

**Upper Ohio Conservation District Monthly Meeting Minutes
Middlebourne, WV
April 15, 2019**

Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman
Wayne McKeever, Secretary/Treasurer
Bill Gellner, Vice-Chairman
Audra Cunningham, Member
Holly Morgan, Member
Patricia Thomas, Members

Others Present

Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Manager
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD District Manager
David Shipman, UOCD/NPCD
Katie Fitzsimmons, NRCS DC NPCD/UOCD
Jennifer Kile, WVCA Conservation Specialist
Brent Lyons, WV Forestry
Jon Wilson, WV Forestry

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS – Fitzsimmons reviewed the attached report. Local Work Group meeting is May 6 at the New Martinsville Library. 6:30 pm.

WVCA – Kim Fisher reviewed the attached report.

Forestry – Brent and Jon reviewed the attached report

WVU Extension – None

SWA – Hoping to have a rain barrel class in the next few months.

Meeting Minutes

McKeever made the motion to approve the March Board Meeting Minutes. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial Report

Gellner made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion that UOCD bills be paid as funds permit and coordinated by office staff. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Funding Request

McKeever made a motion to pay \$1200 to sponsor the State Conservation Camp at Camp Caesar. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Supervisor Reports

McKeever – New Supervisors Training Manual. Preparing for Envirothon Competition. Listened in on SCC meeting. Holly is managing Assoc. Facebook page.

Gellner – Attended Emergency AgEP Revegetation meeting, helps with revegetation of feeding sites. \$60 per acre. Must have all approved by May 2 and completed by May 31. Conservation Grant Program has passed the Senate. Read Senate Bill 655. Next meeting is 4/29/19.

Cunningham – Attended the Tyler Co. Farm Bureau Farm Awareness Dinner, Pleasants Co. Ham & Bacon Sale, listened in on the Emergency Revegetation meeting, attended an oil & gas meeting about estate planning with lease, Farmers Market Meeting, Beef Expo, and attended 3 planning meetings for BQA training in Ritchie Co. Training will be April 26 @ 6:00. It will be hands on training and certificate is good for 3 years. Was asked to be the Ohio River Sweep representative by Lisa Cochran. She will be involved with that again. Sees the availability of the required seed mix being a problem with the AgEP Revegetation.

Morgan – Spoke with Jim Fayad, he may want to cancel his fence practice. Met with county commission for Land Judging Competition. Reserved for May 17. Working on Jr. Master Gardner Class. Talked to people about Emergency AgEP to see if there is a need. Postings for Facebook.

Thomas – Attended the Farm Bureau Awareness Dinner. Came to office for PEIA training. Went to Union Bank in Middlebourne questioning report and correcting mailing procedure. It is normally used for audits. Went to Union Bank in Sistersville to remove Ron Fletcher from mailing. Will be mailed to UOCD with no specific name in the future. Picked up rate sheets from LREFCU. Took Area Scholarship forms to guidance counselors for promotion. Signed checks and studied up on Supervisors Training Manual.

Rush – The bearings are out on the lime spreader. Went to pick it up and will replace as soon as new bearings are in.

AgEP

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Gellner made a motion to accept the request of William Ingram and Delbert Rush to cancel their Invasive Species Practice. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

McKeever made a motion to hold FY20 AgEP sign-ups from May 28 thru June 14. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to change the annual rate cap to \$1800 per cooperator and to raise the fence cost share from \$1.25 to 1.50 per foot. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to offer Emergency AgEP Revegetation. McKeever seconded the motion, motion passed.

Certificate of Deposit
Tabled.

Facebook
Added the Local work Group, Chainsaw Safety and High Tunnel Field Day. Added the barrels and received 239 likes on that post. Participation is up by another 22%

Trailer for Bed Layer
The trailer modifications are complete, and trailer is in process of coating. Signage is being made for the trailer by MOVTI.

Lime Spreader
Spreader should arrive the last week of this month.

Lease
No activity since March meeting.

District Farm Selection
Tabled.

Supervisor Per Diem
McKeever made a motion to raise the per diem rate from \$60 to \$80 per day. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Sesquicentennial Farm
Gellner made a motion to approve the farm of Jake Morgan for Sesquicentennial Farm recognition. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

AgEP Administration Agreement
Gellner made a motion to approve the AgEP Administration Agreement as presented. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Emergency AgEP
Morgan made a motion to approve the Emergency Revegetation of Feeding Area Practice with a cost share of \$60 per acre. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed. Applications will be accepted thru May 2 and follow guidelines as attached.
McKeever made a motion to delegate Gellner and Rush to review and approve qualifying applications. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

LOR Emergency AgEP
Gellner made a motion to submit a blanket LOR for Emergency AgEP Revegetation Funds. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Conservation Agreements
Gellner made a motion to approve agreements for Keith Grimes of Tyler County and William Hyre of Pleasants County. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

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Tyler County 4-H & Farm Community Center Association Representative

Cunningham made a motion to appoint Lori Cochran. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Expression of Interest Template

Tabled.

Newsletter Items

Everyone be thinking of items for the next newsletter.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

Gellner made a motion to adjourn. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be May 21 at 6:00 pm, located at the UOCD office in Middlebourne.

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, District Manager

Signature of Chairman

Signature of Secretary

Date

Date