



GREENBRIER VALLEY

Conservation District

USDA Service Center ♦ 179 Northridge Drive ♦ Lewisburg, WV 24901
Phone: (304) 645-6173

Serving Greenbrier, Monroe, and Pocahontas Counties

Minutes of the GVCD Regular Board Meeting September 21, 2017

The Greenbrier Valley Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, September 21, 2017 in the conference room of the Lewisburg USDA Service Center. Those attending were:

Supervisors:

Avery Atkins
Jerry Clifton
Timothy VanReenen
Gary Sawyers
Gary Truex
Carolyn Miller

Others:

Jack O'Connell, NRCS
Katy McBride, NRCS
Lynn Woods
Tammy Rhodes, Ronceverte Main Street

Call to Order

Chairman Gary Sawyers called the meeting to order at 7:07pm. He opened the meeting with comments about the Awards and Legislative Banquet which was held earlier in the week and discussion followed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Gary Truex and seconded by Timothy VanReenen to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2017 Regular Board meeting and the August 23, 2017 Special Board meeting. Motion passed.

Guests

- Katy McBride introduced Tammy Rhodes from Ronceverte Main Street. Tammy presented a request for financial assistance for the purchase of a heater for a greenhouse in the Ronceverte Community Garden. There was discussion about the project and Tammy answered questions from the Supervisors. The Board will consider the request and Tammy will seek matching funds from Department of Ag. Katy also noted that she had been contacted by a lady in WSS who is trying to start an elementary program similar to the one in Rainelle. She will keep the Board apprised of any developments.

District Manager Report

Lynn Woods stated that the agenda would address necessary items and offered to answer any questions.

Funding Requests

No funding requests at this time.

Cooperating Agency Reports

- NRCS – Jack O'Connell

Jack O'Connell reviewed his written report, which is attached. He also requested a letter of support from the Board to request that the NWQI funds designated for Douthat Creek and Knapps Creek be released for use elsewhere due to waning interest in those areas. Discussion ensued. **Gary Truex moved and Carolyn Miller seconded the motion to write a letter of support to release the NWQI funds from Douthat Creek and Knapps Creek. Motion passed.**

- *WV Division of Forestry* – not present
- *FSA* – not present
- *WVCA*

Gary Sawyers reviewed Jeremy Salyer's written report, which is attached.

Unfinished Business

- **Avery Atkins moved and Timothy VanReenen seconded the motion to donate \$250.00 to the Larew Pavilion for the use of their facility for the State Farm tour. Motion passed.**
- Ronceverte high tunnel project – see "Guests" section above.
- Banquet follow-up – discussed at beginning of meeting.
- WVACD auction – It was decided that items would be brought to the October committee meetings for Gary Sawyers to take to the quarterly meeting.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Financial Report:

- *General and CDO Funds Report* – **Timothy VanReenen moved to accept the General and CDO Funds Reports and file for audit. Seconded by Gary Truex. Motion passed.**
- *WVCA Restricted Funds Report* – **Jerry Clifton moved to accept the WVCA Restricted Funds Reports and file for audit. Seconded by Carolyn Miller. Motion passed.**
- *Payment of all General Funds bills*— **Carolyn Miller moved to pay all General Funds bills, per payables list, as presented. Seconded by Timothy VanReenen. Motion passed.** List is attached.

Agricultural Enhancement Program Committee:

- Timothy VanReenen reported that Barry Level is pushing for cooperators to complete their practices ASAP.

Grassland Committee:

- No new information.

Building/Equipment Committee:

- Gary Truex reported on a customer complaint that has since been resolved.
- Manure spreader parts are still being researched. No action taken.

Other Committees

None

Watershed Reports

- *WVCA O, M & R Report*
 - Judith Lyons sent report written by Kimberly Neal. Copy attached.
 - **Avery Atkins moved and Gary Truex seconded the motion to pay the invoice from L.D. Hanna in the amount of \$8,946.00 for the completion of contract 2017-07-27 OMR GVCD Howards Creek 12. Motion passed.**
 - Judith Lyons was contacted by phone to discuss her request for an LOR for Anjean Rd, Roaring Creek, and Charmco. She explained that these are upcoming sediment removal sites selected by the County and she wanted the Board to be aware that an LOR would be needed in the near future.
 - **Timothy VanReenen moved and Carolyn Miller seconded the motion to approve the new Emergency Action Plans for Howards Creek 12 and Marlin Run dams.** Discussion ensued. Points of Contact for each had reviewed the plans prior to the meeting and it was noted there were no real changes. **Motion passed.**

319 Committee:

- John Nelson called in to report on a situation that is occurring on the Snake Run site in which the landowner is refusing to keep cattle out of the creek. He is hoping this can be resolved without legal action, but wanted the Board to be aware of the situation and will keep them apprised.
- Remaining federal funds on Snake Run and Knapps Creek were able to be re-directed to Second Creek.

