



Monongahela Conservation District
Board Meeting Agenda
September 3, 2015
Boothsville United Methodist Hall
Fairmont, WV
@ 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order and Reciting the Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome and Introductions

M **Approval of Meeting Draft Agenda**

M **Approval of August Meeting Minutes**

M **Approval of Financial Statements**

- Credit card receipts and statements
- General fund and CDO financial statements
- Co-Administered funds financial statements

Visitor's Comments

D/M **Cooperating Agency's Reports**

- Watershed Division

- Cobun Creek- Accept/Reject bids
- Upper Buffalo Watershed
- Upper Deckers Watershed- TVCD Invoices: \$6,115.00, #1885 \$2,880.65, #1947 \$1,787.50, #1948 \$762.50, #1950 \$1,942.50, and #1951 \$1,622.50 – Upper Deckers 5 vandalism and ATV issues
- SPRP- TVCD Invoice #1889 Fairview SPRP \$1,772.20
- EWP

- WVCA Conservation Specialist

- Ag Enhancement Program- committee permission to approve, pay, or cancel applications

- WVU Extension

- NRCS

- FSA

- Solid Waste Authority

- District Manager Update

- WVCA Area Director- AgEP Spot-check

M **Invoices**

-Mark Matheny Accountant August \$350.00

D/M **Cooperator Agreements**

Jason Grubb- Marion County- 56.8 acres

Leonard Smouse- Preston County- 65 acres

Jeff Harsh- Preston County- 95 acres

Thomas McKee- Preston County- 248 acres

Ronald Brand- Monongalia County- 202 acres

D/M **AgEP Approvals**
Chris Brown (Marion Co.)-HUAP, 2828 Sq. Ft. (Variance needed since it is over 2500 Sq. Ft.) Barn Lot
Estimated cost share \$3817.80

Phyllis & James Summers (Preston County)-Invasive Control, approximately 2 acres Estimated cost share \$250
(\$500 total chemical costs)

Teddy Jenkins (Preston County)-Livestock Water Development, 2 Troughs (source developed, variance needed)
Estimated cost share \$3000 (if 2 are approved)

Exclusion Fence, approximately 856 feet- Estimated cost share \$1412.40

Pasture Division Fence, approximately 615 feet- Estimated cost share \$1014.75

Leonard J. (LJ) Smouse (Preston County)-Livestock Water Development, Trough and pipe (source developed and has a tire for trough) - Estimated cost share \$1500.00

Jason Grubb (Marion County) -Invasive Control (Mechanical and chemical) on approximately 3 acres
Estimated Cost \$2,200.00 (\$2,000 mechanical, \$200.00 Chemicals)

Water Development (source developed) Trough and pipe needed- Estimated cost share \$1500

JR Wolfe (Preston County) -Water Development, pipe replacement, approximately 1000' (reason for replacement - existing size pipe is not adequate to deliver water to troughs) Estimated cost share \$1500

Wesley Hunt (Marion County) -Water Development, renovate existing spring, pipe and trough (would like 2 troughs but unless he divides the pasture only one justified at this time) - Estimated cost share \$1500

Charles Sutton (Monongalia County) -Lime, 35 acres, 70 tons -Estimated cost share \$1540.00

Ronald Brand (Monongalia County) -Lime, 64 acres, 128 tons -Estimated cost share \$2416.00

Thomas McKee (Preston County) -Lime, 84 acres, 252 tons -Estimated cost share \$5334.00

Tama Riley (Preston County) -Lime, 25 acres, 59.5 tons -Estimated cost share \$1285.25

Roger Henry (Monongalia County) -Lime, 26.56 acres, 67.085 tons -Estimated cost share \$1440.96

D/M **Approval of Supervisor Travel & Per Diem Claims for the month of July**

Jean Conley- \$824.05
Ed Utterback- \$651.19
Art Mouser- \$1,050.82
Don Headley- \$1,072.26

