

**Southern Conservation District
Minutes of Board Meeting
June 11, 2020**

The Southern Conservation District March board meeting was held at their office at 463 Ragland Road, Beckley WV. Chairman Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order following the leading of the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer. The meeting was called to order at 9:50 AM.

Those present of meeting were:

Board of Supervisors

John Farrell
Dennis Bailey
Bill Harris
Oscar Vecellio
Virgel Caldwell
Randall Patton
Randy Prince

Supervisors absent

Ray Lafferty
Curtis Murhpy
Jeff Mitchem

SCD/WVCA & Other agencies

Dave Parkulo, SCD
Marty Walker, WVCA

Visitors

None present

Approval of May 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as reviewed

Randall moved to approve the May minutes, Randy Prince seconded, motion carried

Southern Conservation District Financial Reports

Randall Patton moved to approve the financial reports for the following reviewed: operating account, district building account, district money market account, certificates of deposit and supervisor travel and per diem account as prepared by *Akers & Associates* Randall Patton moved to approve the financial reports as presented. Randy Prince seconded, motion carried.

Accounts Receivable

Virgel Caldwell reviewed and discussed the accounts receivable as prepared. Dave Parkulo reported on items in which have been paid since reporting and those contacted about payments to be made on account

Randall Patton moved to approve the Accounts Receivable, Randy Prince seconded, motion carried.

Southern Conservation District Crew/Technician Supervisor Report
Dave Parkulo, SCD

Dave gave a report of completed cost-share lime projects added due to ranking and funds available as well as noted a completed dozer project in Shady Spring. He is continuing to work thru mowing of dams, and Soak Creek and Little Whitestick work orders with Judith Lyons.

The crew is working on a pond project currently with water development to complete by deadline for AgEP cost share. Randall Patton commented praise to the work of the crew and Dave Parkulo and noted the current operating financial standing due to these efforts.

West Virginia Conservation Agency District Manager Report
Marty Walker WVCA

Marty Walker presented the June financial reports as prepared by the WVCA fiscal section for the co-administered funds. Randall Patton **moved to approve the co-administered funds, Randy Prince seconded, motion carried.** Marty noted the addition of a section to notebooks for meetings to separate certificate of deposits for review.

Marty discussed the **approval of the AgEP LOR for approval for the receipt of \$55,000 to the district to carry out the AgEP for FY 21. Bill Harris moved to approve the LOR for AgEP, Randall Patton seconded, motion carried.**
LOR # 11442 FY21 AgEP \$55,000

Marty reviewed the below LOR approvals and purpose of Conservation District Operating and Supervisor Support for the Quarterly District Support Allotments:

LOR # 11395 \$47,163.00

LOR # 11396 \$26,750.00

LOR # 11397 \$26,749.00

LOR # 11398 \$18,703.00

Dennis Bailey moved to approve LORS as referenced, Randall Patton seconded, motion carried.

Solid Waste Authority representative appointments

Marty presented a letter received by the Solid Waste Authority concerning the reappointment of county representatives. In accordance with WVA Code 22C-4-3 every four years each Conservation District is required to appoint one individual to each county or regional solid waste authority within its jurisdiction. The following terms are expiring and in need of reappointment:

Fayette County- Randy Prince

Raleigh County-John Wooten

McDowell County- Randall Patton

Summers County- Dennis Bailey

Mercer County- Paul Canterbury

Wyoming County-Teresa Blackmon

Randy Prince moved to appoint the Solid Waste Authority representatives as presented with the exception of Teresa Blackmon whom was appointed last month at May Board Meeting. Randall Patton seconded, motion carried.

The terms reappointed will be a full term ending on June 30 2024.

NRCS Watershed Planning Funding Update/Flooding concerns Robert C.Byrd Drive

Marty updated the board on a recent teleconference call concerning the NRCS Watershed Planning Funding-Robert C. Byrd held on June 2nd. The organizer of the call was Tim Daubert with the Beckley sanitary board. Representatives on the call and details are noted in the attached report regarding the flooding of Robert C. Byrd & Ewart avenue area and the Ollies parking lot in Beckley.

A copy of the notes taken on this call was mailed to Raleigh County supervisor Oscar Vecellio and a copy of the report was requested by Bill Harris and Dennis Bailey. Follow up will be done with WVCA concerning the request for potential work at box culverts and cleanout of holding pond associated with the flooding.

Sponsorship Recipient Letter of Thanks

Marty shared recent correspondence with the Director of Honeysuckle Hill Nature Discovery Center Inc. Terri Johnson. A letter was read to the board with an update of project work completed on the pollinator garden as a result of SCD donation to support the efforts of the center.

AgEP Update & Review

Marty provided an update on the status of the AgEP application period beginning June 1 and ongoing thru June 19th. She reported that an intern, Kenny Maiolo, with the WVCA has started to assist with sign-ups at the office and she and Dave Parkulo have been working with him since Monday. Dennis Burns with Greenbrier Valley CD has assisted with applications at SCD also. Marty notes that applications are being sent and received in various ways; email, mail, drop box outside of office and several have been received despite the COVID-19 constraints to the program. A spring-summer newsletter and letter of update to cooperators was created and mailed to current SCD mailing list recipients.

