

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *March 27, 2017* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office in Philippi. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Sheldon Findley.

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

**Others Present:** Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Jeremy Salyer – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Rudy Williams – WVDOF, Caleb Smith – WVCA, Jared Nestor - NRCS, and Donnie Tenney.

Shaffer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Findley announced that supervisor Carl Mullins passed away the night prior per correspondence from the SCD District Manager.

**Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:**

*March 27, 2017 Agenda & February 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:* **Sencindiver moved to approve the minutes & agenda as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**

**Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors:** *Donnie Tenney*, Supervisor Elect from Upshur County introduced himself to the group.

**Treasurer Report:** *Frey* reviewed her reports (copies attached). Regarding Wolfe's outstanding invoice, he asked that a supervisor contact him to discuss the ongoing dispute regarding the dirt from Shooks Run. Frey suggested that since the supervisor travel/per diem account will probably have a surplus of FY17 funds, they consider putting it towards repairs or purchase of new vehicles and equipment. Gumm commented that he was surprised with the results of the auction. Teets asked if Amarusos's time was reflected on the equipment report, to which Frey answered no. Nester reported that at the auction, the spreader's highest bid was \$1300.00 and since there was a reserve price of \$2000.00, it didn't sell.

**Nester moved to set a new reserve price on the small lime spreader to \$1,000.00 and relist for auction; seconded by Shaffer; carried.**

Frey reviewed an offer she received from CityNet for internet services for the Extension office. Seeing that it was a three-year contract, no action was taken.

**Gumm moved to accept the treasurer reports as presented and file for audit; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**

**District Report:** *Frey* reported that the new Conservation Technician would start employment next Monday. Cale had been working on a job for the DNR while Amarusos had been extensively working on repairs. There is still office space available for rent in the district office park.

*Discussed at length Winslow's paid invoice.*

**District Manager Report:** *Woofter* reviewed her written report (copy attached) and passed around the Reconciliation Reports for February 2017 for supervisor review and signature. Added that she wouldn't be able to participate in the Upshur County Ag in the Classroom due to the WVCA All-Staff training in May.

**Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:**

**I. April**

- a. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> WV Beef Expo @ Jackson's Mill
  - i. Grassland Evaluation Contest Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> @ 11am
- b. Monday 10<sup>th</sup> Elkwater Annual Inspection 9am TVCD Office
- c. Monday 10<sup>th</sup> SCC Meeting @ Guthrie
- d. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Pecks & Shooks Run Annual Inspections 9am TVCD Office
- e. Friday 14<sup>th</sup> WV Grazing Lands Steering Committee Meeting 10am Weston
- f. Monday 17<sup>th</sup> WVACD Quarterly Meeting Twin Falls State Park
- g. Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> WesMonTy RC&D Meeting 10am
- h. Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> WV Envirothon @ Jackson's Mill
- i. Monday 24<sup>th</sup> TVCD Regular Meeting 9am TVCD Office

**II. May**

- a. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Upshur Co. Ag in the Classroom
- b. Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> WVCA All Staff Training Camp Dawson
- c. Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> – Seneca Rocks Discover Nature Day
- d. Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> - TVCD Field Day @ French Creek Wildlife Center
- e. Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> – Tri District Land Judging @ Hannah Farm 9am
- f. Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – TVCD Regular Meeting 9am TVCD Office
  - i. NRCS Local Work Group Meeting 1pm
- g. Monday 29<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED

**Report of Officers and Agencies:**

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

WVU Extension: *None present.*

NRCS: *Nestor* reviewed Collier's report in his absence (copy attached).

FSA: *None present.*

WesMonTy RC&D: *Teets* reported that they met last Tuesday in Doddridge County. The planning committee is working on revitalizing their plan of work. *Teets* said she has been busy working on the display for Discover Nature Day at Seneca Rocks and received the seed for her pollinator project.

**Teets moved to nominate Sencindiver as the Upshur County RC&D Representative; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.**

DoF: *Williams* reported that Governor Justice plans to hire back 15 employees that had been laid off last year. Only 6 of the vacancies had been filled as of last week, and the positions will be exclusively for logging inspections. *Discussed at length budget concerns and WVDA.*

Others: *None present.*

**Correspondence Received:** Brickstreet authorizations for Everson; U.S. Census Bureau; Request from Potomac Highlands CWPMA for Discover Nature Day. Teets moved to support Discover Nature Day with \$150.00; no second; no further action.

