

Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes June 21, 2022

Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman
Bill Gellner, Vice Chairman
Holly Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer
Audra Cunningham, Supervisor
Wayne McKeever, Supervisor
Patricia Thomas, Supervisor

Others Present

Katie Fitzsimmons, District Conservationist
Heather Duncan, WVACD
Kim Fisher, WVCA
Nick Beaver, NRCS
J.L. Tennant, FSA

Attended via teleconference

Vice-Chairman Gellner called the meeting to order.

Cooperating Agency Reports

FSA - Have been talking to producers in the Wileyville area that have experienced flooding, mostly of hay and some debris. Not aware of any building loss at this time. Plan to do a visit to the area this Friday. Through ELAP we will be able to help with hay bales that were flooded. Farm ownership loans are available for up to \$600,000.00 now. Current rates are 3.75% for up to 40 years, operating equipment, up to 7 years at 3.625%. Also have farm storage facility loans for 3 – 5 years is 2.875%, 7 years is 3.00%, 10 year is 2.875%, 12 years is 3.00% and 15 years is 3.10%. If you hear of anyone losing livestock in weather event, have them take pictures and contact FSA so they can help them if they can. Excessive heat is a covered loss; there is a threshold that must be met, and conditions may be considered in granting of payments. We have been sending out crop reports.

USDA-NRCS- Beaver reported he has been busy with training, been helping out with some AgEP visits, been pulled to work on a CSP quality assurance team across the state, so have been spending time looking at plans from other offices across the state. Fitzsimmons reported had 3 people sign up for CSP program. Out of the LWG meeting idea was brought up for an outreach education trying to put together workshops either monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly. They have started planning Hands on Ag Day in NPCD. WV DNR held meetings this month for the State Wildlife Action Plan. Invasive species widely spread in WV. Like to have a demo area for education purposes. EQIP in NPCD obligated \$116,000 and in UOCD obligated over \$547,000. Intro to Grazing was added this year. It is more focused on get your water developed, so not a lot of prescribed grazing, but focuses more on water development first. Rafael Menendez is the new Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations. He took over Suzie's position. John Borden is hoping to do a visit in each district between middle of July and August. Is there a farm we would like to take John to? Beaver added they had been working on contract management contacting the ones getting close to the deadline. Set up the land judging contest Doddridge Co. on the 14th. Magnolia and Tyler will be advancing to the State Contest. *Rush joined the meeting.*

WVCA - Re-elected supervisors need to make sure they have filed oath of offices with county clerks and a copy needs to be filed in the UOCD office.

Forestry – Fire season is over; had an active season this year. Since January we have had over 600 fires in WV. Our 10-county region had just under seventy fires. As far as logging, I have heard timber prices are doing the seasonal drop. If you're planning to sell timber, you might want to wait till the prices come back. Landowner assistance, we have several signing up for Stewardship Plan, Tyler, and Pleasants Counties, both. Invasive species is really the number one problem in the forest right now. It is one of those things you can probably fix the problem on your property with constant effort, but you're not going to be able to fix the problem statewide.

WVU Extension – Julie provided a written report included in meeting packets.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes are tabled to the July meeting.

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.

Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes June 21, 2022

Supervisor Reports

Gellner – Worked the Land Judging Contest on the Kenny Mason farm. High Tunnel Workshop last night.

Morgan – Had seven new likes and reached 264 people on FB page. Not much being posted last month. Annual Planning meeting, went to class day at Magnolia and handed out Area Scholarships, was on the legislative call, working with New Martinsville School for the STT for the 2023 year.

McKeever – Getting the condensed version due to misplaced notes. Worked the soil judging on the 24 and 26th a Kenny Masons farm. 25 was communications call. Had a biochar meeting in Sutton, couple calls on NE NACD. May want to add biochar to AgEP. Maybe have a place for biochar demo to show the difference between using biochar and not. Don't forget the quarterly meeting in Mineral Wells July 18-20. WVCA will be providing lunch. Been working with Ravenswood Envirothon Team.

Thomas – helped advertise the workshops, worked on the Conservation Farmer, sent info to Holly on Pleasants Co. tire collection. Helped with rental equipment.

