

Southern Conservation District  
Committee Meetings Minutes  
June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
10:00 AM

Those in attendance:

Members of the board; Ron Testerman, Ed Hendrick, Curtis Murphy, Bill Harris, Randall Patton, Fred Halsey, Alvin Marchant and Randy Prince (via teleconference call)

Staff: Dave Parkulo, Marty Walker-Owen

Randall Patton opened and welcomed all to the committee meetings.

Equipment Committee

Randall Patton turned the report over to Dave Parkulo who provided an update on recent activities of the conservation work crew. He noted the crew is currently mowing dams in Hardy County. He and Don Fink have been working on a large pond cleanout project in Raleigh County in recent weeks.

Dave Parkulo, Randall Patton and Ed Hendrick attended the Mercer County Commission meeting to discuss the funding deficits for maintaining the channels. Dave noted he provided the cost expenses from previous recent years associated with the OM maintenance for Mercer County and the commission will be reviewing the funds provided on the report. He reported he will be also providing a cost estimate to the commission of projected upcoming costs.

A brief discussion was held about the county commission contributions.

Ag Enhancement Committee

Curtis Murphy gave an update on the AgEP program. He noted that Braden Snyder is working on ranking contracts from the June application program.

Marty Walker-Owen noted to Curtis Murphy that they had about 55 applications received at the office. She also reported to the board that the residual district support funds they voted to support FY24 AgEP she has transferred back to the building account from the projects account what was not needed in the amount of \$794.95 to clear the FY24 fund record back to a zero balance.

Finance Committee

Curtis Murphy gave an update pertaining to finance for SCD that he and Marty had visited the bank to reactivate the district reserve account at MCNB. He noted that they had placed \$500.00 from the district operating account to the district reserve account in order to keep the account active.

Curtis Murphy noted that he had met with Marty at the office and went through documents needed to be signed to continue the set up of the payroll by direct deposit for the employees.

Marty Walker-Owen added that she submitted all of the signed paperwork that business day to MCNB for the continuation of the set-up of direct deposit and i-Bank Business.

### Building Committee

Bill Harris noted the work downstairs at FSA that was scheduled is completed with the exception of a few touch-up items to be done when time allows. Bill Harris complimented the pollinator flower bed out front in bloom.

He reported as an update the USDA lease will be upcoming in the next year, to renew and there will be security measures needed to take place at the SCD building due to seven entrances.

### 319 Committee

Ron Testerman gave an update on the 319 program. He noted the completed projects that Braden Snyder has worked on and that there were two checks to be signed today from completed septic projects.

A brief discussion was held concerning the forward movement of the feed pad at the demonstration farm.

### Education/Marketing Committee

Marty Walker-Owen noted she has worked on and ordered new rack cards for outreach events to distribute to market the district services to have ready for the WV State Fair and the John Henry Days with NRCS booth. Those will be \$20.00 per 100 and she has ordered 600 cards. She reported she has worked on plans for the district open house held at the SCD and is looking at the first week of September with the partnering agencies to hold the event. She noted outreach plans for attending WV State Fair in August, open house planned for September and fall banquet in October as well as Women in Agriculture in November.

Marty noted that she had spoken with Ron Testerman about interest in education programs at SCD. She stated that since Fred Halsey had stepped down from education and marketing chair if he accepted and it was pleasure of the board for Ron Testerman to accept chair of education/marketing.

The next regular board meeting is July 11<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted:

Marty R. Walker-Owen, Admin.

X Marty Walker-Owen

Ed Hendrick, Secretary

X Ed Hendrick

X Randall Patton, Chairman

X Randall Patton