****MINUTES

**Western Conservation District Board Meeting**   
 **December 16, 2021**

In Attendance at the 9:00 a.m. Meeting

Supervisors Attending in person at the McDonald’s Building, Jackson County Fairgrounds: Charles Lipscomb, Chairman; Oscar Harris, Vice-Chairman; Don Stephens, Treasurer; Jeremy Grant, Supervisor; Anthony Winters, CS; John David Johnson, Agricultural Career Specialist; Jackie Byers, DC NRCS; Kim Fisher, Area Director; Suzy Daubert, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations; Dennis Brumfield, CPA; Jordan Roush, Brock McClung, Justin Knopp, Aimee Cummings

Call to Order:

Chairman Lipscomb called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Adopt Agenda / Approve Minutes

**Oscar Harris moved to adopt the agenda as presented, second by Jeremy Grant. Passed.**

The minutes from the November meeting will be approved at the January Meeting.

Financial Reports

General Fundfor November 2021 were reviewed by supervisors as presented. Brumfield reviewed the report with supervisors reading balances, income, and expenses for both the General and Grant funds. The report will be filed for audit.

Financial Transactions Report**:** Chuck Lipscomb went over the list of checks issued for the month. **On a** **Harris/Stephens motion the payments were approved. Passed**

Co-Administered FundReport**:** Supervisors were provided a copy of the funds cash balance report from WVCA District Fiscal Operations. Fund balances were reviewed. The board accepted the report to be filed for audit.

Treasurer’s Report**:** Don asked for any questions on the report. **On a Stephens/Harris motion payroll was approved. Passed.**

Partnership Reports

WVCA Written Report - Kim Fisher, Area Director

Kim Fisher reviewed written report provided to the board members.

Jackie Byars, DC, NRCS –

DC Jackie Byars introduced Suzy Daubert, Assit. State Conservationist for Field Operations, who provided a statewide update on NRCS activities. They are operating under a continuing resolution through mid February. They are currently working on a plan for spending the additional Conservation funds included in the Build Back America Better legislation approved by the House. The Senate bill is still pending.

Suzy Daubert, Assistant State Conservationist for field operations

Suzy reported on Dam and watershed programs

Programs

O&M Watershed Dams- Written Report Submitted by Judith Lyons

OLD BUSINESS

NRCS Grant Position

Elise Comeaux is looking for a place to rent and having problems finding something, her start day was originally for December 20, 2021, **on a Stephens/Grant motion the board moved that Elise Comeaux start as soon as she can. Passed**

Clements Tree Nursery

Clements Tree Nursery - Don Stephens provided a committee report on the activities since our November meeting. Sally Shepherd sent the Committee a draft lease agreement prepared by the Mid Ohio Valley Regional Counsel and a proposed Resolution for the Board's consideration. After a brief discussion on the terms of the lease, **a Stephens/Harris motion was made to adopt the Resolution. The motion passed 3 - 0.**

State AgEp Meeting

Oscar Harris reported it was discussed in the meeting that each district needed an alternate **Harris/Stephens motion to appoint Chuck Lipscomb as an Alternate. Passed**

WV State Code Revisions Update

Chairman Lipscomb reviewed Revision 9 that the District voted against at the last Legislative Committee meeting. The Legislative Committee approved the Revision and a Special WVACD Board Meeting will be held tomorrow, December 17, 2021 to take a final vote. Our primary objection to the revision to the State Code is that it removes all minimum requirements for a candidate to be eligible for election to a District Supervisor position. Chairman Lipscomb will call into the Board meeting and plans to amend section 19-21A-5 (c) to change the word should to shall. If the amendment is approved, he will support the Revision. If not, he will vote against it. The other Supervisors present concurred.

SCD missed Invoice#5236

Southern Conservation District Invoice #5236 for $3000.00 was not paid earlier and **on a motion Harris/Stephens moved to pay this invoice. Passed**

NEW BUSINESS

**Harris/Stephens moved to pay Little Kanawha RC&D Dues of $100.00. Passed**

**Harris/Grant moved to reimburse Danny Belcher $13.00 for a float valve. Passed**

Kim Fisher went over the District Rack Card Survey and will submit to Davin White.

**Harris/Stephens motion to close the receiving account ending #2173 with Ohio Valley Bank. Motion Passed.** Hallie needs to call bank and follow up with information of what needs to be done.

No dates are set up for Local Work Group Meeting per Jackie Byars

**On a motion by Stephens/Grant for a new MOA with NRCS. Passed**

Chuck Lipscomb will be Administrative Contact and Oscar Harris will be listed as Technical Contact

New locations for office space were discussed by Don Stephens and Chuck Lipscomb to keep on the Agenda for next month.

CO-ADMINISTERED COST SHARE PROGRAMS

1. Agriculture Enhancement Program (AgEP)
2. Conservation Agreements for Approval – None
3. Approval of Payments

Zuspan Farms Lime $505.26

Luther Banister Lime $462.00

Ed Smolder Lime $1470.00

Shawn Gaylor Lime $341.88

Teresa Waugh Lime $966.00

Mark Witt Lime $534.87

**By a Stephens/Grant motion, all payments approved to pay. Passed**

1. Cherry Fork 319 Project

Approval for Payments

SGS Invoice $32.00 – Invoice# 1739-001

ALS Group USA - $100.00 Invoice# 1739-001

**By Harris/Stephens motion to pay. Passed**

SUPERVISOR REPORTS

Don Stephens reported on the WVACD Legislative meeting and Envirothon Meeting.

Chuck Lipscomb said there was a conflict with the meeting for January with the WVACD Meeting at Stonewall Resort. The meeting was changed to January 27, 2022 at the McDonalds Building at the Jackson County Fairgrounds

**The next meeting was set for Thursday January 27, 2022 9:00 a.m.**  With no further business Chairman Lipscomb adjourned the meeting at 11:55.

Minutes recorded by: Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hallie Roach James Withrow, Secretary