

Monongahela Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025
Apple Annie's Restaurant
Fairmont, WV 26554
9:30 am

Attendance:

Supervisors: Mark Teets (Chairman), Bob Spaid, Brandon Linton, Mark Myers, Chuck Cienawski, Andy Price, HR Scott, Jean Conley (associate)

DOF: Rudy Williams

WVU Extension: Carrie See

WVCA: Don Whetzel, Devon Kokoska, Bill Armstrong, Kaitlyn Jones, Adrienne Hoalcraft

WVACD: Heather Duncan (virtual)

Visitors: KLM Properties Iven Bolyard and Randy Neal (virtual)

Chairman Teets called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM.

Spaid led the Pledge of Allegiance and delivered a prayer.

KLM Properties representatives spoke about the walk through they did of the district building in July. They recommended leasing the empty space for somewhere in the range of \$2900 a month-\$3400 a month. This had utilities built in, but not garbage services. Cienawski inquired if they should also include snow removal and landscaping costs. KLM properties said yes, they could include that number. Chairman Teets requested a written outline of the discussion be provided to the board. KLM will send a copy to Hoalcraft.

Myers moved to approve the July 10th, 2025 meeting minutes, seconded by Linton.
Motion carried.

Cooperating Agencies

- NRCS DC Chris Toothman provided a written report in his absence. A letter written by Jon Bourdon to DEP regarding Senate Bill 941 was also provided to the board.
- DOF Williams spoke about a new forester starting in the Whetzel County area. He spoke on a forester that has been on a detail in California. Rattlesnakes in the Coopers' Rock area were discussed.
- WVU Extension's See spoke about a drone spray demonstration scheduled for August 20th at 6pm at Reedsville Farm in Preston County. She spoke on a grant regarding property heir issues. A meeting will take place in November to go over

Monongahela Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025
Apple Annie's Restaurant
Fairmont, WV 26554
9:30 am

possible deed issues. A January meeting will have legal counsel present to instruct attendees on how to set up wills, trusts, etc. See also reported that the Preston County extension office will be moving again (no location yet) and the Buckwheat Festival takes place in 47 days.

- The board inquired about working with See to combine the drone spray demonstration with the pasture walk they are working on. The use of those funds was discussed. See will work on getting an agenda and flyer to Hoalcraft.
- Duncan provided a written report. She highlighted the July quarterly meeting and reminded the board the October meeting would be October 22-23 and include the annual silent auction.

WVCA Reports

- Armstrong spoke about EWP work in Marion County. WVCA referred 2 sites to NRCS but both were denied
- Kokoska reported mowing on Upper Deckers and Upper Buffalo was completed and inspected. The siphon is now out to bid with bidding closing August 12th. Kokoska will work on scheduling the annual dam inspections for September.
- Jones reported she had completed all rankings but did not have cost share amounts yet. Approving 1st priority applications at the maximum cost share was discussed. Teets spoke on wanting to help applicants who have been unfunded in the past. Jones pointed out MCD has received a lot of new cooperators this year. Jones went over a ranking form with the board. Price pointed out lime applications must be based on soil results. Kokoska recommended holding a special AgEP meeting in a week to make FY26 approvals. **Spaid moved to hold a special meeting to determine AgEP approvals once cost share information is complete, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**
- **Myers moved to approve the cooperator agreement for Roger Shuttlesworth, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**
- Hoalcraft provided a written report highlighting audit prep, inventory needs, and the state fair.
- Whetzel provided a written report and spoke on the farm tour.

Monongahela Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025
Apple Annie's Restaurant
Fairmont, WV 26554
9:30 am

Solid Waste Authority

- Scott reported the Monongalia Solid Waste Authority was looking to purchase property for a new office and working to move the recycling center.
- Conley reported Marion Solid Waste Authority was working on applying for grants and working on audit preparation.
- A Preston County report was not provided. (A Preston County report was emailed last that day)

Outstanding checks from the co-administered account were discussed. Hoalcraft will look into the checks.

Myers moved to approve the financial statements and file them for audit, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.

