

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

September 19, 2024, 7:00pm
Regular Board Meeting, Draft Minutes

The Greenbrier Valley Conservation District Board of Supervisors convened on September 19, 2024, at 7:00pm in the conference room of the Lewisburg USDA service center.

Those Present:

Supervisors:

Gary Sawyers, Chairman
Gary Truex
Donald McNeel
Timothy VanReenen
Carolyn Miller
Avery Atkins (Virtual)

Others:

Barrett Level, GVCD (Virtual)
Scarlett Dunn, WVCA
Jason Nicolai, WVCA (Virtual)
Morgan Dial, WVCA
Chelsea Cook, FSA
Wanda Cook, NRCS (Virtual)
Jacob Lavender, WVCA (Virtual)
Angela Feamster-Sawyers, WVCA

Chairman Sawyers called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone.

Approval of Minutes

Timothy VanReenen moved to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2024, Special Board Meeting and the August 15, 2024, Regular Board Meeting. Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Administrative Specialist Report

Angela Sawyers reviewed the highlights of her report, which is attached.

Cooperating Agency Reports

- NRCS – District Conservationist for Monroe County, Wanda Smith reviewed the highlights of her report, which is attached.
- FSA - Chelsea Cook, CED for the Monroe County FSA office, expressed concern about being unable to provide any of the Emergency Drought Programs to their cooperators. Monroe County would have to be in D2 status for 8 weeks in a row, or in D3 or D4 status, to qualify for the programs. She stated that while the State has approved an Emergency Well Drilling Program, Monroe and Hancock County are not currently eligible for it. McDowell County is eligible for well drilling, but not for grazing or feed transport. In addition, Chelsea stated that two positions were currently open in the Monroe County office, one temporary and one full-time, and that anyone interested should apply at <https://www.usajobs.gov/>.
- Forestry – Nothing to report.
- WVCA - Nothing to report.
- Other – Nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

- **Financial Reports**

Gary Truex moved on behalf of the committee to pay the bills, per payables list. Timothy VanReenen seconded; motion carried.

Gary Truex moved on behalf of the committee to accept the general and CDO funds report, and file for audit. Carolyn Miller seconded; motion carried.

Gary Truex moved on behalf of the committee to accept the WVCA restricted funds report, and file for audit. Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Gary Truex moved to update the signatories for the district's general and CDO accounts at the Bank of Monroe, and the co-administered account at Peoples Bank to include Gary W. Sawyers, Gary L. Truex, Carolyn Miller, Avery Atkins, Timothy VanReenen, and Donald McNeel. Timothy VanReenen seconded; motion carried.

Agricultural Enhancement Program Committee

Timothy VanReenen reported the following action between board meetings:

Acting with delegated authority Gary L Truex & Gary W Sawyers approved the following contracts & payments for the exigency drought program:

- Silas Sattler: \$500.00 – Approved by: Gary Sawyers on July 29, 2024.
- Nathaniel Ward: \$299.99 – Approved by: Gary Sawyers on August 07, 2024
- April Polzin-Holmes: \$442.25 – Approved by Gary Sawyers on August 07, 2024
- Glen Ford: \$497.09 - \$497.09 – Approved by: Gary Truex on August 27, 2024
- Jim Nelson: \$475.00 – Approved by: Gary Truex on August 27, 2024
- Chris Taylor: \$299.00 – Approved by: Gary Sawyers on September 05, 2024

Barry Level confirmed that FY25 AgEP funds had been received and that he mailed the letters to cooperators so that they could begin their projects.

Grassland Committee

The board of supervisors & Barry Level discussed the state farm tour that was held earlier that day at the Furrow Family Farm. They were pleased with the outcome and noted that Mr. Furrow did an excellent job with the representation.

Building/Equipment Committee

The Board of Supervisors reviewed the monthly equipment report, which is attached.

Education Outreach/Events Committee

Banquet – Banquet updates were covered in the administrative specialist report.

