

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting

April 21, 2022

7:00 PM

Those in attendance:  
Members of the Board  
Gary Sawyers  
Gary Truex  
Timothy VanReenan  
Carolyn Miller  
Avery Atkins  
Jerry Clifton

NRCS, Dorian Perez  
NRCS, Jeffrey Lee  
  
SCD Staff  
Barry Level  
  
WVCA  
Marty R. Walker-Owen, Admin  
Jeremy Salyer, Area Director

Call meeting to order

Gary Sawyers called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM and welcomed all who have joined the meeting via conference call.

Meeting Minutes

**Gary Truex moved to approve the March Board Meeting Minutes, Timothy VanReenan seconded, motion carried.**

Administrative Report

Marty Walker-Owen provided an update to the board about her ongoing assistance to the Greenbrier Valley District. She has been working with Sherry Ferrell, GVCD bookkeeper and Barry Level, Grassland Technician to coordinate business at the district from Southern with the exception of one day a week at the office. Bank deposits are being made weekly and LORS are being sent as requested by the agency.

Funding Requests (M) LORS

Indian Creek NPS \$30,000.00 LOR 1359 NPS 1781 AGR 1781 1024-09

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the LOR 1359 NPS 1781 for Indian Creek in the amount of \$30,000.00, Timothy VanReenan seconded, motion carried.**

Cooperating Agency Reports

NRCS

Dorian Perez, District Conservationist provided a detailed oral report to the board regarding current happenings with NRCS. He will be sending a written report to Marty following the meeting.

Dorian Perez introduced Jeffrey Lee, NRCS to members of the board. Gary Sawyers recommended he attend the next board meeting that will be in person hopefully in May.

He reviewed upcoming cancelation changes to their program protocols as well as current contract deadlines and applications ongoing.

Dorian Perez gave a review of funding within NRCS for Equip within the district.

#### WVCA

Jeremy Salyer, Area Director reported that the Senate Bill 264 has gone through and endorsed by the governor which will effective within 90 days of that time. He recommended that districts pay attention to board vacancies and advertise for those.

He reported that the agency start date to return back to the offices is May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

He reminded the district of the farm tour deadline if wishing to participate in the state tour he needs the district winner name by May 31<sup>st</sup>. He noted that some districts are recognizing local level.

He reported that he has received a start date for the new administrative specialist at GVCD to start on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Marty noted that she has sent the OMR sponsorship information packets to the sponsors. She indicated that she has not received any information back from any of the sponsors in terms of receipt or monetary at this time for GVCD but has sent out items from the district on her behalf.

**Carolyn Miller moved to file for audit the General & CDO reports, Timothy VanReenan seconded, motion carried.**

**Timothy VanReenan moved to file for audit the WVCA funds report, Carolyn Miller seconded, motion carried.**

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the bills per payables list, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

Marty Walker-Owen noted to the board awareness of the Neathawk Lumber invoice that is being received each month at the district office that is not being paid due to a lack of documentation.

Marty reported that the district receives an invoice from Neathawk Lumber monthly but a note is in the file that due to a lack of record of the invoice is not being paid and noted that there is a background history with the district she wasn't aware of but wanted to report to the board for this to be looked into. The current procedure is for the invoice to be filed at the district.

Barry Level commented that when previous administrative managers have been in place the bill was not paid because Neathawk Lumber was not able to provide to the district an invoice to accompany the bill.

Gary Sawyers commented that he will follow up with the owner at Neathawk regarding this situation.

Marty noted that Lynn Woods had provided information on this in her notes that you could use to follow up on the situation.

#### AgEP Payments

Timothy VanReenan provided an update on the GVCD AgEP program and reviewed the payments placed on the agenda. He commented that Barry Level has been out and verified the projects as listed.

**Timothy VanReenan moved to approve the AgEP items as listed on the agenda, Carolyn Miller seconded, motion carried.**

#### Agricultural Enhancement Program Committee/ AgEP Payments

Lime:

Chad Hefner - \$2,400.00

Pamela Deer - \$1,270.50

Jesse Zeigler - \$1,464.00

\$5,134.50

CPD

Will Nester - \$8,006.00

Pamela Deer- \$5,709.10

Jesse Zeigler- \$7,104.90

Michael Adkins- \$9,998.95

Tim Hancock- \$4,611.33

Tootie Jones- \$9,999.39

Jack Morgan \$3,776.70

Jann Holwick \$1,112.50

\$50,318.87

Watering System

Barry Miller \$3,501.34

Dale Beckett \$ 826.70

\$4,328.04

### Exclusion Fence

James Tuckwiller \$2,925.00

Bane Morris \$4,951.00

\$7,876.00

TOTAL - \$67,657.41

### Grassland Committee

#### Conservation Tour -Farms

Gary Sawyers mentioned the decision to forego the Conservation Farm Tour this year due to lack of preparedness. Barry Level commented he had several farms he is considering.

Gary Sawyers noted the need to set-up a district tour if a winner will be submitted by May 31<sup>st</sup>, Jeremy Salyer confirmed the date and deadline to be May 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Building/Equipment Committee

An Equipment report was given as an update to the board by the Building/Equipment Chair.

