

MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2022
STEVE LEBNICK AGRICULTURAL CENTER
MORGANTOWN, WV
@ 9:30 A.M.

Those in attendance for the Meeting: Rick Abel Chairman, Mark Teets new oncoming supervisor, Jean Conley Associate, Rudy Williams WVDOF, H.R. Scott Associate, Any Price Associate, Ed Utterback Supervisor, Art Mouser Supervisor, Jim McDonald Supervisor, Chuck Cienawski Supervisor, Sigrid Teets WVCA, Mark Myers Supervisor, Heather Duncan WVCA, Chris Ellison WVCA, Dustin Adkins NRCS, Mike Scherpenberg WVCA, Bill Shockey WVU Extension. And Dee Altman WVCA.

Finance Committee Meeting:

Rick reviewed all the accounts in the absence of Jim McDonald (Who showed up later), All accounts are in good standing at this time. A motion was made by ART Mouser to accept the financial report as stated, and this was seconded by Mark Myers. Motion Carried.

Call to Order Rick Abel called the meeting to order at 9:41 AM

Pledge Art Mouser led the group in the Pledge

Prayer Any Price Gave prayer

Welcome and Introductions Rick Welcomed Mark Teets to his first MCD Board Meeting.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes Ed Utterback made motion to accept the May meeting minutes, seconded by Mark Myers. Motion Carried to accept meeting minutes as presented.

Approval of Financial Statements

Credit card receipts and statements

General Fund/CDO report

Co-Administered Funds financial statements- Previously approved

A motion was made by ART Mouser to accept the financial report as stated, and this was seconded by Mark Myers. Motion Carried.

Visitor's Comments

Mark Teets stated he was glad to be here. Mark Myers stated that a visitor would be joining us at 10:45 am, that may like to speak.

Cooperating Agency's Reports

WV Forestry Division Rudy Williams WVDOF gave the following report: They are currently interviewing for the open position in Taylor County, he believes they have a very good candidate to fill the role. Fire Season is over, but it was a very busy one.

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Watershed Division

Mike Scherpenberg gave updates on the Showings for the Mowing & Maintenance Bids that was held on June 6 & 7, for Upper Decker's Creek and Upper Buffalo Creek Dams. Also, there was a showing on June 9,2022 for Mitigation on Big Run Those bids will be opened on June 17 for the June 6 & 7 showings, the Mitigation bid will be opened June 23,2022 here at this office.

Upper Decker's Creek

Repair

Maintenance

UD1 Mitigation project tree Mats \$1,683.53 Mike explained the need for the tree mats, Rick also stated these were already ordered and delivered due to time constraints. A motion was made by Art Mouser and Seconded by Mark Myers to approve the ordering of the tree mats. Motion Carried.

Upper Buffalo Creek

Repair

Maintenance

Watershed Meeting

EWP and SSRP No Report

Ag Enhancement

AgEP FY-22 Payments, Approvals, and Cancellations

Several payments (22) and cancellations (19) were prepared.

See agenda for payment approvals and cancellations

AgEP FY-22 End of Year Summary

(My Balances are estimated.)

- Beginning Balance: \$95,000.00
- Payments (including June) \$65,000.00
- Current Balance Estimate \$30,000.00

FY-23 AgEP

- I have been working on entering AgEP application information into a new spreadsheet, scanning documents, determining eligibility, and ranking applications.

Special Project

- It is a good time to start planning and preparing for the Tomato Festival in Marion County.

Other Important Announcements

- WVCA has extended an offer to one of the candidates who applied for the part-time Conservation Specialist position. Her start date is 6/21/22.

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Conservation Agreement Approvals

Baker, Scott
Bolyard, Thomas
Cline, Charles
Colebank, Kevin
Fast, Lonnie
Matheny, Lacen
Melinda, T
Michael, Rick
Schooley Last Stand Farm, LLC
See, David
Sessa, Shawn
Ocheltree Donald K
Ocheltree Jason
Vozniak, Ann

Mark Myers made a motion to accept all new cooperators, this was seconded by Art Mouser.
Motion Carried.

AgEP Payments

Lime

Bland, Jerry 89.66 Ton \$958.97
Conrad Gail 100 Ton \$ 1,800.00
Fluharty, Clinton 36.08 ton \$649.44
McVicker, Robert 87.2 Ton \$1,287.00

Mark Myers made a motion to pay these cooperators for lime, this was seconded by Art Mouser.
Motion Carried.

