate project. They would like to be able to confirm with landowners that they are still interested, however, progress is slow at this time. *Discussed at length.* Unsure as to what extension of ACOE they have been speaking with. The new water intake sits deeper but they still need to build a secondary water supply, hence the fines. Findley asked if Laurel Run always flows and the group was not sure. The city is in great violation of ACOE due to the water outtake. The new project will allow for a six month water supply. Findley said that Thrasher should be able to investigate mitigation alternatives. Weaver said that a team is working on it. Shaffer asked if Consol has been contacted about their interest in re-funding the project. Weaver said that they had not. *Discussed at length.* The previous week Thrasher had reported on the mitigation status. True asked is Shaffer can be included in those meetings. Teets asked that the proposal to the USDA be forwarded to Woofter. Wagner said he is behind the project and will support however he can. Shaffer thanked them for attending.

Findley took the floor and resumed the regularly scheduled agenda. The visitors thanked the board for having them and excused themselves from the meeting.

District Report: Lambert reported that he and the crew spent a total of six weeks working on flood cleanup in Clay County. The district equipment held up very well while working long hours and in very hot temperatures. The WVCA seems pleased with the work. Reviewed his job list (copy attached) and said he is trying to get caught up on work within the district. Sencindiver commented that he spoke with Gene Saurborn the week prior and he was extremely pleased with the crew and work. Teets said that Mr. Knotts stopped by the office earlier in the week to check on the crew's status of doing his work and stressed that there's a deadline. Lambert said he's waiting to pick up parts for the Ventrac. Findley thanked Lambert and the crew for their hard work on the flood work and recent projects. *Discussed at length the flood damage in southern parts of the state.* Bonner asked if there was any update on getting the mowing done at Elkwater Dam. Woofter said the district had yet to receive the O&M work orders, but Salyer has stressed to Martin that they be done ASAP. Findley added that he would call Martin as well. Teets asked if the title for Lambert's truck had been changed from an S to an R. Lambert said that since he hadn't been here, it has not been taken care of. *Discussed at length.* True commented that it should be off the road. Findley told Lambert not to drive it until the title issue is resolved.

District Manager Report: Woofter reviewed her written report (copy attached) and passed around the bank reconciliations for July 2016 for review and signature. The following dates were chosen for district meetings for the remainder of the year: October the 24th, November the 14th, and December the 14th.

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

I. August

a. NRCS Local Work Group Meeting – Monday 29th, 1:00pm at TVCD Office

II. September

a. Barbour County Fair Education Day – Friday 2nd, 11:00am at fairgrounds

b. Labor Day – Monday 5th (TVCD office closed)

c. WesMonTy RC&D – Tuesday 20th, 10:00 am Weston

d. Regular Board Meeting – Monday 26th, 9:00am at TVCD Office

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: *Salyer* reviewed his written report via teleconference (copy attached). Woofter added that the WVACD has asked that new supervisor group photos be taken for display at the awards banquet and to plan for it to be taken on September 26th following the board meeting. *Discussed at length WVACD member award nominations.* **Gumm moved to nominate Findley, Sencindiver, and Shaffer as Honorary Members; seconded by True; motion carried. Gumm moved to nominate Wolfe and Wright as Members at Large; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**

WVU Extension: No report.

NRCS: Collier reviewed his written report (copy attached). Received no comment on three “Focused Conservation” project proposals (copies attached).

FSA: *Jouver* reported that they are in the middle of county committee elections. Ballots will be sent in early November. Passed around talking points of the programs offered by FSA and added that several still had funding available in response to the flooding. Roger Poling has started his employment out of the Weston office.

WesMonTy RC&D: *Teets* reported that the RC&D met the previous week at the Marketplace Café in downtown Philippi. Jodi Carpenter talked about the consignment program offered to local producers. The council discussed the possibility of reducing the number of meetings the hold. The meeting was chaired by Sencindiver. Continuing to work with Melody Jones on fiscal reports. Continuing to work on grants, such as “Conservation Innovation.” After the meeting, the group toured the Snyder Industries plant. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20th in Weston at the steakhouse.

DoF: None

Others: None

Correspondence Received: 18th Annual Watershed Celebration Day pamphlets; Brickstreet Authorization Decision for Everson; WVDEP Pending Mine Permit (Pleasant District of Barbour County); Thank You card from American Cancer Society; Executed RC&D MOU; DEP Pending Mine Permit (Indian Fork in Volga); WFCD Banquet Invitation.

