

Upper Ohio Conservation District Minutes April 21, 2020

Middlebourne, WV
April 21, 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

Cindy Shreve, NRCS
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD District Manager
Kim Fisher, WVCA Area Manager
Jennifer Kile, WVCA
Shaun Kuhn, Forestry
Katie Fitzsimmons, NRCS
Susan FunkaPetery, NRCS

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order.

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS – Fitzsimmons reviewed current NRCS programs activities as attached. A tentative date for the LWG meeting was set for June 1, pending venue availability.

WVCA – Fisher reviewed the written WVCA report attached.

Forestry – Kuhn reviewed Forestry activities in the District for the month.

SWA – None.

WVU Extension – None.

Meeting Minutes

McKeever made the motion to approve the February Board Meeting Minutes. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.

Cunningham made a motion to approve the April 6 AgEP meeting minutes. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial Report

McKeever 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. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Funding Request

Wetzel County Farmers Market – Cunningham made a motion to pay \$100 sponsorship to the Wetzel County Farmers Market. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

DEP Watershed Celebration Day – McKeever made a motion to pay \$100 to sponsor DEP Watershed Celebration Day November 7 at North Bend State Park . Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Supervisor Reports

Gellner – None.

Cunningham – Contacted farmers about getting the free gypsum and getting it on the ground. Getting word out about the rental equipment to different landowners.

Morgan – Had to cancel the soil tunnel trailer scheduled in late March for the New Martinsville School. Spoke with a Mr. Ebert about frost seeding and Mr. Hafer concerning a slip.

McKeever – Envirothon competition has been canceled. May be holding testing within each District if space and volunteers are available. Attended a couple Association meetings, an operations meeting and state

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conservation meeting via phone. Sending out a questionnaire on the Conservation Farm Award. Do we wish to continue the Conservation farmer of the year contest for 2020 if it can be conducted within State Covid-19 guidelines? Would we wish to continue the Conservation Farmer of the year contest if it is postponed to later in the year, if it is possible to be conducted within State Covid-19 guidelines? Should the Conservation Farmer of the year be cancelled altogether for 2020? Do we have or could we have a Conservation District Farmer in mind for 2020? This farmer would be recognized at the Quarterly meeting annual awards presentation in October 2020. The Quarterly meeting will probably be moved back to the center of the state, not at Harpers Ferry due to the COVID-19. Will add a First Year Outstanding Supervisor award along with District Social Media award, etc. More supervisor training will be at the October meeting. NACD has lots of grants, please go on the NACD website to review what is available and promote the grants. Examples are Tech Assistance Grant and a large variety of grants for urban ag.

Thomas – Completed PEIA coupons for payment and signed checks. Spent lot of time setting up training from Forestry, DNR and NRCS for Envirothon that fell apart due to COVID-19. Had an excellent Pollinator workshop with a 4-H club and had a second one planned but will have to reschedule for next year. Went to the Cattle Owners Workshop. Excellent workshop, very good information. Delivered SAMARA information to the science teachers in the school. Informed of camp cancelations to those that were interested in going. Spoke to some landowners about soil sampling and will probably get some new co-operators from that.

Rush – Spoke with Shaun about the Forestry Field Day. Had to postpone due to COVID-19 and can hopefully have it in September. Spoke to several about lime application. Traveled to Parkersburg and then to Glen Easton for lime spreader repair.

AgEP

Cunningham made a motion to approve the following payments:

Shaun Kuhn	12.7 tons of lime	\$317.50		James Riggs	Lime	1483.50
Total						\$1801.00

McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Facebook

Covered in Supervisor report

Office lights

Gellner plans to be to office to install the lights in a few weeks.

Cooperator Agreement

Cunningham made a motion to approve the Agreement of Kevin VanCamp. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Office Roof

Cunningham asking for bids from several sources.

School Contest

Photo information will be updated on Facebook. Due to COVID-19 schools will be closed for the rest of the year.

Workshops

Table.

Chestnut Tree Grant

Progress report due by May 15th. We will have to postpone the project until the fall.

Conservation Farmer

Approach Shane Goddard and Terry Collins about representing UOCD for the year.

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Scholarships

Need to find new committee for Wetzel County due to conflict of interest situation. Terry Tyler, and two others to be determined.

Equipment Repair

Total repair for the lime spreader is \$156. This will be billed to the landowner as the signed agreement indicates.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

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

The next regular meeting will be May 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