Hay Reseeding

Fluharty, Clinton 4.7 AC \$235.00
Nolan, Deborah 2.66 AC \$ 97.49
Pitcher, James 6.76 AC \$ 338.00

Mark Myers made a motion to pay these cooperators for Hay Reseeding, this was seconded by Art Mouser. Motion Carried.

Heavy Use Area Protection

Blosser, Todd 968 Sq. Ft. \$1,306.80
Mouser, Thomas 2,500 Sq. Ft. \$3,375.00
Phillips, Richard 887 Sq. Ft \$1,197.45
Stemple, Blanche 2,129.62 Sq. Ft. \$2,874.99

Chuck Cienawski made a motion to pay these cooperators for HU Area, this was seconded by Mark Myers. Motion Carried.

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Invasive Species

Bell, Charles 30 AC \$1,031.69

Cline, Charles 18 AC \$720.00

Conrad, Gail 30 AC \$514.24

Hayes, Adam 30AC \$656.76

McKee, Tom 20 AC \$800.00

Pitcher, James 12.8 AC \$396.09

A motion was made by Art Mouser to pay these cooperators for IS, seconded by Mark Myers.
Motion Carried.

Nutrient Mgt.

Pitcher, James 18.4AC \$1,112.40

A motion was made by Ed Utterback, seconded by Mark Myers to pay this cooperator for NM.
Motion Carried

Pasture Reseeding

Nolan, Deborah 9.6 AC \$299.97

A motion was made by Ed Utterback and seconded by Art Mouser to pay this cooperator for
Pasture Reseeding. Motion Carried.

Pollination

Ball, Sharron 2 Nucs \$ 200.00

Hinerman, Kimberly 2Nucs \$ 200.00

A motion was made by Mark Myers and seconded by Art Mouser to pay these cooperators for
Pollination. Motion Carried.

Woodland Exclusion Fence

Stemple, Blanche 1941 FT \$3,202.65

A motion was made by Mark Myers and seconded by Art Mouser to pay this cooperator for
Fence. Motion Carried.

WVU Extension

Bill Shockey Reported on the master gardeners' course that began on March 10 and continues
until June 30. Forage samples have been taken for analysis. First cutting data has been obtained
for participants in the 2-year soil study. Preston County Farm Crawl planning continues, event to
be held July9-10.

NRCS

Field Visits:

Planning Visits:

Grazing/Grassland – 5

Forestry/Wildlife – 4

High Tunnel/Other - 5

Contract Implementation:

12 Field Visits for implementation and certification on existing contracts

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Completed Practices:

Irrigation - System 0.1 ac
Fence - 2456'
Conservation Cover – 0.5 ac
Forest Management Plan – 2
Nutrient Mgmt. – 0.2 ac
Irrigation Pipeline – 167'
Irrigation Water Mgmt. – 0.1 ac
Pipeline – 1545'
Pumping Plant – 1
Trough – 2
Heavy Use Area - 2

Total Practice Installation payments total \$16,069 for May 2022

Field Office Work and Priorities

Staff are providing technical and planning assistance to both new and existing customers. Contract implementation workload has steadily increased over the past few weeks and will likely peak shortly after haying concludes

Current Program workload includes:

1 EQIP CIC in Preston Co
2 late EQIP Preapprovals – 1 Preston, 1 Mon.
7 CSP applications are in assessment – 5 Preston, 2 Marion

Lilly Byars has started with the White Hall office as a Soil Conservationist Pathways Student. She will be with us through August.

Upcoming Events

Juneteenth Federal Holiday 6/20/2022

FSA – Dustin report there is a new program Damage Assistance in the works.

Solid Waste Authority

Mon County- No Report

Marion County- No Report

Preston- Mark Myers stated Preston County is starting anew Tire Recycling program

Administrative Specialist

AgEP: Payments and completions are getting done as they come in

MCD Office Coverage: Normal Hours

Important Dates/Other:

July Meeting will be held at The Marion County Parks and Recreation Center on July 14, 2022

Still need to secure a place in Preston County for August 11, 2022.

Tomato Festival Demonstration in Fairmont August 20, 2022

June 6, 2022, Showing the Mowing for bids at Upper Decker's Creek

June 7, 2022, Showing the Mowing for Upper Buffalo Creek

Bid Opening will be held on June 17, 2022 @ 10:00AM Here at this office.

