



MINUTES OF MEETING
November 6, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Potomac Valley Conservation District was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at the USDA Service Center in Moorefield. The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by chairperson, Charlotte Hoover.

SUPERVISORS: Charlotte Hoover, Ron Miller, John Hicks, J.W. See, Kent Spencer, George Leatherman, Brian Dayton, Dale Walker, Gerald Sites and Frank Weese

OTHERS: Adam Boner, NRCS; Jeremy Salyer, Ben Heavner, Cindy Shreve, Tanner McNeely, Nadene Jewell, WVCA; Anthony Walker, PVCD; Kelly Rumer, FSA; Bill Pownall, Mike Bonner, WV DOF; Carolyn Hefner, PVCD Associate Supervisor; Bruce Alt and Lloyd Bowers, Pendleton County Residents.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 2, 2019 meeting were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by George Leatherman and seconded by Frank Weese to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the October 2, 2019 meeting and approve them as written and distributed. Motion carried.

The minutes of the October 15, 2019 special meeting by teleconference were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by J.W. See to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the October 15, 2019 special meeting and approve them as written and distributed. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Treasurer, John Hicks reviewed the treasury reports for the month of October with the Board. Supervisors reviewed the reports for the General Fund and CDO Grant Accounts as prepared by William Lipps, CPA and the Co-Administered accounts as prepared by WVCA Fiscal Department. A motion was made by John Hicks to approve the Co-Administered reports and General Fund reports and invoices paid within the month of October. Motion seconded by Kent Spencer. Motion carried.

INVOICE: Board action was taken on payment in the amount of \$525.00 to William Lipps CPA for bookkeeping services in the month of October. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by J.W. See to approve payment to William Lipps CPA in the amount of \$525.00 for bookkeeping services in October. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: A news release was received from WVCA regarding Noble Farms being named 2019 West Virginia Conservation Farm of the Year. Copies were distributed to supervisors for review.

LETTER OF REQUEST (LOR) – Action was taken by motion of Kent Spencer to approve and authorize the chair to sign and submit two letters of request for funds for NPS 1693 Chesapeake Bay Initiative in the amounts of \$25,000.00 (Litter Transfer) and \$50,000.00 (BMP Implementation). Motion seconded by John Hicks. Motion carried.

LETTER OF REQUEST (LOR): Action was taken by motion of George Leatherman and seconded by Brian Dayton to approve and authorize the chair to sign and submit an LOR in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the O&M annual contribution for watershed structures in Mineral County. Motion carried.

THANK YOU: The Board reviewed a thank you card received from Lukas and Gabby Newcomer, Noble Farms, for all of the support in the conservation farm program.

PATTERSON CREEK O&M CONTRACT: The contract was awarded to Vincent Excavating in the amount of \$53,500.00. The notice to proceed was issued on 10/28/19. It was reported that the contractor has completed 6 dams to date and is working to finish all dams soon.

LOST RIVER O&M: Tygarts Valley CD is completing o&m on the three Lost River dams. They have completed all mowing and are currently working on weed eating and debris removal. Should be finished soon.

INVOICES: Jeremy Salyer reported on the outstanding invoices from CEC. WVCA staff are working to finalize reports with NRCS – should be complete shortly. Following some discussion, a motion was made by J.W. See and seconded by Kent Spencer to approve payment in the outstanding amount of \$ 57,431.88 to CEC, pending verification from WVCA. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: The Personnel Committee met prior to the Board meeting. Committee chair, John Hicks reported on the committee recommendations. The group discussed the hiring of a new part time office assistant – all were in agreement and approved Nadene to contact the individual regarding the position. The committee also reviewed the District / Employee policy – members were asked to bring any revisions to the December meeting for approval. The PVCD crew has completed o&m work for the season. Full time work is not available for crew but could have work on “as needed basis” throughout the winter months. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by J.W. See to approve the personnel committee recommendations. Motion carried.