(Monthly Report)

### **Watershed Reports**

#### WVCA OMR Report- Judith Lyons

She noted that she has received calls from Dry Creek, one from the former Mayor and one from the current Mayor. These were citizen reports of blockages.

John Nelson went to the site to look at the blockage. She noted the reminder of the 7-1-3U Agreement with Greenbrier County through the Greenbrier County Commission as the agency no longer has a SPURT program.

She reported about the project that is ongoing with Walt Helmick and updated on permitting.

Judith noted that the agency is working on the backlog of permitting and staff are working to bring the stream permitting back up to date.

She commented she has sent the mowing orders today 4-21-22 to Marty and Jeremy.

Marlin Run is quoted currently at \$2,800.00 and Howard's Creek is at \$4,000.00 with some increase due to fuel increases. She reported to the board to please indicate if the board intends to contract the Southern Conservation District crew to do the mowing again. If they are interested they need to be in contact so that Dave Parkulo can place the mowing on his schedule.

A brief discussion was had between Judith Lyons and members of the board in reference to the estimate process.

319 Program

Jerry Clifton reported on the Standard Operating Procedures that has been submitted for review. Mike McMunigal reported that the SOP is actually not ready for adoption and approval at this time it is still currently being revised. The draft SOP has been approved by SCC and a final will be submitted for district approval.

Contracts for approval :

Indian Creek III NPS 1781 Septic Amy South (1093 Peters Mountain Road property) – Septic Pumping not to exceed \$300

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the pumping contract not to exceed \$300.00 for Amy South, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

Michelle Dunbar – Septic Replacement not to exceed \$5,000

Michelle Dunbar – Septic Pumping not to exceed \$300

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the two septic contracts one not to exceed \$300.00 for pumping and a septic replacement not to exceed \$5,000.00, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

David Allen – Septic Pumping not to exceed \$300

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the septic pumping not to exceed \$300.00 for David Allen, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

Doug Kittle/Kittle Farms LLC – Septic Replacement not to exceed \$5,000

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the septic replacement not to exceed \$5,000.00 for Kittle Farms, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

Payments

Payments Second Creek V David Allgyer – Well drilling \$10,000 (to be paid with state funds – Fund Code 1023-00 & Program Code 20514-GV)

**Jerry Clifton moved to approve the payment of David Allgyer well in the amount of \$10,000.00, Avery Atkins, seconded, motion carried.**

A discussion was held between Mike McMunigal and members of the board concerning dates and contract submittals of the 319 program.

**Jerry Clifton moved to pay the bills to SGS, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.**

Indian Creek Water Monitoring SGS Invoice #15228892 \$98.88

Anthony Creek Water Monitoring SGS Invoice #15228893 \$131.84

**Actions between board meetings**



Gary Sawyers asked the members of the board if there were any actions between board meetings needing to be discussed.

#### Reports from Supervisors

Timothy VanReenan reported on his meeting today he attended . They met with USDA representative, Robert Bonny whom is the secretary of production agriculture and conservation. NRCS had approached the district about a study they wanted to do for Howard's Creek. He provided an update on that.

Brian Farkas and Gene Saurbon were in attendance representing the WVCA for the meeting and it was brought to their attention in reference to Howard's Creek weir.

A discussion was held between members of the board about the weir ,town of White Sulphur as well as Greenbrier County Commission .

#### New Business

Gary Sawyers reported that he needs to appoint a nominating committee to serve in the selection for the following:

Avery Atkins volunteered for the nominating committee as well as Jerry Clifton , they will report their nominations at the June meeting for Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary Officer positions as well as WVACD representatives.

#### Solid Waste Authority

**Timothy VanReenan nominated ( moved to approve ) Phillip Cobb to be the representative for the Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority, Jerry Clifton seconded, motion carried.**

Marty Walker-Owen will submit the letter of appointment for Phillip Cobb to represent on the Pocahontas County Solid Waste Authority.

The conservation farm tour was discussed at length. A decision was determined to do district recognition for farm of the year and not participate in the State Conservation Tour. This will allow for time to work with producers and recognize them at the district level and also prepare them in advance for next year's State Tour. A district farm tour will be held this summer in the month of June. Specific dates to be determined and will be announced .

Tentative date of June 28<sup>th</sup> is set to select a district farm winner.

Employee evaluations will be done on the committee meeting day May 12th at 9:00 AM on the return to office date of the agency and new administrative specialist/district manager at GVCD.

Dates to remember: Landjudging Contest Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 PMC in Alderson which is sponsored by Southern Conservation District and Greenbrier Valley Conservation District.

Greenbrier County Scout Day Camp at Harts Run July 10-14.

Meeting adjourned 9:40 PM

Respectively submitted:

4-21-22

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

Regular Board Meeting

Marty R. Walker-Owen

Administrative, WVCA

GVCD Chairman, Gary Sawyers

Gary M. Sawyers

GVCD Secretary

Carolyn Miller