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### **Old Business:**

- **Farmland Preservation** – Sencindiver reported that the committee continues to meet monthly. Discussed at length the guidelines of including properties with gas wells.
- **SPRP/OM&R** –
  - **Work Pending:** *No new work at this time.*
  - **Completed Work/Invoices:** *No new pending invoices at this time.*
- **Elkwater Fork Litigation Funds & Title/Deed Transfer (Ongoing/update)** – Woofter had forwarded official copy of the easement to Withrow for the SCC to review at their April meeting.
- **MOU Development with WVCA for EWP Response (Ongoing/Update)**- *No update.*
- **Spencer Invoice Dispute:** Shaffer visited the site with Nestor and Teets from the NRCS. Nestor believes the biggest concern is where the cleanout materials were placed. Frey reviewed the original estimate with stated that placing the cleanout on the sides of the pond was per the owner's request. In Nestor's professional opinion, the lower side of the dam must be fixed. Discussed at length the scope of the project. **Nester moved that the invoice should be left as is, and to fix the slippage at the district's expense once it is paid in full (includes having a detailed estimate of the scope of work to be done); seconded by Bonner; motion carried.**

**True moved to reseed the Spencer dam ourselves; seconded by Nester; motion carried.** Findley will contact Mr. Spencer regarding the board's decisions.

- **NRCS Elkwater soil core storage (Ongoing/Update)** – Gumm reported that the NRCS moved some of the samples from the fire department. Discussed at length concerns over storing the samples in the new storage building. **Sencindiver moved to contact the NRCS about legally needing to keep the cores; seconded by Teets; motion carried.** Gumm will contact and report back.
  - **Winslow Invoice Dispute (Ongoing/Update)**- Invoice paid in full.
  - **Topsoil for Community Garden Project (Ongoing/Update)** – No update.
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### **Committee Reports:**

**Building/Finance/Budget Committee:** True asked that a committee meeting be held to review the building spaces available for rent. *Meeting scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.*

- **Building repairs and maintenance (Ongoing/update)**- *(See district report)*

**Equipment/Safety Committee:** *No further update; see district report.*

- **Sale of district equipment (Ongoing/update)** – *No update*

**Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee:** Sencindiver reported on the field day planned for May 10th at the WV Wildlife Center in French Creek. The attendees will be split into two groups, and will rotate between a guided tour of the facility and presentations given by several affiliates. Frey reviewed her Advanced Beekeeping Class. WFCD has a pasture walk scheduled for July.

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**Legislative Committee:** *Gumm* commented that he was unhappy with the turnout at the legislative breakfast. *Findley* suggested that a luncheon be held instead. *Gumm* asked their supervisors to keep in touch with their legislators. *Woofter* commented that Randolph County is due to host the annual district banquet this year. Tucker County is due for the Christmas luncheon. *Gumm* stressed that supervisors must be active and share what work is being accomplished by them and the conservation districts.

**Grassland/AEP Committee:** *Teets* reviewed the notes from the March 20<sup>th</sup> AgEP committee meeting (*copy attached*). *Discussed at length animal units and cost benefits.*

- **Shaffer moved to offer the same nine practices from FY17 in the FY18 program; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**
- Rates for the FY18 program were tabled until April.
- **Dean moved to require that approved contracts be returned to the district office within one month of their approval; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- **Nester moved to require that all AgEP applications include required soil samples and aerial maps at the time of signup, otherwise they will be considered incomplete; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- **Nester moved to have FY18 signups be from July 5<sup>th</sup> through July 14<sup>th</sup>; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**
- **Conservation Agreements:**
  - *Donald Adams (Tucker Co. 460 Acres)*
  - *April Arbogast (Randolph Co. 40 Acres)*
  - *Chris Runion (Barbour Co. 106 Acres)*

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

- **AgEP Applications:** *None*
- **AgEP Cancellations:** *None*
- **AgEP Payments:**
  - *James Dean (Inv. Mgmt.) \$300.00*
  - *Jeff Kelley (Water Exc. Fence) \$1280.00*
  - *Kody Tucker (Water Exc. Fence) \$4000.00*

**Shaffer moved to approve the payments as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**

**Water Resource Committee:** *Shaffer* reported that he and *True* agreed to meet with the City Manager of Philippi regarding the Barbour County Water Project and no progress has been made. *Shaffer* drove to *Wolfe's* property on Cherry Hill Rd. to see the runoff concerns about the logging operation nearby and there is a lot of runoff flowing into Shooks Run.

**WVACD Directors Report:** *No report*

**Personnel Committee:** *Teets* rescheduled a committee meeting to Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9am to review the district's Personnel Policy.

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## **New Business:**

- **Mark Currey AgEP Payment Dispute:** *Shaffer* discussed his being contact by Mr. Currey and *Woofter* reviewed the situation. **Teets moved that since the contract hadn't been received and the paperwork was late that no payment be made; seconded by Nester; motion carried with Shaffer abstaining.** *Woofter* to write correspondence notifying him of the board's decision.

