

Upper Ohio Conservation District Minutes May 19, 2020

Middlebourne, WV
May 19, 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

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

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order.

Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS – Fitzsimmons reviewed current NRCS programs activities as attached. David Shipman reviewed work performed in the UOCD for the past few months.

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

Cunningham made the motion to approve the April 21 Board Meeting Minutes with a correction to the date and to correct the April 6 AgEP minutes to reflect Urban Ag would include bluebird boxes not bluebird feeders. Gellner 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. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Funding Request

None

Supervisor Reports

Gellner – Attended AgEP meetings, trying to come up with fence standards for Urban Ag. Some are using 10” T post and putting up polywire. The cost is about \$5 per foot. For now, standards are determined by the individual districts. Was in the office to look at the office door and determine how to proceed with altering it to work for distancing from individuals. Purchased new lights for the office and will be getting them up soon.

Cunningham – Meeting with roof contractors to get bids. Sat in on the communications call. Ohio River Sweep is canceled for now but working on how best to continue this in our area. Partnered with 4-H in Tyler and Wetzel Counties to get the word out at the virtual 4-H Camps coming up soon. Sat in on a meeting for COVID 19 Food Assistance Program, has a stimulus package for farmers. Participated in a Zoom meeting for a Tree Farm Seminar. A dairy program meeting is coming up. Answered calls on equipment.

McKeever – Envirothon has been canceled entirely for the year due to issues with dates. Training for Supervisors will be in October at the quarterly meeting. That meeting will be a three-day meeting. April 23 WV Cultural Hall and April 28 Awards Council meeting and April 29 communications call. Yesterday was a meeting with NACD. Discussion on Urban Grants, Community Composts, Food Waste Reduction project. Maybe SWA would be interested in. July Quarterly meeting is scheduled for the 20 and 21 in Flatwoods, subject to the COVID 19, of course.

Upper Ohio Conservation District Minutes May 19, 2020

Thomas – Went to the shop and took photos of the equipment, just so would be more informed on how it works. Sent contact information to Audra for roof contractors. Was able to sit in on her first communications call. Went to the courthouse with reports. Discussed the new AgEP with cooperators, signed checks a couple of times, emailed Katie about the LWG meeting, and signed up 3 new cooperators.

Morgan – Made the changes on Facebook about the photo contest. Sat in on the communications call, sent the report to LK RC&D on the grant. Talked to some cooperators with questions about the deer fencing. We had 1500 hits on Facebook and six new likes.

Rush – Picked up a box to use as a drop box at the office, signed forms and checks.

AgEP

Gellner made a motion to include up to \$100 for a fence charger in the Urban Ag practice, total cost share not to exceed the \$1000 and to follow the fencing standard as presented or leave the poly wire as previously approved. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to approve the following payments:

Elijah Haught	Lime	\$1255.50	Timothy Wilson	PD Fence	\$1800.00
Kevin VanCamp	Urban Ag	\$750.00	Kevin VanCamp	Invasive Species	\$97.50
Total payment					\$3897.00

Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Gellner made a motion to extend the AgEP completion date to June 12. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Morgan made a motion for UOCD participate as the pilot for the AgEP application process. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Deer Fencing Requirements

Covered under AgEP

FY21 AgEP Priority of Practice for Approval

Cunningham made a motion to set priority for approval to be as follows:

- 1. Heavy Use Area Protection**
- 2. Lime**
- 3. Pasture reseeding**
- 4. Frost seeding**
- 5. Urban Ag**
- 6. PD Fence**
- 7. Invasive Species**
- 8. Water Exclusion Fence**
- 9. Woodland Exclusion Fence**
- 10. Watering System**
- 11. Pollinator Planting**

Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Facebook

Covered in Supervisor report.

Office lights

Covered in Supervisor report.

Cooperator Agreement

Gellner made a motion to approve the Agreements of Sarah Boley, Grace Grover and Christopher Anderson. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.

Upper Ohio Conservation District Minutes May 19, 2020

Office Roof

Four of seven contractors contacted have viewed the job.

Scholarship

Cunningham made a motion for the three Area Conservation applicants to be awarded scholarships Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Conservation Farmer

Bulk mailing

Tabled to next meeting.

Equipment Repair

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

Registration/Title

Were misplaced at the office and have been found.

Office Door

Cunningham made a motion to replace the existing entry door with a window door with a deadbolt. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

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

The next regular meeting will be a teleconference on June 16, at 6:00 pm.

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Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, District Manager

Signature of Chairman

Signature of Secretary

Date

Date