Watershed

OM&R –

Carolyn Miller moved to accept Southern Conservation District's estimate of \$1800.00 for the Howard's Creek Channel tree removal. Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Timothy VanReenen moved to approve a reimbursement of \$800.00 to the Town of Marlinton for the Marlin Run Channel cutting. Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Following some discussion, it was decided that annual dam inspections would be held on Monday, September 30th, 2024.

319 Committee

Carolyn Miller moved to split the combined 319 State Match account into separate accounts, as presented, for more adequate tracking purposes. (See attached). Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Donald McNeel moved to approve the following letter of request:

LOR ID: 16216

Purpose: NPS1820 Indian Creek IV

Amount: 37000.00

AGR: NPS1820

Carolyn Miller seconded; motion carried.

Donald McNeel moved to delegate authority to Carolyn Miller to approve payment, or cancellation, for Bill Shiflet's Septic System Replacement and Pumping. Avery Atkins seconded; motion carried.

Contracts for Approval:

Donald McNeel moved to approve the following contract:

- Indian Creek IV:
 - Septic System pumping- Gayla Adkins – 50% up to \$300.00

Carolyn Miller seconded; motion carried.

Payments for Approval:

Donald McNeel moved to approve the following payment:

- Indian Creek IV:
 - Reimbursement to GVCD for Monroe Watchman Ad in the amount of \$308.00 in federal funds.

Carolyn Miller seconded; motion carried.

Donald McNeel moved to approve the following payment:

- Second Creek VI:
 - SGS- Water Quality Monitoring for the amount \$333.10

Avery Atkins seconded; motion carried.

Donald McNeel reported the following action between board meetings:

Anthony Creek

Gary Truex, acting under delegated authority, approved the cancellation of Makayla Scott's septic system pumping contract and approved a \$5,000.00 payment for her septic system replacement.

Other Business

Carolyn Miller moved to approve a total of \$920.00 in sponsorships to cover the registration fees for eight individuals to attend the Women in Ag Conference. This year's conference will be held at the Blennerhassett Hotel, in Parkersburg, WV on November 15-16, 2024. Gary Truex seconded; motion carried.

Gary Truex moved to approve switching the district's current phone service with optimum to WVCA's plan at \$56.00 a month. Donald McNeel seconded; motion carried.

Chairman Sawyers reviewed the following dates:

- September 26, 2024- GVCD Legislative & Awards Banquet: 5:30pm-6:15 Meet & Greet; 6:30pm Dinner, Program & Awards
- October 09, 2024 – GVCD Committee Meeting, 9:00am
- October 17, 2024- GVCD Regular Board Meeting, 7:00pm

With no further business the meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gary Sawyers
Chairman



Gary Truex
Secretary/ Treasurer

GS/GT/as

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

Greenbrier Valley Work Unit Union DC Report

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Follow Ups from Previous Meetings

Cultural Resources:

- I have received 3 certified CRR since last meeting.
- Monroe still has 3 FY2022 contract participants waiting for field visits prior to approval to proceed with implementation. 1 Monroe FY2024 contract has been added to the list that need site visits. This makes 4 total waiting on site visits for CRR in Monroe.

Engineering backlog:

- A NRCS WV Engineering Assistance Request/Tracker is now in service.
- Union staff are working on several engineering designs in house, with some survey or component assistance from Area Engineering staff.
- Engineering Technician Kenneth Maiolo has returned from leave and is actively assisting with survey and design work, with his work split between the GV offices
- The expectation is that designs will be completed within one year of contract obligation. (Policy set by State Conservationist Jon Bourdon.)

