

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
February 17, 2022
7:00 PM

The Greenbrier Valley Conservation District met for their regular monthly board meeting virtually by conference call on February 17, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM

Members of the GVCD Board present on the conference call:

Gary Sawyers
Gary Truex
Jerry Clifton
Carolyn Miller
Avery Atkins
Timothy VanReenan

Visitors/Partnering Agencies/WVCA & GVCD Staff

Dorian Perez, NRCS
Jeremy Salyer, WVCA
Barrett Level, SCD
Mike McMunigal, WVCA
Marty R. Walker-Owen, WVCA

Donny Dodd with NRCS provided an update on the weir removal situation. He noted that a replacement resource conservation engineer has been hired in his previous position.

He stated that NRCS is working to review Marlin Run dam and channel. The town of Rainelle signed on and also White Sulphur for Howard's Creek for sponsorship with the state agency.

Gary Truex moved to approve January Regular Board meeting minutes, Timothy Vanreenan seconded, motion carried.

Administrative Specialist Report

Jeremy Salyer provided an update on Southern Conservation District's Administrative manager temporarily covering the Greenbrier Valley Conservation District until a replacement of Lynn Woods is hired. Marty introduced herself and explained her plan of Tuesdays being her day of work at the Greenbrier Valley District. She noted she will be handling emails and check processing from her office in Beckley as WVCA IT has set up the ability to do so. She will work on other projects on Tuesdays at the Lewisburg office. She stated she had sent an email earlier this week to each of the supervisors providing her contact information and submitting reports. Marty discussed the current volume of workload at SCD and she intends to do the best of her ability to assist with Greenbrier Valley District's administration in the interim with their cooperation and understanding.

Dorian Perez provided an NRCS update and will be sending a written report to Marty to distribute to the board.

LORS for approval

Jerry Clifton moved to approve LOR #'s 13718, 13719, 13720, 13721, 13722, 13723 in the amount of \$1,908.75 each for the months of January through June, 2022 Timothy VanReenen seconded, motion carried.

WVDOF report

Joey Harless reported on the duties of fire season ongoing and current fire restrictions and provided an update on the current fires within this region of the state.

Jeremy Salyer WVCA Area Director

Jeremy Salyer reviewed the agency budget plans which are defined within his written report.

(See his written report attached to the minutes) He reminded that this is the time of year in which 7-3U Agreements are due for annual renewal.

Jeremy also reviewed the AgEP LOR for exigency funds to rebalance districts up to \$10,000.00 He stated that he and Marty will review the exigency balance and get the LOR on next agenda if needed. He noted to remember the deadline upcoming for the Conservation Farm Tour for submission of your county farm selections.

Continued/Ongoing Business

The MOU for NRCS was discussed. This item will need to be added as a March agenda item to approve the signed copy that was reviewed.

The Appalachian Grazing Conference requests were discussed by members of the board.

Jerry Clifton moved to approve sponsorship of the tuition for 3 farmers one from each county and Barrett Level, Grassland Technician for the conference, Carolyn Miller seconded, motion carried.

Finance

Carolyn Miller moved to approve financial reports General and CDO Funds, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.

Gary Truex moved to approve the WVCA financial reports, Carolyn Miller seconded, motion carried.

Gary Truex moved to approve the payment of per payable list, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried

AgEP

Timothy VanReenan and Barrett Level provided an update on the current AgEP program at GVCD.

Timothy VanReenan moved to approve the total payments in the amount of \$3,656.45 as listed on the agenda, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried

A discussion was held concerning the inquiry from the State AgEP committee for the comprehensive pasture development implemented at GVCD.

Barrett Level reviewed the nature of the pasture development practice.

Jeremy Salyer indicated the direction of the request for information on the pasture development practice was to be used as a model in other districts as a holistic approach.

Jeremy Salyer reviewed the email from Russell Young pertaining to the request.