PROMO ITEMS: Discussion was held regarding the purchase of promo / branding items – several members in favor of polo shirts. Other items were also discussed. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by J.W. See to purchase the promo / branding items for the District. Motion carried.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Discussion was held regarding a nominating committee to select the executive officers for the coming year. After some discussion, a motion was made by George Leatherman to approve the Executive Officers remain the same in 2020: Charlotte Hoover, Chairperson; Ron Miller, Vice-Chair; Kent Spencer, Secretary; and John Hicks, Treasurer. Motion seconded by Brian Dayton. Motion carried.

JANUARY MEETING DATE: The first Wednesday in January will be 1/1/20 (Holiday). The Board will need to move the January meeting date – all in favor of having the January meeting on 1/8/20 @ 7:00 pm (second Wednesday of the month). The meeting room is available and has been reserved for PVCD meeting.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT: Nadene reported on the following:

- Reminder of the date change for the December meeting: Thursday, 12/5/19 @ 7 pm at the Ponderosa in Moorefield. Christmas Dinner will begin at 6 pm followed by the meeting.
- State Conservation Farm of the Year – Noble Farms
- Suttle & Stalnaker representative completed the field work for the FY2018-19 audit. The final report will be ready to present by the January meeting.

PVCD SUPERVISOR REPORT: Gerald Sites reported on the WVACD quarterly meeting – legislative committee items – discussion on proposed tax on pollutants, voted down by committee. Discussion on dates / locations of future WVCA quarterly meetings. Districts can submit a proposal to host the meeting – no adequate facility located within PVCD.

John Hicks discussed the WVACD Watershed Committee – holding meeting on 12/11/19 @ Flatwoods to address watershed issues. He is PVCD representative on the committee. Also discussed Ag Day at the Capitol on 1/31/20 – will hold legislative breakfast again this year. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of holding a separate Conservation Day at the capitol in the future – no date at this time.

Hicks reported on Noble Farms being named state conservation farm of the year. WVCA has inquired if the Newcomers would address conservation / ag issues with the legislators at Ag Day. WVCA is also working on a presentation to highlight the Noble Farm operation. Suggestion was also made to host a state Ag Field Day on the Newcomer Farm in April or May 2020. Congratulations to the Newcomers!

Ron Miller reported on the WVACD Conservation Education committee – discussion on the statewide poster contest – awards for the participants. The WVACD scholarship auction was successful – raised approximately \$3,000 this year. Items donated by PVCD sold very well. Miller also discussed the scholarship applications – be sure local schools have the correction application / deadline. Petersburg and Hampshire High Schools had some issues last year.

PVCD CREW – Tony reported on the following:

- Rental equipment continues to be busy – deliveries keeping Tony on the road
- Discussion on repairs to rental equipment.
- Lime spreader rental rate – discussion held on the issue. All in favor to change the rate, both 4-ton and 8-ton lime spreaders will rent for \$3.00 per ton. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by Frank Weese to change the lime spreader rental rate to \$3.00 per ton for both spreaders. Motion carried.
- Truck Repair – Tony indicated the truck is in need of repair – all in agreement it is time to replace the truck. Options needed in the new truck include: Automatic transmission, crew cab, and dual wheels for pulling equipment. In agreement to investigate and bring prices / options to next meeting. Also agreed to have current truck repaired as needed.

Discussion was held regarding the possible purchase of a plastic puller for crop producers to rent. Will investigate options. No action.

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE – WATER HAULING TANKS: Two applications were received the drought assistance for water hauling tanks: Page Alexander and Tom Wimer submitted applications. A motion was made by Gerald Sites and seconded by Dale Walker to approve the two applications for drought assistance for water hauling tank – max amount of \$400 each. Motion carried.

AG ENHANCEMENT: The State Ag Enhancement Committee will meet in Flatwoods on 12/10/19 to discuss the funding allocation formulas for the coming year. A change in the funding allocation could affect the amount of Ag Enhancement funds received in the future. The meeting will also be available by teleconference. PVCD should have a representative at the meeting.

