

Potomac Valley Conservation District

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Minutes of Meeting Special Board Meeting March 17, 2021

The Potomac Valley Conservation District held a special Board meeting by teleconference on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, beginning at 7:30 pm.

SUPERVISORS: Charlotte Hoover, Ronald Miller, J.W. See, Kent Spencer, Frank Weese, Gerald Sites, Lois Carr, David Parker

OTHERS: Ed Martin, Jeremy Salyer, Cindy Shreve, Nadene Jewell

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm

The purpose of the special meeting is to discuss watershed operation & maintenance issues, ag enhancement funding allocation proposal, and the finance committee recommendations.

Ed Martin addressed the Board regarding the following watershed issues:

PATTERSON CREEK DEBRIS REMOVAL: Ed reviewed information & photos of excess debris on several Patterson Creek dams. The debris is the result of highwater levels in the area and has the potential to cause problems if washed into the dams. The debris needs to be removed prior to mowing this season. A request was made for supervisors to inspect the sites and review the cost estimates with Ed. TVCD is willing to perform the debris removal work. Discussion was held on the issue. A motion was made by Ron Miller and seconded by JW See for Ed Martin to engage Tygarts Valley CD to provide estimates for the debris removal work on the Patterson Creek dams. Motion carried.

Ed Martin will meet with supervisors next week, Tuesday 3/23 at 9:00am to inspect the dams. The group will meet at the school – will start on Patterson Creek Site #4. Ron Miller, Gerald Sites and Kent Spencer volunteered to inspect the dams. Following additional discussion, a motion was made by JW See and seconded by Kent Spencer to delegate Ron Miller the authority to approve the TVCD estimates and move forward with the work, if the TVCD estimates are within 10% of the WVCA estimates. Motion carried. If the cost figures are more, PVCD will need to have a special meeting to address the issue.

PATTERSON CREEK SITE #21: Ed Martin discussed the need for disposal sites for the debris on the Patterson Creek dams. A request was made to the Mineral County Commission to use an area on Patterson Creek Site #21 and they have approved the request – letter sent by email. (Will distribute to supervisors). Ed expressed appreciation to the Commission for use of the area. Patterson Creek Site #50 will also be used for debris removed on dams in that area of the county. Ed indicated they are still in search of a location for the dams in the Grant County area. This could affect the cost estimate.

AG ENHANCEMENT ALLOCATION FORMULA: Ron Miller reviewed the proposed Ag Enhancement allocation formula with the Board. If approved, it will be used for distribution of the FY22 Ag Enhancement funds. Action will be taken on the formula during the state Ag Enhancement Committee meeting on 3/29. Each conservation district will receive one vote on the issue. Some Districts are not in favor of the proposal. Several questions were asked, Ron answered and reviewed the formula again with the group. Any funding not spent in the current fiscal year will be deducted from the total allocation for the next fiscal year. Following some discussion, a motion was made by David Parker and seconded by Kent Spencer to approve the proposed Ag Enhancement Allocation formula as presented. Motion carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: The Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting to prepare the FY22 CDO Grant Budget. The Administrative Specialist reviewed the committee recommendations. The FY22 Budget was prepared with a few line item changes. The committee also discussed pay rates and evaluations for employees. A motion was made by JW See and seconded by Kent Spencer to approve the Finance Committee recommendations including the FY22 CDO Grant Budget. Motion carried.

TREE SALE REMINDER: The Administrative Specialist reported on the tree sale. All trees are sold out – not accepting anymore orders. John Hicks is scheduled to pick the trees up on 3/31 – may have a conflict and need a supervisor to go. Kent Spencer offered if needed. Help is be needed on 4/1 packaging the tree orders. Tree orders will be picked up on Friday, 4/2/21.

EQUIPMENT RENTALS: Ron Miller addressed the group regarding the need to look at a daily rate being charged for rental equipment that is delivered and not used immediately. Especially this time of the year, many people need the equipment and it must be used as soon as possible. Discussion was held on the issue. Need to make producers aware of this at the time they request the equipment and include it in the rental agreement. Do not deliver equipment until they are ready to use. Ron asked supervisors to think about the daily rate and put the issue on the April meeting agenda for action.

EQUIPMENT REPORT: Ron Miller indicated the new litter spreader is available for rent – has been used by several producers. The Ventrac mowers have been serviced. John picked them up today – ready for the o&m season. Also planning to have a demonstration of new mower sometime in April – will let supervisors know when the date is confirmed.

FOIA REQUEST: The Administrative Specialist reported the information for the FOIA request was sent and a response received from the company that the information was received.

LOST RIVER SITE #4: Ron Miller indicated the public continues to drive on the jetty at Lost River Site #4. Need to install a barrier to prevent driving on it. He will talk with Ed Martin about it. He requested the issue be put on the April agenda.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm by motion of Kent Spencer. Seconded by Ron Miller. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Chairperson

Secretary

Date