Marty reported that interviews are being held Monday June 15th for the new Conservation Specialist at SCD. Dennis Bailey discussed interest in the interview to inquire about either Marty or a SCD supervisor being part of the interview. Bill Harris requested that Marty inquire about the interview process.

Dennis moved to recommend Marty contact Jennifer Skaggs regarding SCD supervisor advisory and/or Marty Walker to be part of the Conservation Specialist interview, John Farrell seconded.

AgEP Contracts for Approval

Marty reviewed AgEP Contracts for approval:

Pasture Division Fence

Cheryl Lilly-Williams	\$750.00
Marian Iftimie	\$1,600.00
True Farms North- John & Josette Richmond	\$ 2,000.00

Exclusion Fence

Teresa Butts-HB Farms	\$2,000.00
David Walker	\$2,000.00

Lime

Jackie Gill	\$1,275.17
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Randall Patton moved to approve AgEP Contracts for Approval, Dennis Bailey seconded, motion carried.

Dennis Bailey asked about status of AgEP funds. Marty requested a Special meeting for June 22nd at 10:00 to finalize outstanding contract approvals, cancelations and review the funds breakdown of the end of FY20 and start of FY21.

WV Association of Conservation Districts Update

John Farrell shared that he has no updates at this time, Marty commented that the next WVACD meeting is set for July 20 & 21 meeting at Flatwoods.

USDA/NRCS Wanda Smith -NRCS

Wanda reported on having 140 applications in SCD and currently working on 14 applications with CSP. She notes there will be a new DC, Jeff Barr, starting on June 22nd who has been serving as the DC in VA. Please see attached report for details from Wanda Smith, NRCS. A link will be sent to Marty about the grant/shared position available for technical assistance

Jeremy Salyer, WVCA

Jeremy states that WVCA is continuing to telework thru the COVID-19 situation and come into the offices as needed on a case by case basis. Jeremy reported on the Himalayan Blackberry concern and noted to please complete survey if you haven't and return that. Please see attached Jeremy Salyer's written report .

Judith Lyons

Judith reported she is working with DEP on inspection protocol of watershed dams. She is working on adjusting work orders to reflect spring mowing conditions versus fall mowing of the dams. She reported on status of various dams in the district, starting all mowing work. Brian Fry is looking at the Tim Farley, Jughead site in Mercer County working thru the agreement that the SCD has with the county on that site. Judith discussed the landfill bill, she has talked with John Wooten about the situation of the balance at the landfill and they are working to reach a cooperative solution arrangement of price. She reviewed the items discussed at previous board meeting about the landfill. She discussed a site that could be a potential project at Kelly's Tank near Oakvale within the district as it is a trout stream.

Mark Hudnall WVDOF

Mark shared that the WVDOF has finished up the spring fire season and he doesn't have any other updates at this time other than in September they will be rescheduling the Women Owning Woodlands Workshop and he will be sending this flyer to Marty to distribute to district.

Supervisor Reports & Updates-Appointment of New SCD Officer Positions

Virgel Caldwell addressed the nominating committee to report their results of nominations to the board. Randy Prince and John Farrell were selected to represent this year's nominating committee for district officer positions. Randy Prince announced the following recommendations:

The SCD nominating committee recommended:

Oscar Vecellio- Treasurer

Curtis Murphy-Secretary

Bill Harris-WVACD Representative

John Farrell-WVACD Representative

Randy Prince- Chair

Dennis Bailey-Vice Chair

After announcement of recommendations were made from the committee, Virgel Caldwell gave guidance that each officer position need to be addressed and voted on individually and an opportunity given between announcement and voting for the floor to nominate.

Oscar Vecellio nominated for treasurer received six votes in favor, no floor nominations made.
Curtis Murphy nominated for Secretary received six votes in favor, no floor nominations made.
Dennis Bailey nominated for Vice Chair received six votes in favor, no floor nominations made.

Randy Prince nominated for Chairman, a floor nomination was made from Randall Patton in favor of Dennis Bailey for Chairman. Randy Prince received three votes in favor for Chairman, Dennis Bailey received two votes in favor for Chairman, Randy Prince succeeded at 3-2 voting for the position of Chairman.

Bill Harris Nominated for WVACD representative received six votes in favor, no floor nominations made.

Virgel Caldwell stated that July 1st will be the start date for new board members as a result of recent elections as well as new officer positions taking effect. He reminded the board that each new supervisor coming on will need to take their oath of office at circuit court.

Closing remarks

Randall Patton suggested an equipment committee meeting to be held. Marty reminded of the Special Meeting for FY20 AgEP finalization. Oscar Vecellio reported on setting a meeting to review banking procedures and obtain signature card for new officers.

Meeting Dates:

June 26th 10:00 Equipment
June 26th 11:00 Bank Meeting for signatures
June 22nd 10:00 Special Meeting AgEP

New Board Officers:

Chair Randy Prince
Vice-Chair Dennis Bailey
Secretary- Curtis Murphy
Treasurer – Oscar Vecellio
WVACD- Bill Harris & John Farrell

Meeting Adjourned at 11:07 AM

Respectfully submitted:

Marty Walker-Owen, District Manager WVCA

Virgel Caldwell, Chairman

Bill Harris, Secretary