

**Monongahela Conservation District**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**January 4, 2023**  
**Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center**  
**Morgantown, WV**  
**@ 9:30 a.m.**

Attendance:

**District Supervisors:** *Jean Conley (Associate), Mark Teets, Mark Myers, Andy Price (Associate), H.R. Scott, Chuck Cienawski, and Art Mouser (Associate).*

**USDA-NRCS:** *Rafael Mendez, Dustin Adkins*

**WVCA:** *Kaitlyn Jones, Don Whetzel, Devon Kokoska (virtual), Candice Stone, Gene Saurborn, Cindy Shreve*

**WVDOF:** *Rudy Williams*

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order.

The "Pledge of Allegiance" was led by Chuck Cienawski.

Prayer was given by Andy Price.

December 7, 2023, Meeting Minutes - **Scott moved to approve the December Meeting Minutes (12/07/23). Teets seconded. Motion carried.**

Cooperating Agency Reports

- USDA-NRCS – Adkins reported they are working on EQIP applications submitted in ACT now. There is a continual sign up for applications. December payments have been made. Mendez stated there is outreach funding available that the district can apply for.
- WV Division of Forestry – Williams reported they had a good turn out at their annual Christmas luncheon. All fire reports for 2023 are completed and submitted.

Invoices:

- **Cienawski moved to approve CTL Upper Deckers 2 \$1,959.15 invoice. Teets seconded. Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business:

- Janitorial Services- They are emptying the trash, but the cleaning isn't being done correctly. They are on a month-to-month basis.

New Business:

- **Cienawski moved to approve 3 pop up banners and purchase of hardware. Scott seconded. Motion carried.** 1 will be completed now for Conservation Day and the other 2 to be completed later. They would like to see Deckers 1, farmers market and high tunnels at the schools as pictures for the banners.
- **Scott moved to approve the permanent locking of the outside doors on the end of building near conference room. Teets seconded. Motion carried.**
- **Teets moved to approve the No Swimming/Hunting signs for the dams. Cienawski seconded. Motion carried.** The Watershed Division can decide what needs to be on each of the signs.
- **Cienawski moved to approve the spending limit for the Building Chairman be upped to \$5,000.00. Teets seconded. Motion carried.**
- **Scott moved to appoint the Chairman as the contact to sign off on items for Watershed Division on behalf of the board. Teets seconded. Cienawski abstained from voting.**

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- Cienawski moved to approve the participation in the SMART Farms WV Grant. Teets seconded. Motion carried. This is a multi-year grant through 2026. Applications and advertising will begin in 2024.
- Scott moved to approve Sharon Ball to attend the Appalachian Grazing Conference. Teets seconded. Cienawski abstained from voting.
- Cienawski moved to approve the letter of resignation submitted by Robert White. Teets seconded. Motion carried.

WVCA Reports

- Kokoska gave a written report and reminded the board about the upcoming AgEP Review.
- Whetzel reported Upper Deckers 5 has a dive team coming with a camera to see what is causing the clogged risers.
- Saurborn mentioned they have 3 vacancies (2 engineers and 1 watershed). We need to talk about the EOI (add to next agenda).
- Shreve reported there is a vacancy in Potomac Valley and intern positions will be posted soon.

▪ Committee Reports

- Finance
  - Asked reports to be sent prior to meeting for board members to review.
- Safety/Building/Grounds/Equipment
  - Cienawski will get the insurance offer signed and notarized and returned to the office today to be sent to the insurance company.
- Education/Marketing/Soil- March 23<sup>rd</sup> 9am a Tractor Safety Day at Middletown Tractor in Fairmont.
- Ag Enhancement

**Scott moved to accept the following FY-24 AgEP payments reported totaling \$9,307.63.**

• Lime

- John Feather \$2,674.84
- Jill Poe \$1,284.87
- David & Brandi Sisler \$1,470.45
- Gary Walls \$266.40
- Scott Metheney \$1,731.99
- Bill Beeghly \$847.08

• Heavy Use Protection Area

- Todd Rankin \$1,032.00 (additional labor)

**Teets moved to reallocate \$12,999.00 to the next people in line for funding, list to be provided at next meeting. Cienawski seconded. Motion carried.**

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Mark  
Myers, Chairman