

Upper Ohio Conservation District Minutes February 18, 2020

Middlebourne, WV
February 18, 2020

Members Present

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

Others Present

Jon Wilson, Forestry
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD District Manager
Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Manager
Jennifer Kile, WVCA
Shaun Kuhn, Forestry
Katie Fitzsimmons, NRCS
David Shipman, NRCS Shared Employee

Vice-Chairman Gellner called the meeting to order with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS – Katie reviewed current NRCS programs activities.

WVCA – the written WVCA report was reviewed by supervisors.

Forestry – Jon and Shaun reviewed Forestry activities in the District for the month.

SWA – In Supervisor Rush report.

WVU Extension – None.

Meeting Minutes

McKeever made the motion to approve the December Board Meeting Minutes. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial Report

McKeever made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

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

Chairman Rush joined the meeting

Funding Request

Little Kanawha RC&D Dues – McKeever made a motion to pay \$100 dues to LK RC&D. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Tyler County Farm Awareness Dinner – McKeever mad a motion to sponsor the Tyler Co. Farm Awareness dinner with \$50, programs and placemats and to provide something for the Farm Safety Day in May. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Supervisor Reports

Gellner – Attended the Ag Day at the Capitol, several were in attendance. Sat in on the Watershed meeting for about 2 ½ hours.

Cunningham – She was contacted by someone wanting to grow hemp. Contacted the High School about the Area Conservation Scholarship. Two people have contacted her about tree pruning. Would like to have a workshop. Someone is willing to present a workshop. Have been reporting the weather daily. Pleasants Power contacted her with 20 tons of gypsum free to farmers. Attended the AgEP meeting. Conservation Camps are looking for Scholarship funds and attendees.

Morgan – Sat in on the communication meeting. There was extensive talk about Chestnut trees. WVACD has 8 \$1000 scholarships available. Different locations are being toured for Envirothon. NACD question if the

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association would help pay to send representatives from the districts. Maybe send seven from northern districts one year and seven from the southern districts the next. State Fair sign-ups...spots are filling quickly. Next State Fair meeting is 2/28 at 10am.

At Ag Day – hand out grazing conference save-the-date cards. I submitted a grant to LKRC&D for 10 chestnut trees to be split between the counties in the district. I spoke to a landowner about the Century Farm Program for next year as it was past the deadline. He would like to schedule something concerning a spring development. The area is located in an area where the surface has been disturbed by a power company. Slips are occurring possibly because of a spring behind it. AgEP meeting and Facebook had 4 new likes and 600 views.

McKeever Participated in the Envirothon meeting, worked with TCH Envirothon Team, met with the Envirothon Committee at Camp Dawson. Went to Ag Day at the Capitol. Worked with the tree grant. Attended the NACD meeting in Vegas. Changes made to the website for Envirothon, power point taking place of poster presentation.

Thomas – Completed PEIA coupons for payment, followed up with Julie Taylor-gave her contact info and info on WVU extension classes offered, NRCS contact info, District contact info and Farm Bureau information. Contacted Carrie Gorrell regarding 4-H meeting, presentation. Several Envirothon contacts. Attended the AgEP meeting. Detailed report as attached.

Rush – Spoke to Jane Cain from Gilmer County. Jane is a supervisor from West Fork Conservation and are interested in fifty barrels or less. SWA meeting. Said there were around twenty bad bills currently being considered. They are approaching the County Commissioners asking for a Litter Control Officer. Spoke to several cooperators and landowners interested in AgEP Lime.

AgEP

Cunningham made a motion to approve the following applications:

Shaun Kuhn	12.7 tons of lime	\$317.50		Timothy Wilson	1200' PD Fence	\$1800
Total						\$2117.50

Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to accept the following cancelations:

Practice	Name	Amount	Cost Share
PD Fence	Delbert Rush	1200'	\$1800.00
Total Cancelations			\$1800.00

Facebook

Covered in Supervisor report

Office lights

Gellner updated on the light situation.

Weather Monitor

Cunningham is reporting.

Century Farm Nominations

No applications were submitted

Samara Contest Update

UOCD will recognize the top three students per school and the one teacher per school.

Envirothon Practice Session

Set for March 27.

Staff T-Shirts

Nothing new.

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Equipment

Nothing new.

Policy Manual

Tabled.

Office Roof

McKeever made a motion to get bids on a standing seam roof. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Upcoming school contest

Need to get Poster and Photo Contest information to schools.

Conservation Farm

Perhaps Shane Goddard would consider being the Wetzel County Conservation Farm representative.

Envirothon Support

Morgan made a motion to pay \$1130 in expenses for the TCHS team to attend the Envirothon Competition. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

District Personnel Plan

Gellner made a motion to approve District Personnel Plan. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Workshops

Hold a Chainsaw workshop in April or May.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

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

The next regular meeting will be March 17, 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