Actions Between Board Meetings

- A list of payments and contract modifications approved between meetings was provided and will be entered into the minutes as an attachment.

Correspondence

- Gary Sawyers reviewed correspondence from WVU Extension and NACD. No action taken.

New Business

- Timothy VanReenen went over the highlights of the new SSRP program which will replace the SPRP program, turning it in to a cost-share program. The SCC will review in October and plan to finalize in January 2018.

Approval of Conservation Agreements & Terminations

- None

Approval of Conservation Plans

- **Timothy VanReenen moved and Jerry Clifton seconded the motion to approve the conservation plan for Jimmie Harless submitted by Jack O'Connell. Motion passed.**

CREP

- **Jerry Clifton moved and Timothy VanReenen seconded the motion to approve the CREP payment for Amy Rae Hubbard, Contract #11006, 15.47 acres @ \$32/acre - \$495.04, submitted by Monroe County FSA. Motion passed.**

Other Business

- Gary Sawyers reported that he had shared a copy of our Listening Session notes with Sen. Ron Miller.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned by consensus at 9:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary Sawyers
Chairman



Carolyn Miller
Secretary/Treasurer

GS/CM/lw

Recorded by Lynn Woods, District Manager



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
LEWISBURG SERVICE CENTER
179 NORTHRIDGE DRIVE
LEWISBURG, WV 24901
(304) 645 - 6172 (Phone)

NRCS Report – Greenbrier Valley Conservation District September 21, 2017

Farm Bill Programs

EQIP/AMA – Applications for EQIP/AMA/CSP have been obligated and final numbers are in. This was very good year for the Greenbrier Valley, with total contract value exceeding 2 million dollars (please note that the figures in last month's report were based on estimated values of applications).

County	EQIP/AMA		CSP (5-yr value)		Total	
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
Pocahontas	12	\$440k	8	\$183k	20	\$623k
Greenbrier	45	\$721k	8	\$89k	53	\$810k
Monroe	14	\$456k	10	\$143k	24	\$599k
Total	71	\$1,618k	26	\$416k	97	\$2,034k

NWQI – Applications for assistance in NWQI projects in the Douthat Creek and Knapps Creek watersheds have dwindled to unsustainable numbers. Despite intensive outreach efforts contacting existing customers and their neighbors, we were able to come up with only 3 small contracts in FY2017. Two of those were to repair flood damage and the third was for grazing practices that could have been covered under another fund. In a move to keep the WV from losing money for lack of participation, I recommended earlier this week that the funds be transferred to the Indian Creek Burnside Branch project in Monroe County. For this to happen, I will need a letter from the GVCD recommending the withdrawal from the Douthat Creek and Knapps Creek NWQI projects.

Goals

The Greenbrier district has met all of its FY 2017 Goals! Details below.

2017 Goals			
Measure	Goal(ac)	Completed	%
0.10 Plans Written (All Programs)	15,550	15,627	100.5%
6.90 Conservation Applied (CTA)	9,000	9,082	100.9%
6.90 Conservation Applied (EQIP)	6,000	6,497	108.3%

Personnel/Other

- Josh Cook has attended several day-long “train the trainer” sessions for the upcoming Conservation Delivery Streamlining Initiative (CDSI) Conservation Desktop. Conservation Desktop (CD) is the core CDSI application that integrates NRCS’ technical and financial information and processes into a common user interface. Josh will eventually train others in the South Area on the use of these applications.
- Silas Sattler, Adam Merritt, and Lee Godbey have been attending job showings and performing construction inspection at Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) program job sites in Greenbrier and Webster counties.

Helping People Help the Land

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

- Tom Vance continues to be a great help with EQIP, CREP, CRP practice application and HELC planning.
- All staff are currently working on FY2018 Conservation Stewardship Program renewal contracts.
- Katy has been working with the Women in Agriculture committee on the upcoming Greenbrier Valley Women in Agriculture workshop to be held from 9:00AM to 3:00PM on October 21 at the WV State Fair Blue Ribbon Poultry Building. "Save-the-Date" cards are available at GVCD/NRCS/FSA offices and elsewhere.
- Golden-winged warbler biologist Katy Loucks has been meeting with existing customers and prospective applicants throughout the District.
- Jack has been working on Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) conservation plans, while staff in all offices have been assisting with applications.
- Staff in all offices are working with FSA on CREP, CRP, and Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) projects.
- Katy is working with Tammy Rhodes of Ronceverte Main Street on a high tunnel project within their community garden area.