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Supervisors Per Diem/ Travel Pay (May 2022)

Abel, Rick \$351.44	Cienawski, Chuck \$201.71
Conley, Jean \$76.84	Mouser Art \$1,144.34
McDonald, Jim \$736.37	Myers, Mark \$ 0.00
Price, Andy \$ 0.00	Scott, H.R. \$ 0.00
Utterback, Ed \$539.70	

Here is a list of the dates of Board Meetings:

July 14, 2022,	August 11, 2022
September 08, 2022,	October 13, 2022
November 10, 2022,	December 08, 2022

Ed Utterback will let, Dee know about the Hitching Post for the August meeting in Preston County.

WVCA Area Director

Conservation Law Change

SB264 passed the legislature and has been signed by the governor. The law will be in effect before July 1.

Districts need to pay attention to board vacancies, especially in situations where no one filed in the May election for either the full four-year term or the unexpired term. Supervisors who did not file are not automatically allowed to continue holding their seat when the new term begins July 1.

In those cases, boards will need to advertise to fill the vacancy, and then select a candidate to submit to the SCC. Please check with Kim and Jeremy to be sure you have a copy of the updated advertisement.

The 30-day comment period on 63-CSR-1, and 63-CSR-4 begins Monday, May 16, and concludes on Thursday, June 16, at 4 p.m.

Proposed rule 63-CSR-1 amends an existing rule and incorporates changes relating to the election of West Virginia's 114 conservation district supervisors. The rule details candidacy qualifications and procedures districts must follow when there are no candidates filing for the office, or when a vacancy occurs. The proposal also makes minor modifications to the process for spending watershed improvement funds.

The proposed rule 63-CSR-4 is a new rule relating to accounting and auditing procedures West Virginia's 14 conservation districts must follow.

AgEP:

May/June/July 2022– CDs to finalize upcoming FY program, update AgEP agreement addendum #1 & #2, take action to approve LORs

July 15th – AgEP Databases are to be closed out by July 15th.

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Request to Conservation Districts

The WVCA is encouraging Conservation Districts to review and update their District Policy Manuals. Districts are also encouraged to review their CD Employee Manual (if you have one) and CD Plan of Work. **Plans of work are due to Kim and Jeremy by July 1.**

Conservation Farm Tour

District nominating packets were due to Kim and Jeremy by May 31. The packet is to include a completed farm bio, a signed conservation farm plan and conservation plan map.

If you do not plan to submit a farm for the statewide contest consideration, please let Kim and Jeremy know immediately.

Timelines:

June 1 – District winner nomination packet is due to Area Director which includes the completed farm bio, conservation farm plan and conservation plan map.

July - Area judging.

August - Statewide judging.

October – Presentation of Area and State awards at WV Conservation Partnership Annual Conference. County and District winners at local Conservation District annual banquets.

Engineering Expression of Interest

Review your current contract and if needed, prepare to advertise, and go through interview/selection process if needed.

The WVCA is interested in working with the district to ensure they retain a firm that has strong civil engineering and is familiar with dams. Because of questions raised about these agreements, it's important to make sure that the scope of work is clearly defined and an agreement between the district and engineering firm is signed.

Also, the district may want to consider whether it wants an engineering firm that also can perform environmental assessments.

O&M Sponsorship Agreements

Don't forget to review your local sponsorship agreements and send to your local government partners for the FY23 budget year. These agreements must be renewed annually to comply with constitutional budget provisions regarding fiscal years.

The WVCA cannot provide a match without a signed agreement.

State Fair of WV Sign Ups

The schedule for state fair volunteers is now available under the WVCA admin webpage. If you would like to schedule a time frame to work at the fair, please contact your Administrative Specialist.

2022 Dates for WVACD Quarterly Meetings

July 18, 19 & 20	Comfort Suites, Mineral Wells, WV
October 17 & 18	Days Inn, Flatwoods

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Invoices

Bookwise Business June 2022 \$300.00

Mark Myers made a motion to pay this invoice, seconded by Art Mouser, Motion Carried.

Board Of Risk Quarterly Premium \$753.00

A motion was made by Mark Myers to pay this invoice, seconded by Chuck Cienawski. Motion Carried.

A.M. Leonard Tree Mats \$1,683.53 Previously Approved

Elan Credit Card \$1,140.97

A motion was made by Jim McDonald and seconded by Ed Utterback to pay this invoice Motion Carried.

Polce Seal Coating, LLC \$4,700.00

A motion was made by Chuck Cienawski to pay this invoice, seconded by Mark Myers. Motion Carried.

Appalachian Best Cleaning \$585.00

A motion was made by Chuck Cienawski and seconded by Jim McDonald to pay this invoice. Motion Carried.