Financial Assistance Programs

Active Contracts

- 185 Active contracts in Monroe (\$5,508,731.07 treating 23,819.1 acres)
- 2397 contract items in these 185 active contracts
- 11 CSP-GCI ; 2 of these expire 12/31/2024
- 40 CSP contracts; 3 of these expire 12/31/2024
- 11 AMA contracts
- 123 EQIP contracts

Obligations

- 36 FY2024 contracts obligated in Monroe (\$1,290,918.99 treating 5,103.9 acres)

Contract Management –

- 262 contract items certified in FY2024.
- \$533,881.27 in cost-share monies paid in Monroe in FY2024

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District Greenbrier Valley Work Unit Union DC Report

9/19/2024

Working Applications –

- No PY2024 CSP-GCI applications in Monroe.
- Approximately 100 applications for Round 1 PY2025
- 23 of those are CSP applications, majority of rest are EQIP
- No definitive answer as to possibility of drought related fund pool under EQIP

Expiring Contracts

- Monroe: 3 EQIP contracts remain with an expiration date of 12/31/2024.
- 2 of those 3 remaining expiring EQIP contracts have been modified but the modification has not yet been approved.
- A solution to the 3rd EQIP contract with an expiration date of 12/31/2024 is actively being sought

Cancellations

- No new cancellation requests in recent months.

Office Administration

News and Events

- Accepting applications year-round for CSP, AMA, and EQIP. Application cut-off for PY2025 Round 1 for CSP was August 15, 2024; for EQIP & AMA Round 1 PY2025, application cut-off was September 13, 2024.
- WVACD annual banquet will be October 22, 2024 in Flatwoods. The State Conservation Farm contest winner will be announced at this banquet. Area contest winner The Furrow Farm of Monroe County is in contention to win the state title.

Field Office Priorities

- End of Fiscal Year activities/requirements
- Contract Management
- Planning and field assessments for PY2025 applications
- Ongoing engineering design work
- Ongoing field inspection and certification work, including CSP PY2024 certifications

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District Greenbrier Valley Work Unit Union DC Report

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- NRCS Quality Assurance Review (QAR) for Buckeye, Lewisburg, and Union this week. This QAR is conducted every 5 years.

Staffing Updates

- Contracted Program Assistant – Marc Pontius has accepted.
- Interviews will be set up soon for Soil Conservationist in Union and Lewisburg
- ACES employee John Fullen starting next week
- Soil Conservationist Anthony Panek will be retiring this fiscal year.

Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at wanda.smith@usda.gov or (304) 772-3006 ext. 115 (office) or (304) 216-9353 (mobile).

District Conservationist

Distribution:

Jon Bourdon, State Conservationist (STC)

Brandon Duckworth, Assistant State Conservationist – Field Operations (ASTC-FO), South Area

Burton “Matt” Murphy, Area Resource Conservationist (ARC), South Area

Julie Stutler, NRCS Outreach Coordinator

Greenbrier Valley Conservation District Board of Supervisors (c/o Angela Feamster-Sawyers)

Dorian Perez, GV North District Conservationist

NRCS Field Office Staff: Union Service Center

**Greenbrier Valley Conservation District
Monthly Equipment Report**

Month/Year Aug 2024

Equipment	Number of Days Rented	Number of Acres	Total Revenue	Total Cost of Repairs & Maintenance	Total Field Service Mileage
Tye #1					
Tye #2					
Great Plains #1					
Great Plains #2					
Great Plains #3	1	5	105		
No-till Seeder Totals					
Cricket					
Grasshopper					
Big Silver					
Lime/fertilizer Totals					
Chemical Sprayer					
Litter Spreader #1					
Litter Spreader #2					
Litter Spreader Totals					
Post Driver #3					
Post Driver #4					
Post Driver #5					
Post Driver Totals					
Potato Planter					
Potato Sprayer					
Potato Harrow				4360	
Potato Totals					
Portable Scales					
Other ^{Cooling} Trailer	13		\$819		
Shop Supplies				1799	
GRAND TOTALS (all equipment)	14	5	1924	6159	