Jack O'Connell
 9/21/2017

September 21, 2017

Louis Aspey
State Conservationist
USDA/NRCS
1550 Earl Core Road, Suite 200
Morgantown WV 26505

Dear Mr. Aspey:

Due to waning interest and low participation rates in our Douthat and Knapp's Creek National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) projects, the Greenbrier Valley Conservation District recommends and supports the withdrawal of funding for the following NWQI projects:

- WV NWQI - Douthat Creek
- WV NWQI – Headwaters Knapp Creek
- WV NWQI – Outlet Knapp Creek

Please know that we are very happy with the conservation practices that have been implemented through these projects and we continue our support for contracted practices yet to be applied.

Sincerely,

Gay W. Sawyers
Chairman

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

September 2017 WVCA Report

WVACD Quarterly Meeting – The Fall Quarterly Meeting for the WVACD will be held in Flatwoods October 16-17. The live auction will be held on the 16th at 7:00pm. The conservation Awards Luncheon will begin at 1:00pm on the 17th.

CD Supervisors were instructed to deliver their registration forms and payment made via check to their District Managers. As soon as registration forms and checks are received, please scan and email Belinda a copy, and then mail the originals. Checks are to be made out to the WVCAC. All registration forms and checks are required to be received at the Guthrie office no later than close of business on September 25, 2017.

Attendees are responsible for making their own hotel reservations.

Conservation Farm Tour

- **August** - Statewide judging was held August 29,30 & 31
- **October** – Presentation of Area and State awards at WV Conservation Partnership Annual Conference. County and District winners will be presented at local Conservation District annual banquets.

The Farm Tour Committee is reviewing the Leopold Conservation Award promoted by the Sand County Foundation as a potential option for the WV Farm Contest.

The web site is: Sandcountyfoundation.org The Sand County Foundation bills itself as the “Nation’s Leading Voice for Private Land Conservation.”

Agreed Procedures Engagement (Audit)

Please verify your engagement is current. If it needs to be extended or rebid, please begin the process. With the closing of the fiscal year, if you haven’t done so already please start the process to conduct your audit with your firm.

State Committee

The next scheduled meeting for the SCC is October 10th.

AgDay at the Capitol / Legislative Breakfast

Ag Day will be held on February 7th 2018. There will be another Legislative breakfast, details will be provided as available.

Listening Sessions

Brian and Timothy VanReenen will be planning to visit all conservation districts beginning in September for listening sessions. These sessions allow the CDs an opportunity to discuss issues and offer ideas to present to WVCA and the WVACD. They will be looking for recommendations on which questions they should present to districts to update the information obtained during the last session in all 14 districts.

WVCA Project Section

OM&R

- Work continues with NRCS to develop engineering plans for watershed dams. The seep investigation work being conducted by CEC in South Fork is nearing completion.
- O&M work for this season is has started in some Districts.

EWP

- June 2016 flood – NRCS continues to complete bank stabilization sites following the June 2016 flood.
- Regional permit renewal – the proposed permit is currently out for public comment. The comment period closed and the Corp is reviewing the comments that were received.

July 2017

- WVCA has worked on debris cleanup in Upper Ohio, Monongahela and the Northern Panhandle Conservation Districts.
- The stream debris cleanup is almost complete.
- Debris clean up on the Wheeling Creek Dams is underway.
- WVCA is utilizing the purchased pit burner to dispose of the woody debris.
- WVCA is addressing flood related calls as they come in.

Citizens Contact Reports

- Call Log Procedure – a call log procedure has been implemented to assure that calls are directed to the appropriate project section staff. Please call 304-872-4302 and your call will be directed as needed.
- Technicians are performing site and generating stream management plans and blockage removal based on the calls that are received.

Stream Projects

- South Fork of the Cherry River (GVCD) – Surveying underway.
- Buffalo Creek (ECD) – Design complete, working on permitting and landrights
- Coal River (CCD) – Survey and assessment complete, design underway

Dam Rehab

- Gannett Fleming is continuing to work on planning studies for Brush Creek 9 & 15 and New Creek 1 & 17, and perform the construction oversight for UDC1.
- Upper Deckers 1
 - The permit process continues for UDC1 with construction slated for 2017/2018.
 - WVCA continues to work on the permits and mitigation plan.
 - Groundbreaking was held August 7, 2017.
- NPCD, SCD, MCD and PVCD – Please track hours that District Supervisors attend any rehab meetings.