Cunningham – I was on the state fair call and communications call. I was registered to go to the Poultry workshop but was sick. I was on the annual plan meeting.

Rush – Purchased a new roll of filter fabric, along with some chain and locks to lock it up. Land judging contest at Kenny Mason's farm. SWA tire collection, had over 1500 tires turned in.

WVACD –

Funding Request – none

Unfinished Business

Cooperator Agreements – None

Rush recused himself.

AgEP –

Payments – **McKeever made a motion to approve the following AgEP payments. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.**

Name	Practice	Amount	Cost Share
Jon Dumars	Pollination Planting	¼ acre	\$143.48
Jon Dumars	Urban Agriculture		\$1,000.00
John Furlong	Lime	16.34 tons	\$408.50
John Furlong	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft	\$1,980.00
John Furlong	Invasive Species	15 acres	\$114.00
Kevin Thomas	Water System	1 system	\$1,856.00
William Johnson	Water System	1 System	\$1,950.00
Timothy McDiffitt	Water System	1 system	\$1,980.00
Richard Thomas	Water System	1 system	\$1,686.00
Henry Barnhart	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft	\$1,980.00
Kevin VanCamp	Urban Agriculture		\$1,000.00
Kevin VanCamp	Invasive Species	20 acres	\$139.94
Charles Musgrave	Invasive Species	28 acres	\$351.98
Allen Rush	Invasive Species	25acres	\$220.38
Allen Rush	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft	\$1980.00
Doretta Rush	Invasive Species	25 acres	\$220.38
Doretta Rush	Heavy Use Area	1350 sq. ft	1,782.00
James Cochran	Water System	1 system	\$1,862.00
Elijah Haught	Lime	55.58 tons	\$1,389.50
Steve Long	Invasive Species	25 acres	\$111.19
Shaun Kuhn	Water System	1 system	\$1,800.00
Timothy Wilson	Fence	1500FT	\$1,501.75
Larry Hadley	Fence	1600 ft	\$2,500.00
	Total payments		\$27,957.10

Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes June 21, 2022

Cancelations – **Cunningham made a motion to approve the following AgEP cancelations. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

Name	Practice	Cost Share
Jon Dumars	Lime	\$50.00
Nathaniel Hood	Fence	\$2,500.00
John Ueltschy	Invasive species	\$317.13
Nancy Seckman	Invasive Species	\$355.13
Joseph Thomas	Lime	\$760.00
Everette Anderson	Water System	\$1,900.00
Robert VanCamp	Fence	\$2,500.00
Edith Smith	Invasive species	\$400.00
	Total cancelation	\$8,782.26

Grant Needs

Nothing new.

Education Programs

- Barrel order update – Covered in Supervisor Rush report.
- Other ideas – Soil Trailer was a success. Already requesting for next year.
- UOCD promotional video update – nothing new.
- RC & D Grant update – Rush to check on tree availability
- Urban Ag Funding-nothing new

Annual Plan

Morgan made a motion to accept the Annual Plan of Work as presented. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Copier Rental Up-date

Have the temporary copier in place. New copier will be 4 – 6 months getting.

Conservation Farm Up-date

All needed paperwork to Kim.

New Business

Resource Concerns

July 5 meeting.

LOR

Gellner made a motion to submit LORs in the amounts of 1Q \$33082.00, 2Q \$16692.00, 3Q \$16691.00 and 4Q \$12668.00. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Election of Officers and WVACD Delegates

Thomas made a motion to appoint Wayne McKeever and Holly Morgan as the WVACD Delegates. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

Election of officers is tabled to the July meeting.

Soil Trailer Dates

Morgan made a motion to schedule the STT for Sept. 16 – 18 for the PCYF, Oct. 7-9 for county festivals and April 2023 for area schools. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes June 21, 2022

Account 996600 (formerly receiving account)

Cunningham made a motion to change the account 996600 account from non-interest-bearing account to an interest-bearing account for use of outreach funds. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

MOA USDA-NRCS

Thomas made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with USDA-NRCS. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

Biochar

Correspondence

Adjournment

Gellner made a motion to adjourn. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, July 13, at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

Signature of Chairman

Signature of Secretary

Date

Date