ADKINS AUTO PARTS
14521 SENACA TRAIL NORTH
PO BOX 906
LEWISBURG, WV 24901
(304) 645-7783

BILL TO 102120 000 GREENBRIER VALLEY SOIL CONS. 179 NORTHRIDGE DRIVE LEWISBURG, WV 24901			SHIP TO 102120 000 GREENBRIER VALLEY SOIL CONS. 179 NORTHRIDGE DRIVE LEWISBURG, WV 24901 (304) 645-6173			PG 1 OF 1	
ADKINS AUTO PARTS, LEWISBURG INVOICE						REFERENCE NUMBER 009-295493	
MTH. DAY YR. WRITER		9/03/24		CUSTOMER P.O. NUMBER		TERMS	
9/05/24 JRC		265377 0		NET 10TH		SHIP VIA COUNTER	
QUANTITY ORDERED	QUANTITY SHIPPED	BACK ORDERED	PART NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION	CODE	PRICE (LIST & SELL)	NET AMOUNT	
2	2		FRD A2 TAPER BEARING SE		16.810 9.800 EA	19.60	
2	2		FRD A6 TAPER BEARING SE		20.590 12.000 EA	24.00	
***** WE SELL AND SERVICE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS,ATV PARTS AND *****						*****	
***** TIRES ALSO AVAILABLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!!! *****						*****	
X				GOODS RECEIVED BY		SUB-TOTAL 43.60	
						TAX .00	
				TIME PREPARED 1:31 PM		TOTAL 43.60	

TERMS: POSITIVELY NO GOODS ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT WITHOUT OUR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION AND INVOICE NUMBER.
15% HANDLING CHARGE ON GOODS RETURNED WHEN SUPPLIED AS ORDERED. ERRORS AND OMISSIONS EXCEPTED.

*** CUSTOMER COPY ***



ADKINS AUTO PARTS
14521 SENACA TRAIL NORTH
PO BOX 906
LEWISBURG, WV 24901
(304) 645-7783

BILL TO			SHIP TO			PG 1 OF 1	
102120 000			102120 000				
GREENBRIER VALLEY SOIL CONS. 179 NORTHRIDGE DRIVE LEWISBURG, WV 24901			GREENBRIER VALLEY SOIL CONS. 179 NORTHRIDGE DRIVE LEWISBURG, WV 24901 (304) 645-6173			CHARGE	
ADKINS AUTO PARTS, LEWISBURG INVOICE						REFERENCE NUMBER 009-295739	
MTH. DAY YR. WRITER		9/11/24		CUSTOMER P.O. NUMBER		TERMS	
9/11/24 DCB		265798 EUGENE		NET 10TH		SHIP VIA COUNTER	
QUANTITY ORDERED	QUANTITY SHIPPED	BACK ORDERED	PART NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION		CODE	PRICE (LIST & SELL)	NET AMOUNT
1	1		ODR I06032G60 OIL-DRI PREMIUM			31.480 17.990 EA	17.99
** ODR I06040G50 Superseded by: ODR I06032G60 **							
***** WE SELL AND SERVICE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS,ATV PARTS AND *****							
***** TIRES ALSO AVAILABLE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR BUSINESS!!! *****							
			X GOODS RECEIVED BY			SUB-TOTAL	17.99
						TAX	.00
					TIME PREPARED	TOTAL	17.99
					12:17 PM		

TERMS: POSITIVELY NO GOODS ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT WITHOUT OUR PRIOR AUTHORIZATION AND INVOICE NUMBER.
15% HANDLING CHARGE ON GOODS RETURNED WHEN SUPPLIED AS ORDERED. ERRORS AND OMISSIONS EXCEPTED.

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1023-00 319 State Match

August 31, 2024 Balance

987,331.43

Indian Creek	\$	250,000.00
Meadow River	\$	100,000.00
Second Creek*	\$	50,000.00
Spring Creek	\$	150,000.00
Anthony Creek	\$	150,000.00
Project Support Funds	\$	287,331.43

*This may need increased depending on future work in the SC watershed