AG ENHANCEMENT: The following AgEP applications and payment were presented for approval:

LIME – Payment: *Forrest Alderman 22.23 tons \$ 333.45 CS*

A motion was made by Kent Spencer and seconded by Frank Weese to approve the lime payment as presented. Motion carried.

J.W. See and George Leatherman excused themselves from the meeting.

COVER CROP - Payments: *Baker Farms 59.35 acres \$2,967.50 CS; Brian Brannon 28 acres \$ 1,400.00 CS; ** James W. See III 33.3 acres \$ 1,665.00 CS; Paul Bennett 20 acres \$1,000 CS; John McCoy 49 acres \$ 2,450.00 CS; Jesse Mace 18 acres \$ 720.00 CS; Conrad Farms-Doug Marsh 44.7 acres \$ 3,027.00 CS; Lisa Basye 25 acres \$ 1,250.00 CS; Mallow Farms 20 acres \$ 1,000 CS; Michael Omps 17 acres \$ 850 CS; Michael Teets 75 acres \$ 3,550.00 CS; Matt Teets 75 acres \$3,750.00 CS; Harold Omps 12 acres \$ 600 CS; Dennis Funk 75 acres \$ 3,750.00 CS; Randy Branson 15.8 acres \$ 790.00 CS; Rodney Branson 62.7 acres \$ 3,135.00 CS; Dan Lahman 25 acres \$ 1,250 CS; Brookedale Holsteins 70.2 acres \$ 2,808.00 CS; Glenn Mathias 62 acres \$ 2,900 CS; ** George Leatherman 12 acres \$480 CS; Raymond Phares 35 acres \$ 1,750.00 CS; WC Taylor 34 acres \$ 1,360.00 CS; Jerry Warner 11 acres \$ 900 CS; Delray Wilkins 52.5 acres \$2,100 CS; Robert E. Williams 27 acres \$ 1,350.00 CS; Cynthia Yokum 22 acres \$ 1,100 CS; Todd Fansler 26.4 acres \$ 1,182 CS; Roger / Judy Fansler 25.9 acres \$1,295 CS;*

A motion was made by Kent Spencer and seconded by Frank Weese to approve the Cover Crop payments as presented. John Hicks abstained. Motion carried.

George Leatherman returned to the meeting.

LITTER TRANSFER –Applications: *Mac Combs 186 tons \$1,860.00 CS; Ward Malcolm 250 tons \$2,500 CS*

LITTER TRANSFER – Payments: *Victor Carr 250 tons \$2,500 CS; Gary Hedrick 154.93 tons \$1,549.30 CS*

A motion was made by Frank Weese and seconded by John Hicks to approve the litter transfer applications and payments as presented. Motion carried.

HAY RESEEDING – Payments: *James W. See Jr. 37.41 acres \$ 1,870.50 CS; ** James W. See III 33.22 acres \$ 1,661.00 CS; Jesse Mace 5 acres \$ 250 CS; Brian Brannon 50 acres \$ 2,500.00 CS; Glenn Mathias 8.8 acres \$ 440.00 CS; Carl Heavner 50 acres \$ 2,500 CS; Neal Eye 35 acres \$1,750.00 CS*

HAY ESTABLISHMENT – Payments: *Harold Omps 8 acres \$ 1,000.00 CS; Baker Farms 10.9 acres \$ 1,362.50 CS*

A motion was made by Frank Weese and seconded by Ron Miller to approve the Hay Reseeding and Hay Establishment payments as presented. Motion carried.

J.W. See returned to the meeting.

Charlotte Hoover excused herself from the meeting, Ron Miller to preside as chair.

DIVISION FENCE – Payments: *Charles Wimer \$3,701.71 CS; ** Charlotte Hoover \$1,968.29; Kelly Rumor \$4,473.62 CS; Adam Goldizen \$8,000.00 CS*

A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by Dale Walker to approve the Division Fence payments as presented. Motion carried.