Approval of Supervisor Travel & Per Diem Claims

Art Mouser-\$ Chuck Cienawski-\$ Richard Abel-\$ H.R. Scott-\$

Ed Utterback-\$ Jim McDonald-\$ Mark Myers-\$ Andrew Price-\$

Jean Conley-\$

A motion was made by Art Mouser to pay supervisors, and this was seconded by Chuck Cienawski. Motion Carried.

Unfinished Business

A motion was made by Chuck Cienawski to donate \$1,000.00 dollars to the foundation, this was seconded by Jim McDonald. Motion Carried.

New Business

Additional Funding Request to WVCA- No Discussion

Daily Business Operations Discussed- Will be discussed in the July Meeting

Review Monitoring & Emergency Action Plan Upper Decker's Creek- A motion was made by Art and seconded by Jim McDonald to allow Rick to sign these documents. Motion Carried.

Supervisor Training Videos/ Supervisors Vacancy

Rick explained how to get to the videos and suggested each supervisor should watch these. The MCD will be running the ads again in the pare for Supervisors for two weeks. Then after that it will be turned over to the state level.

Election of Officers

Proposed Officers starting July1,2022

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Mark Myers, Chairman, Ed Utterback Vice- Chairman, Mark Teets Secretary, Chuck Cienawski
Treasurer. This will be discussed at the July meeting

Approval for Rick to sign the New NRCS agreement a motion was made by Art Mouser and
Seconded by Jim McDonald to allow Rick Abel to sign the NRCS agreement if it happens to be
before June 30th, 2022. And if it is after June 30th, 2022, Mark Myers allowed to sign. Motion
Carried.

Associate Supervisors Appointments

The Following was asked to serve as Associates for MCD, Art Mouser Preston County, Jean
Conley and Jim McDonald for Marion County, Any Price and H.R. Scott for Monongalia
County. All Accepted this appointment to serve with MCD.

This will be in place starting July1, 2022. A motion was made by Mark Myers and seconded by
Jim McDonald to accept these associates. Motion Carried.

MCD appoints Hayward Luckey-Mon County, Jim McDonald to Marion County, and Ed
Utterback to the SWA boards to represent MCD. All accepted these positions. Mark Myers made
a motion to appoint these representatives to these roles, seconded by Art Mouser. Motion
Carried.

Mark Myers Stated that our current Farmland Protection Representative is Art Mouser and ask if
Art would still be willing to serve as our representative. Art stated he would. A motion was then
made by Mark Myers and seconded by Jim McDonald to allow Art mouser to serve as MCD
representative. Motion Carried.

RC&D Appointments:

Ed Utterback- Preston County

Any Price -Mon County

Jim McDonald – Marion County

A Motion was made by Mark Myers to accept these representatives to the appoints, seconded by
Art Mouser. Motion Carried.

Mark Myers made the statement that Dee and the Chairman are standing members of each
committee.

Rick Abel then stated that he has sent a letter requesting an extension to the NRCS lease
agreement signing. Giving MCD more time to work on all upgrades to the building as required
by NRCS. Ask asks the board if they wanted him to contact a group called CBRE. Mark Myers
stated we may have to hire Black Diamond to handle the lease details. This will be a ten-year
lease with NRCS. A motion was made by Art Mouser and seconded by Chuck Cienawski
granting permission for Rick to contact CBRE, regarding the lease. Motion Carried.

Foundation Representatives for the MCD will be Art Mouser, and Mark Myers. If they cannot
serve the session list will be Chuck Cienawski and Mark Teets.

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Committee Reports:

Finance – Previously Discussed

Education – Schools out

Legislation/Policy – Legislation Bill 264 Passed

Grasslands- No Report

Correspondence Reports & Various Newsletters -None

Public Comment - None

Supervisor's Reports

Art Mouser- It has been an Honor to serve this district. Working the farm as I can

Ed- Just Visiting with Family

Mark Teets- Cutting Hay

Jim- Working with Hay

Chuck- Cutting Hay

Jean- Waiting on workers to start on hay

Mark myers- Working Hay

Any -Working Hay

H.R.- Working Hay

Rick- Took care of one Bear, working on getting the other one.

Meeting Adjournment

Art Mouser moved to adjourn the meeting @ 1:05 PM

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dates for WVACD Quarterly Meetings 2022

July 18 & 19 TBD

October 17 & 18 Days Inn, Flatwoods

June/July 2022– CDs to finalize upcoming FY program, update AgEP agreement addendum, take action to approve LORs

If you have meetings/events that need to be included, let your Area Director know