

Southern Conservation District

Special Board/Committee Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2026

10:00 AM

The Southern Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room of the District Office, located at 463 Ragland Road. Beckley, WV 25801.

Those in Attendance:

Supervisors:

Randall Patton, Chairman

Bill Harris, Vice-Chair

Edgar Hendrick, Secretary

John Farrell

Randy Prince (Teleconference)

Rachel Prince (Teleconference)

Curtis Murphy

Ron Testerman

Steven Johnston

Others:

Jesus Nandi Roman, WVCA

Morgan Dial, WVCA

Brian Fry, WVCA

Dave Parkulo, SCD

Open & Welcome

Randall Patton, Chairman

John Farrell led in prayer, and Steven Johnston led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Southern Conservation District Operations and Business

Appalachian Grazing Conference Sponsor/Attendance:

The board discussed possible participation and support for the upcoming Appalachian Grazing Conference. It was noted that conservation districts may have a vendor tent space at no charge; however, there is a \$25 registration fee per supervisor attending. The discussion included the possibility of sponsoring one or more local farmers to attend, to support the conference and provide educational opportunities. Coordination with neighboring districts and extension partners was also discussed, including potential workshops or demonstrations that could complement the conference.

The GLCI grant-funded field day was mentioned, with timing anticipated toward the end of May. The board discussed coordinating outreach and promotional efforts across events, including press releases, local newspapers, and media contacts, to increase visibility. No formal action was taken. The conversation was tabled for the March board meeting.

Dave's Fork/Christian Fork updated Emergency Action Plan:

After reviewing the action plan, Bill Harris made a motion for a signature to be authorized for Dave's Fork/Christian's Fork site #3 emergency action plan. Ed Hendrick seconded, motion carried.

District Personal Plan:

After reviewing the plan, Ed Hendrick made a motion to approve the FY26 District Personnel Plan as presented. Curtis Murphy seconded, motion carried.

AgEP Policy Updates/Practice List:

The board then discussed AgEP policy updates and proposed practice list changes, including questions and clarifications on several grazing-related practices, possible caps and payment limits, and delegated authority language within the agreement. The group also discussed general funding/obligation tracking, as well as how allocations and district obligation funds are handled. No final action was taken during this discussion, and the practice list and agreement updates were tabled for further review and an updated report at the next meeting from Morgan Dial and Brian Fry.

Special Board Adjournment:

Following review of all reports, Ed Hendrick made a motion to adjourn the February 24, 2026, Special Board Meeting. Ron Testerman seconded. Motion carried, and the meeting was officially adjourned at 11:42:21 a.m. EST.

Southern Conservation District Committee Meeting

Equipment:

Randall Patton, SCD

No major updates were provided.

Building:

Bill Harris, SCD

The board discussed ongoing building improvements downstairs, including work in the hallway area and the office formerly used by Steve Dorsey. It was noted that the contractor plans to stop after completing the areas near the bathrooms and the downstairs conference room. A request was made to renovate an additional office, but it was noted that completing that work would likely push the project over budget and would require board approval for an additional expenditure. No action was taken during this discussion, and the item was to be placed on the agenda for the next regular board meeting.

Finance:

Curtis Murphy, SCD

Curtis Murphy discussed general financial and informational updates. Information was shared regarding Traditional IRA contributions and depreciation bonus options. Questions were raised about upcoming deadlines and CD transfers, with follow-up to be provided at a later meeting.

The board also discussed the recent county payment of \$30,000 and how those funds should be allocated among existing accounts, including Little Whitestick and Cranberry Creek. No formal action was taken on reallocations at this time. Ongoing concerns were noted regarding stormwater issues and coordination with the Beckley Sanitary Board and the city of Beckley, including the need to follow up on prior concerns.

Education & Marketing:

Ron Testerman, SCD

A brief update was provided regarding FFA outreach efforts, with continued attempts to connect with the local high school. Upcoming training opportunities in other districts were mentioned.

Meeting Adjournment:


As no official business was conducted, no motion to adjourn was required. The meeting was concluded by the chair.

Dates To Remember:

SCD Regular Board Meeting: March 12, 2026, at 10:00 AM @ 463 Ragland Rd, WV, 25801.

Respectfully Submitted: Jesus Nandi Roman, West Virginia Conservation Agency,
Administrative Specialist.

Randall Patton, SCD Chairman

X  _____

Edgar Hendrick, SCD Secretary

X  _____

RP/EH/JNR