

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

Members Present

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

Others Present

Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Manager via phone
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD District Manager
Katie Fitzsimmons, NRCS
Jennifer Kile, WVCA
J.L. Tennant, FSA
David Shipman

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

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS –Fitzsimmons reviewed the attached report.

FSA- Tennant reported on recent FSA programs. Continue with sign-up for CREP. Loans for farm storage facility are available as well as others.

WVCA – Kim Fisher reviewed the attached report.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – None

SWA – Supervisor Rush reported on Wetzel County SWA.

Meeting Minutes

Gellner made the motion to approve the July Board Meeting Minutes. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial Report

Gellner made a motion to file the financial report for audit. McKeever 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

None

Supervisor Reports

Gellner – Attended the Pleasants County Youth Fair. Participated in the State AgEP Exigency meeting.

Cunningham Attended the Pleasants County Youth Fair. Set up the booth with some nice signs. Had a nice location. Had probably 50 – 60 names submitted for the rain barrel drawing. Bonnie Chambers won the drawing. Spoke with some cattle producers in the area having to haul water and some having to feed hay due to the lack of rain. helped with one of the two pop up markets held in St. Marys Elementary Schools. Helped with arrangements for the Christmas Dinner. Was able to be a judge for the pie baking contest. If you are going to be a judge, that is the one to be!

Morgan – Sat in on the communications call. Talked with Brent Lyons about getting Smokey the Bear to the Chili Fest in New Martinsville. Facebook postings.

McKeever- Attended training for grant writing. Sat in on the communications call. Met with Dominion Gas to receive a \$15,000 donation for Envirothon. Went to State Conservation Committee meeting on the 7-8. Was at the Ag school on the 7th and went to the equine farm in Reedsville on the 8th. Also toured the dam on the back side of Reedsville. Attended the Envirothon meeting on the 2nd. Next meeting will be Nov. 6 at Canaan. Teachers training was September 30. Had one teacher attend from Tyler Co. Had 7 or 8 new teachers attend. Had a total of 18 teachers attend.

Thomas Printed the PEIA coupons for checks to be made. Discussed the Project Wet Program with Mr. Wall at Boreman Elementary. Plan to talk to the Sistersville principal as well. Spoke with David Clough on the water situation. Working on getting a new cooperator signed up. Worked with Mrs. Franks on Envirothon team. Want to do hands-on stuff to help with the training.

Rush – Worked the Soil Tunnel trailer for a bit on Saturday at the October Fest in Wetzel County. Would like for us to bring it back again next year. A couple would like to combine it with backyard gardens and literature for plants. Attended the SWA meeting. Currently processing around 8000 pounds a week. The

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hired another employee. Will be tearing down the old building the week of 10/21/19. Spoke to several about AgEP application and sign-up period. Went to the Paul Bunyan show. Spoke to someone from USDA. Feral hogs may be moving in to the area. If they show up, best thing to do is kill them. They carry disease in to domestic animals. Discussed Red Woods growing in WV.

AgEP

Gellner made a motion to accept applications for the Exigency Program for the water tanks thru 11/8/19. Must be completed by 11/22/19 and to accept receipts retroactive from 9/1/19. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Cunningham made a motion to approve the following applications:

Rodney Adams	Lime	779.50		Elijah Haught	Lime	\$1259.00
Larry Hadley	Lime	\$1800.00				
Total applications						\$3838.50

McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Cunningham recused herself for the following AgEP business item.

McKeever made a motion to approve the following AgEP payment.

Name	Practice	Amount
Eric Cunningham	Lime	\$1738.50

Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Legislative Dinner Meeting

Cunningham made a motion to cancel the legislative dinner. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.

Facebook

Reached more than 550 people. Several things to be posted.

Snow Removal

Nothing new.

Conservation Agreements

None

Equipment

Cunningham made a motion to accept sealed bids on the old trailer, with a minimum bid of \$600 and to purchase a new smaller trailer. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

LOR AgEP Exigency Program

Gellner made a motion to approve an open-ended LOR for the AgEP Exigency Program as needed. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Revised Universal Funding Agreement

Gellner made a motion to approve the revised Universal Funding Agreement as presented. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

Cunningham made a motion to adjourn. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be November 19, 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