- **CREP fund transfer \$3,000.00 from TVCD to Western CD:** Findley reviewed the correspondence received from the WVCA. Sencindiver moved to approved the funds transfer as requested; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
- **FY18 CDO Budget Draft:** Sencindiver moved to approve the FY18 CDO budget draft as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.
- **LOR CD Approved Employee (Jan – March) \$2,160.00:** Teets moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by True; motion carried.
- **LOR FY17 Elkwater O&M Matching Funds \$10,000.00:** Gumm moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
- **LOR FY17 Shooks Run O&M Matching Funds \$2,500.00:** Teets moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by True; motion carried.
- **LOR FY17 Pecks Run O&M Matching Funds \$3,900.00:** Sencindiver moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.

#### **Report of Individual Supervisors:**

Teets: Attended Envirothon meeting, RC&D meeting, and AgEP committee meeting.

Tenney: Expressed interest in being an at large member for the WesMonTy RC&D.

Dean: The Appalachian grazing Conference had a presentation on fence building and lime spreading and would like to see those topics be presented at a district event.

True: Attended the Personnel Committee meeting, and Appalachian Grazing Conference.

Sencindiver: Had been assisting with the Appalachian Grazing Conference, attend Education Committee meeting, WV Envirothon meeting, and WVACD Education Committee meeting.

Nester: Attended the Appalachian Grazing Conference.

Shaffer: Attended the WesMonTy RC&D meeting and enjoyed the talks on natural gas. Drove through Bemis and was surprised at how inactive the farms were and how overrun they've become with Multiflora Rose.

Gumm: Preparing for the upcoming state RC&D meeting and NACD teleconference. The Appalachian grazing Conference had 300+ attendees. There is a committee meeting scheduled for May to discuss plans for a 2019 conference.

#### **Public Comment Period:** None

There being no further business to attend to, Chairman Findley declared the meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM.

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Secretary

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

#### **March 27, 2017 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions**

1. Sencindiver moved to approve the February 27, 2017 minutes & March 27, 2017 agenda as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.
2. Nester moved to set a new reserve price on the small lime spreader to \$1,000.00 and relist for auction; seconded by Shaffer; carried.

3. Gumm moved to accept the treasurer reports as presented and file for audit; seconded by Teets; motion carried.
4. Teets moved to nominate Sencindiver as the Upshur County RC&D Representative; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.
5. Nester moved that the Spencer invoice should be left as is, and to fix the slippage at the district's expense once it is paid in full (includes having a detailed estimate of the scope of work to be done); seconded by Bonner; motion carried.
6. True moved to reseed the Spencer dam ourselves; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
7. Sencindiver moved to contact the NRCS about legally needing to keep the soil cores; seconded by Teets; motion carried.
8. Shaffer moved to offer the same nine practices from FY17 in the FY18 program; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
9. Dean moved to require that approved contracts be returned to the district office within one month of their approval; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
10. Nester moved to require that all AgEP applications include required soil samples and aerial maps at the time of signup, otherwise they will be considered incomplete; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
11. Nester moved to have FY18 signups be from July 5<sup>th</sup> through July 14<sup>th</sup>; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
12. Shaffer moved to approve the conservation agreements as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
  - a. *Donald Adams (Tucker Co. 460 Acres)*
  - b. *April Arbogast (Randolph Co. 40 Acres)*
  - c. *Chris Runion (Barbour Co. 106 Acres)*
13. Shaffer moved to approve the AgEP payments as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.
  - a. *James Dean (Inv. Mgmt.) \$300.00*
  - b. *Jeff Kelley (Water Exc. Fence) \$1280.00*
  - c. *Kody Tucker (Water Exc. Fence) \$4000.00*
14. Teets moved that since Currey's AgEP contract hadn't been received and the paperwork was late that no payment be made; seconded by Nester; motion carried with Shaffer abstaining
15. Sencindiver moved to approved the CREP funds transfer of \$3,000.00 to WCD as requested; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
16. Sencindiver moved to approve the FY18 CDO budget draft as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.
17. Teets moved to approve and submit the CD Approved Employee (Jan – March) LOR for \$2,160.00 as presented; seconded by True; motion carried.
18. Gumm moved to approve and submit the FY17 Elkwater O&M Matching Funds \$10,000.00 LOR for \$10,000.00 as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
19. Teets moved to approve and submit the FY17 Shooks Run O&M Matching Funds LOR for \$2,500.00 as presented; seconded by True; motion carried.
20. Sencindiver moved to approve and submit the FY17 Pecks Run O&M Matching Funds LOR for \$3,900.00 as presented; seconded by Shaffer; motion carried.