Gary Truex moved to approve acceptance of the pasture development practice to be added to SCC, Avery Atkins seconded, a discussion ensued, all opposed, motion failed.

An equipment report was provided by Gary Truex to the board.

Marty Walker-Owen provided the watershed section report orally to the board that was sent earlier this afternoon by Judith Lyons.

Jerry Clifton reviewed the 319 payments as listed on the agenda approved by Mike McMunigal.

319 Payments for approval:

Robert Irons Second Creek IV \$16,733.50

Inv# 15206399 SGS S Fork Potts Ck/Sweet Spgs \$ 64.00

Inv# 15206400 SGS State Proposed Indian Ck \$ 112.00

Inv# 15206409 SGS 319 State Monitoring \$ 144.00

Kathleen Wilson 20508-GV \$ 4,164.00

(\$21, 217.50 Total)

Jerry Clifton moved to approve the 319 payments, Timothy Vanreenan seconded, motion carried.

New Contracts for approval:

Jerry Clifton Moved to approve state funds to approve the 2nd creek contracts, Carolyn Miller seconded motion carried.

Mike McMunigal provided an overview of the project plans. The grant award has been received and information has come from DEP that the funds would be coming from the federal grant. The

State funds are to be utilized to proceed with the project payments in the interim until federal funds are in place.

Jerry Clifton moved to approve the Spring Creek contract \$7,40.50 Avery Atkins, seconded, motion carried

New Contracts for Second Creek

David Allgyer Second Creek \$36,993.00

Jackson Springs Second Creek \$42,707.00

Steve Fisher Second Creek \$22,256.00

Teaberry Farms Second Creek \$39,303.00

The contracts will need to be completed by June of 2022.

(\$141, 259.00 State funds towards Second creek projects)

Jerry Clifton moved to approve the new contracts for second creek Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried

Jerry Clifton moved to approve the contract for Zack Hileman at Spring Creek in the amount of \$70,975.00 .

Mike McMunigal clarified that these funds would zero out the funds in the Spring Creek 319 project fund.

Jerry Clifton moved to approve the new septic system contract at Indian creek up to 300.00 for Rudolph Swatzyna Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.

Mike McMunigal provided an update on the job at Spring Creek and shared that Jacob Lavender did an admiral job.

Mike McMunigal shared that Mike Yager would be resigning from his position effective March 11, 2022. He commended Mike Yager on his work on the program. He noted that they have been able to quickly backfill his position due to a candidate selected from an interview conducted for a Conservation Specialist at Elk Conservation District as well as Capitol Conservation District, from the pool of candidates an offer was made. She will not be starting her position until the first week of June.

Mike McMunigal reported on a project at the South Fork of Potts Creek that an LOR was submitted for in January.

Jerry Clifton moved to delegate Avery Atkins the authority to sign the contract for Potts Creek Carolyn Miller seconded, motion carried.

Gary Truex moved to approve the acceptance of the pledge of notification for FNBB, Avery Atkins seconded, motion carried.

Gary Sawyers reviewed to the board the CD personnel form has been completed and remains the same as the one in the past which illustrates funds in place for district employees, dam monitors and other personnel needed.

Gary Truex moved to approve submitting the CD personnel form as it has been in the past with no changes, Jerry Clifton seconded, motion carried.

Marty Walker reviewed information that the video conference equipment has been purchased and ordered and Chris will be delivering and installing the new conference equipment upon start of the new administrative specialist

Gary Sawyers brought forth the discussion about the Ronceverte Elementary School High Tunnel proposal. Barry Level will be obtaining additional information and getting back to the board for more follow up and reporting back.

March Committee Meetings were decided not to be held.

Barrett Level volunteered to help handle district check signatures to assist Marty Walker.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Marty R. Walker-Owen, Administrative Specialist

Gary Sawyers, GVCD Chairman

Gary M. Sawyers Jan 8, 2022

Carolyn Miller, GVCD Treasurer

Gary L. Truex COVID 19 designated signatory