Old Business:

- **Farmland Preservation** – No meeting was held this month.
 - **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)** – Woofter announced that Sickler Farms did not win the Area 3 competition, but the judges remarked that there is potential there and scored highly.
 - **Elkwater Fork Litigation Funds & Title/Deed Transfer (Ongoing/update)** – Woofter will forward attorney information to Gumm and Dean for them to set up a meeting.
 - **Elkwater Dam storage building and mowing (Ongoing/update)** – No update: Gumm still working on determining needed building size and hoped that a meeting can be set up later in the week for a site visit and measure what size is needed. Woofter reminded the board that the consensus was to get several price quotes on various sizes and models. Dean stated that he will forward persons interested in seasonal mowing to the office so as to submit an application.
 - **District Fuel Card (Ongoing/update)** – No update.
-

Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: True commented that a committee meeting was held earlier that morning to review what repairs are needed around the building. (Refer to copy of handout) True reviewed the major talking points, and asked Wager to get new flags for the district. The list will be given to Lambert so that it can be added to and amended as needed. Lambert commented that the ceiling tiles and lights are obsolete. Several times he has side the district needs to set aside money for these repairs. The best options may be to install a new drop ceiling room by room. *Discussed at length.* Findley asked at the very least, to get the light bulbs and covers replaced.

Equipment/Safety Committee: Nester held a safety meeting with the crew earlier that morning and discussed the “5 Senses of Safety.”

- **Sale of district equipment (Ongoing/update)** – Nester talked to Cale and Lach and they both said the equipment isn’t worth fixing. Told this to Bonner and True but are unable to reach a consensus. True voiced his opinion not to sell the equipment. Lambert originally wanted to trade the two pieces in for a new one. *Discussed at length how the magnet is not pulling the brass and past motions of the board and proposed pricing.* Findley asked that the committee meet again and reach a decision.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: Sencindiver had no report but would like to work with Frey to plan a meeting in the near future.

Legislative Committee: Gumm asked if location had been determined for the annual legislative dinner. Jim Nester said October 27th is fine for the dinner to be held at 6:30 pm at Tucker County High School. The FFA will prepare the dinner. **Nester moved to approve the location and time for the dinner; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.** Woofter will work on invitations.

Grassland/AEP Committee: No report.

- **Conservation Agreements:**
 - Jim Summerfield (Tucker)
 - Cheryl Poling (Upshur)

- Brenda Swecker (Randolph)
- Sandra Kesling (Upshur)
- Robert DeLaney (Taylor)
- Larence Boyce (Barbour)
- Randy Best (Taylor)
- Kody Tucker (Barbour)
- Doug White (Upshur)
- Mark White (Tucker)
- Jonathan Wilkins (Randolph)
- Marsha Yoakum (Randolph)

Nester moved to approve the agreements as presented; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.

Woofter asked that the board refer to her “FY17 AgEP Update” (copy attached) and reviewed the status of submissions and rankings, as well her recommendations.

- **AgEP Applications: Bonner moved to delegate authority to the AgEP committee for FY17 contract approvals; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- **Shaffer moved to offer only one signup period; to not exceed total over allocations by \$5,000; and extend contracts deadlines of all practices except lime and fertilizer to March 24, 2017; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**
- **AgEP Cancelations: None**
- **AgEP Payments: None**

Water Resource Committee: Shaffer said that since the committee meeting that was held the previous week was already discussed, he had nothing more to add, but thanked True for his help in organizing the city, councilmen, and delegates to have attended.

WVACD Directors Report: Sencindiver reported that the next quarterly meeting will be held October 3rd and 4th. The WVACD executive committee reviewed 16 applications for a part time secretary and will hold interviews next week. The new office telephone system goes live on September first and the phone number is 304-765-7001. Woofter asked that any supervisors who attend the event contact her or Frey if TVCD were to win “Education District of the Year.” Gumm reminded everyone about items needed for the silent auction

Personnel Committee: Teets had no report but commented that several supervisors had approached her regarding accountability and would like to hold a meeting soon.

New Business:

- **NRCS FY17 Focused Conservation Proposals-** Collier reviewed that he needs a vote of support on the proposals for submission to review by the state office. The area office has shown support of the proposals. **Shaffer moved to support the proposals as drafted; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- **Barbour County Fair Education Day and Sponsorship-** Frey commented that the year prior the district sponsored the event with \$100 and presented demonstrations on watershed health. This year she and Woofter would like to have a display on pollinators. **Gumm moved to sponsor the Education Day with \$100; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**

- **Frey to NPCD Field Day** – Woofter reviewed the email received from Veronica. **Sencindiver moved to approve Frey’s attendance based on the terms proposed by NPCD; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**
- **EWP Funds Transfer to ECD-** Woofter reviewed the correspondence received from Brian Farkas. **Sencindiver moved to approve the \$65,000 EWP funds be transferred to ECD; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- **WVACD Annual Dues for FY17-** **Sencindiver moved to pay the \$4,000.00 in annual dues to the WVACD; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- **2016 Women in Agriculture Conference sponsorship-** Woofter reviewed the pricing for a non-profit sponsor/booth and pricing for her and Frey to attend. **Gumm moved to sponsor the event and Frey’s/Woofter’s attendance with a do not exceed cost of \$500.00; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**

Wolfe joined the meeting at 11:50am.