Reminder: Rehab meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. Any District that has rehab projects can participate in these meetings by phone

9:37 AM

09/21/17

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District
A/P Aging Summary
As of September 21, 2017

	<u>Current</u>	<u>1 - 30</u>	<u>31 - 60</u>	<u>61 - 90</u>	<u>> 90</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
ACF Environmental	2,803.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,803.60
Boone Tractor & Implement, Inc.	76.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	76.86
City of Lewisburg	17.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.42
First Citizens Bank	225.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225.98
Harry L. Vance Logging	65.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00
Jims Drive In	69.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	69.00
Matheson Tri-Gas Inc.	45.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.70
Mon Power	17.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.83
Mountain Top Farm	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Mountaineer Gas Company	31.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.75
S W Resources	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Sherry W. Ferrell	375.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	375.00
Spangler's Organic Farm	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Suddenlink	216.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	216.72
Westfield Insurance	1,282.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,282.67
TOTAL	<u>5,577.53</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,577.53</u>



1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV
25305-0193

West Virginia
Conservation Agency

Phone: (304) 558-2204
Fax: (304) 558-1635
www.wvca.us

To: Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

From: West Virginia Conservation Agency-Summersville Field Office

RE: Monthly Update

Date: August 18, 2017-September 21, 2017

Site Visits Conducted:

CCRs:

- Site 10096-Brenda Wickline-Sulphur Springs-Greenbrier Co.-Ineligible
- Site 11103-Betsy Bittinger-White Sulphur Springs-Greenbrier Co.-In Progress
- Site 11105-Kara Squires-Hillsboro-Pocahontas Co.-Ineligible
- Site 5905-Brittany Mandeville-Crawley-Greenbrier Co.-In Progress
- Site 11121-Erma McKinney (Leg.)-White Sulphur Springs-Greenbrier Co.-Ineligible
- Site 12233-D. Buzzard-Dunmore-Pocahontas Co.-In Progress
- Site 3067-W. Johnson-Rainelle-Greenbrier Co.-Ineligible

Eligible SPRP Sites Pending Contract:

- N/A

Stream Permits:

- Site 12237-J. Leyvoren-Marlin Run-Marlinton-Pocahontas Co.-In Progress
- Site 5970-L. Gibson-Elk Creek-Marlinton-Pocahontas Co.-In Progress
- Site 12236-B. McCormick-Trib to Greenbrier-Ronceverte-Greenbrier Co.-In Progress
- Site 12151-Mark Wade-White Sulphur Springs-Greenbrier Co.-In Progress

Dams:

- Howard Creek #12-EAP: Ready for review/signature at Sept. board meeting.
- Marlin Run #1-EAP: Ready for review/signature at Sept. board meeting.

Projects:

- N/A

Actions Between Board Meetings

319 Payments Approved By Jerry Clifton Between Board Meetings (Board Authority Delegated on August 17, 2017)

Payee	Participant	Project	Amount	Notes
CEC	Rita Goff	Snake Run	\$ 2,542.80	
Faulknier Enterprises, Inc.	Jerald Ramos	Knapps Creek	\$ 88,556.50	Contract completed
GVCD	Lone Oak	Milligan Creek	\$ 531.50	
Lone Oak LLC	Lone Oak	Milligan Creek	\$ 5,034.33	
Morlunda Farms	Morlunda Farms	Milligan Creek	\$ 13,195.68	
Samuel Tuckwiler	Samuel Tuckwiler	Milligan Creek	\$ 3,090.00	
Southern CD	Greg Glover	Milligan Creek	\$ 14,395.00	
Trout Unlimited	Page Dickson/Greg Glover	Second Creek	\$ 12,320.00	
WV DOF	Jerald Ramos	Knapps Creek	\$ 1,560.00	
ASR	Rita Goff	Snake Run	\$ 67,500.00	Contract completed
Morlunda Farms	Morlunda Farms	Milligan Creek	\$ 811.53	
SJ Neathawk	Rita Goff	Snake Run	\$ 2,103.75	
Tuckwiler Well Drilling	Morlunda Farms	Milligan Creek	\$ 1,600.00	
WV DOF	Rita Goff	Snake Run	\$ 775.00	
Scott Kiddle	Scott Kiddle	Milligan Creek	\$ 914.00	
GVCD	Aaron Helmick	Indian Creek	\$ 2,058.60	
Southern CD	Scott Kiddle/Galena Knapp	Milligan Creek	\$ 8,418.00	
SJ Neathawk	Equipment	Kitchen Creek	\$ 23.64	
Waters Agricultural Lab	Monitoring	Sewell Creek	\$ 2.18	
Samuel Tuckwiler	Samuel Tuckwiler	Milligan Creek	\$ 6,670.50	
Kenneth Fox	Septic Pumping	Sewell Creek	\$ 115.00	

Contract Modifications Between Meetings

2017-08-03 CS 319 GVCD Knapps Ck Ramos	4606.5	By Jerry Clifton (Board Authority Delegated August 17, 2017)
2017-07-06 CS 319 GVCD Snake Run	2500	By Gary Sawyers (Board Authority Delegated June 15, 2017)