Hoalcraft provided a breakdown of the O&M LOR as: \$21,385 for Upper Buffalo, \$15,275 for Upper Deckers, \$3,055 for Upper Deckers channel and \$3,055 for Upper Buffalo channel.

Cienawski asked why the Upper Buffalo channel wasn't receiving more money. He highlighted the channel's importance.

Myers moved to approve LOR 16420 FY26 O&M Allocation for \$42,770.00, seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.

Myers moved to approve LOR 16435 FY26 AgEnhancement Program Allotment for \$81,800.00, seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.

Spaid moved to pay the CTL Engineering Invoice for \$5,100 for Upper Buffalo 39 Seepage Repair, seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

Spaid moved to pay the Mills Group invoice for \$1,067.50, seconded by Price. Motion carried.

Monongahela Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025
Apple Annie's Restaurant
Fairmont, WV 26554
9:30 am

Unfinished Business

- **Myers moved to nominate Wayne McKeever for the Honorary Member Award, seconded by Linton. Motion carried.**
- **Linton moved to nominate Mark Myers for the Carroll Greene award, seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.**
- **Myers moved to nominate Chuck Lipscomb for the Member at Large Award, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**
- Price found an individual to take over the short term cleaning of the building until new tenants are acquired. He will clean one day a week on a month-to-month basis for \$300 a month. **Cienawski moved to terminate the current cleaning company's services (Appalachia's Best Cleaning Services), seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.**
- **Price moved to approve the new cleaner (Dale Watson), seconded by Myers. Motion carried.**
- Brandon Kupec is willing to be the new district attorney as needed without a retainer. **Cienawski moved to retain Kupec as the new district lawyer, seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.**

New Business

- Myers reported on the changes to the WVACD bylaws highlighting that each district will have 2 votes during quarterly meetings (all members can still vote at annual meeting). **Myers moved to accept the new association bylaws, seconded by Linton. Motion carried.**
- Myers gave a report on the July quarterly meeting highlighting the bylaw changes, speakers, and photo contest.
- **Myers moved to approve Brandon Linton serving as a judge for statewide farm tour, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**
- SB941 was discussed. Myers questioned if DEP would start funding the O&M on the dams. County Commission funding being discontinued if the DEP controls the dams was discussed. Kokoska told the board to proceed as normal until the Attorney General provides more information.
- The MOU between WVCA and MCD regarding O&M funds was discussed. The board expressed frustration that funds were given to them but must be deposited into a

Monongahela Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 7th, 2025
Apple Annie's Restaurant
Fairmont, WV 26554
9:30 am

co-administered account. Teets said MCD was given the money but has no control over it. The state used to match these funds as opposed to a lump sum. Cienawski expressed frustration that MCD has been given money they can't use to fix issues. Teets urged the group to read agreements more thoroughly in the future.

- Banquet planning was started. It will take place in Preston County this year. October 14, 15, and 16th were discussed as possible dates. The following awards were agreed on: Luther Britton award: Ben Smith, Community and Environmental Educator Award: Carrie See, Frank Glover Award: Andy Price, Outstanding Service to the District Award: Jean Conley, Outstanding District Conservation Farm: Dave Harsh, Public Service Award: Ron Stemple and Solid Waste Authority Award: HR Scott.

Committee Reports

- Myers spoke on a Marl powerline coming through Morgantown. Hoalcraft will put it on next month's agenda for further discussion.
- Annual inspections for Upper Deckers will be September 17th at 9am at Reedsville Farm. Upper Buffalo will be September 18th at 9am at Price Cutter. A Mannington Channel inspection will be scheduled.
- Scott reported he is now having landscaping done every 2 weeks to prepare for renting the building. The board reviewed the updated bathroom drawing. The conference room wall will be moved around 6 feet. **Linton moved to move forward with the new bathroom design and all kitchenette plumbing/infrastructure, seconded by Myers. Motion carried.**

Spaid adjourned the meeting at 1:07PM.

Mark Teets

9/4/25

Mark Teets, Chairman

Date