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Gumm: Carter from Taylor County was elected to the AgHoF. Attended the NACD summer meeting in July and the NE NACD would be held later this month. CDs are moving away from the ways they used to conduct affairs, such as the sponsorship of projects. *Discussed at length CD involvement on local projects.*

Sencindiver: Attended the WVACD Executive Committee, Envirothon, WV Ag & Forestry HoF; Appalachian Grazing Conference; and Barbour County Water Project Committee meetings. Also worked three days at the state fair.

Shaffer: Mr. Light from Upshur County approached him regarding spreading lime. Attended the WesMonTy and Barbour County Water Project Committee meetings. Attended a farm show in New York where they had speakers from Cornell University. The NRCS promotes high tunnels but the USDA has stricter selling regulations regarding produce grown in them. Also discussed farm to table dinners having the proper licensing and reimbursements for recycling taxes.

True: Attended the Barbour County Water Project Committee, Building Committee, WesMonTy RC&D, NRCS Local Work Group, and Barbour County Solid Waste Authority meetings. Thanked Gumm for his assistance with the County SWA.

Bonner: Attended the state and witnessed some of the flooding damage in the area. Had contacted the Elkins FSA office regarding hay donations and was told to speak with Woofter. Woofter reviewed the status of the hay donation list. Talked to Senator Bob Williams about a lack of state funding.

Nester: State FFA President approached him to sponsor his attendance to an international leadership meeting. Woofter asked that he submit correspondence to her for addition to the board’s next meeting agenda.

Teets: Attended the Area 3 judging/tour of Sickler Farm and an Envirothon Committee meeting. Thanked True for his work with the Barbour County Water Project and the district building. Jason Teets will be maintaining the pollinator garden in front of the NRCS office and he is working to create a custom blend of seeds to promote pollinator habitat.

Public Comment Period: Wolfe asked when the dirt that was hauled from Shooks Run to his farm was going to be spread. Has been on his property for 2.5 years. Findley asked that Salyer

Speak to Martin about including that on the O&M work order for this year. Collier said that for any WVDofF inquiries, Tam Casto is the contact for our area and is based of White Hall.

There being no further business to attend to, Chairman Findley declared the meeting adjourned at 12:22pm.

Secretary

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

August 29, 2016 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions

- 1. Gumm moved to approve the August 29, 2016 agenda as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**
- 2. Gumm moved to approve the July 25, 2016 minutes as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**
- 3. Gumm moved to renew the district’s CDs with BCBank for 24 months at a rate of 1.242%; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**
- 4. Sencindiver moved to approve the FY16 Final CDO Report as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**
- 5. Nester moved to approve the FY16 Supervisor Travel and Per Diem funds be rolled over; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 6. Gumm moved to nominate Findley, Sencindiver, and Shaffer as Honorary Members; seconded by True; motion carried. Gumm moved to nominate Wolfe and Wright as Members at Large; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**
- 7. Nester moved to approve the annual legislative dinner be held at Tucker County High School at 6:30pm on October 27th ; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 8. Nester moved to approve the following conservation agreements as presented; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**
 - Jim Summerfield (Tucker)
 - Cheryl Poling (Upshur)
 - Brenda Swecker (Randolph)
 - Sandra Kesling (Upshur)
 - Robert DeLaney (Taylor)
 - Larence Boyce (Barbour)

- Randy Best (Taylor)
- Kody Tucker (Barbour)
- Doug White (Upshur)
- Mark White (Tucker)
- Jonathan Wilkins (Randolph)
- Marsha Yoakum (Randolph)

- 9. Bonner moved to delegate authority to the AgEP committee for FY17 contract approvals; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- 10. Shaffer moved to offer only one AgEP signup period; to not exceed total over allocations by \$5,000; and extend contracts deadlines of all practices except lime and fertilizer to March 24, 2017; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**
- 11. Shaffer moved to support the NRCS FY17 Focused Conservation proposals as drafted; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 12. Gumm moved to sponsor the Barbour County Fair Education Day with \$100; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- 13. Sencindiver moved to approve Frey's attendance to the Hands on Ag Day based on the terms proposed by NPCD; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**
- 14. Sencindiver moved to approve the \$65,000 EWP funds be transferred to ECD; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 15. Sencindiver moved to pay the \$4,000.00 in annual dues to the WVACD; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 16. Gumm moved to sponsor the 2016 Women in Agriculture Conference and Frey's/Woofter's attendance with a do not exceed cost of \$500.00; seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**