CREP: The following CREP payments were presented for approval - *The payments were addressed at the October meeting however some changes were noted:*

<u>Grant County – New</u>		<u>Incentive</u>	<u>Ches. Bay</u>
Cottage Hill Farm	8.83 acres	\$ 300.22	\$ 353.20
 <u>Pendleton County – New</u>			
** Charlotte Hoover	17.87 acres	\$ 607.58	\$ 714.80
Joshua Byers	8.04 acres	\$ 273.36	\$ 321.60
Mark Mueller (50%)	6.56 acres	\$ 111.52	\$ 131.20
Daniel Glasson, (25%)	6.56 acres	\$ 55.76	\$ 65.60
Avery Ouellette (25%)	6.56 acres	\$ 55.76	\$ 65.60
Roger Mallow (50%)	57.4 acres	\$ 975.80	\$ 1,148.00
Richard Mallow (50%)	57.4 acres	\$ 975.80	\$ 1,148.00
Freddie Cooper	22.02 acres	\$ 748.68	\$ 880.80
Mary King	1.99 acres	\$ 67.66	\$ 79.60
Donald Thorne (50%)	.71 acre	\$ 12.07	\$ 14.20
Elizabeth Thorne (50%)	.71 acre	\$ 12.07	\$ 14.20
William Copley III (50%)	6.07 acres	\$ 103.19	\$ 121.40
Shelby Copley (50%)	6.07 acres	\$ 103.19	\$ 121.40

Pendleton County Farm Service Agency indicated the CREP contract for Freddie Cooper is being cancelled.

A motion was made by Frank Weese and seconded by J.W. See to approve the CREP payments, excluding Freddie Cooper. Motion carried.

Charlotte Hoover returned to the meeting and resumed as chair.

CONSERVATION AGREEMENT: One conservation agreement was presented for approval: Yellow Rose Farm in Hardy County. A motion was made by John Hicks and seconded by J.W. See to approve the conservation agreement for Yellow Rose Farm. Motion carried.

WVCA: Jeremy reviewed monthly report with Board – most already covered. He reported on the mid-year budget cut for WVCA. The agency plans to absorb the cut – district programs should remain intact.

WVCA: Cindy Shreve introduced Tanner McNeely as the new conservation specialist in PVCD. Tanner began work on 10/14/19, housed in Moorefield office. He addressed the Board. Welcome aboard.

NRCS: Adam Boner reported for NRCS in Grant, Hardy and Pendleton counties: He distributed information on the Technology for Agriculture Series being held at Reymann Memorial Farm in Wardensville on 11/12/19 – reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

FSA: Kelly Rumer reported on the following:

- MFP program – encouraged reporting if crops planted – deadline 12/6
- Low interest rates available – ag equipment

DIVISION OF FORESTRY: William Pownall reported on the Chesapeake Bay program

Mike Bonner, Forester in Mineral County also in attendance.

RENTAL EQUIPMENT: Pendleton County landowner, Bruce Alt addressed the Board regarding being able to rent equipment from the District. A litter spreader was damaged when he rented it earlier this season and he has not been permitted to rent equipment since. He did pay the invoice, including the damage charges. Apologized for the damage, will be cautious in the future if able to rent equipment. Following some discussion, the Board was in agreement to permit Mr. Alt to rent equipment in the future. A motion was made by Ron Miller and seconded by Brian Dayton to permit Bruce Alt to rent equipment, pending no damage. Motion carried.

Reminder of the following dates:

- Christmas Dinner 6 pm / December meeting @ Ponderosa 12/5/19 @ 7 pm
- State Ag Enhancement Committee meeting 12/10/19 @ Flatwoods
- Ag Day @ the Capitol 1/31/20 - Breakfast

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by motion of Kent Spencer at 8:25 pm. Motion seconded by Frank Weese. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be on **Thursday, December 5, 2019 beginning at 7:00 pm at the Ponderosa Restaurant in Moorefield.**

Chairperson

Secretary

Date