D/M **Unfinished Business**

Monongalia County Farm Preservation Committee
Preston County Farm Preservation Committee
Travel and Per Diem Policy



Monongahela Conservation District
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D/M **New Business-**

Annual Banquet- Guest List- Awards: Public Service Award, Outstanding Service to the District Award, Solid Waste Authority Award, Frank Glover Award, Luther Britton Award
Brickstreet Workers Compensation Policy

D/M **Building and Grounds**

Water Fountain
Security system repairs
Chairs in the Building
Certificate of Occupancy
Backflow Valve

D/M **Committee Reports:**

Finance- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad
Education- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad
Legislation/Policy: Chairman: Mark Myers
Grasslands- Chairman: Don Headley
Safety/Buildings and Grounds: Chairman: Ed Utterback
Ag Enhancement: Chairman: Art Mouser

Correspondence Reports & Various Newsletters

Public Comment

Supervisor's Reports

Meeting Adjournment

Monongahela Conservation District
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2015

I. Call to order

Chairman Jean Conley called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:30 a.m. on August 6, 2015**, at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV. **Paul Nesselroad** led in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Roll call

Chairman Jean Conley introduced those present and passed around a sign-in sheet. The following persons were present: Supervisors: Mary Lebnick, Jean Conley, Art Mouser, Mark Myers, Donald Headley, Jim McDonald, Paul Nesselroad, and Ed Utterback. Others present were: Amy Cosco (DM), Jeremy Salyer (WVCA), Bill Shockey (Extension), Brad Durst (WVCA), Jennifer Skaggs (WVCA), Ray Carr (NRCS), Emily Lessman (NRCS Intern), Hayward Helmick (Mon County SWA), and H.R. Scott (Extension). **Excused:**

III. Approval of the August 6, 2015 Agenda

Paul Nesselroad made a motion to approve the August 6, 2015 agenda. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Paul Nesselroad moved to approve the July 9, 2015 board meeting minutes. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

V. Approval of financial statements

a) *Mark Myers moved to approve and pay the credit card receipts. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.*

b) *General/CDO financial statements. Mark Myers moved to approve the July 2015 General/CDO financial statements. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*

c) *Co-admin funds statement for July 2015- Mark Myers made the motion to approve the Co-administered funds for July 2015. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.*

VI. Visitors Comments – Jennifer Skaggs- Jennifer explained that Brian Farkas has asked her to go around to the Districts and explain the updates and changes to the Agricultural Enhancement Program for Fiscal Year 2016. She explained that the State Conservation Committee is now required to approve the Agriculture Enhancement Program each year. The legislative rule states that an approval letter must be sent, a posting put on the District webpage, and a news release to the local/county paper stating the name and the practice of the individual approved. If a District Supervisor is approved it must be noted in the news release. There is now an appeals process. If someone does not receive funding they are able to appeal the decision. There is also statewide approved ranking criteria for each practice. If supervisors apply there is a separate process for approving the application. The supervisor would apply, the Conservation Specialist would let Jennifer know, and a different Conservation Specialist would be brought in to rank the supervisors application. Then Jeremy makes the approval or disapproval of the application. The ranking for applications is done by WV Conservation Agency staff or District staff. The supervisors themselves cannot participate in the ranking. If a supervisor applies for a practice it would be best for them to recuse themselves when approvals are made for

that practice. Jennifer was asked by the State Division of Forestry to ask the Districts if they would be interested in adding forestry best management practices to the Agriculture Enhancement Program. Paul Nesselroad felt that this would be a good addition to the Agriculture Enhancement Practices and that the State Division of Forestry should give the Districts information on the best management practices that would be good to add to the program.

VII. Cooperating Agencies

Watershed Division

Cobun Creek- accept/reject bids- Ed Martin explained that the low bid was \$109,000.00 the high bid was \$407,000.00. Ed has went through his estimate of \$72,000.00 and the only place he can see where he might have been low because he only allowed \$500.00 per tree for removal. His new estimate is \$88,000.00. His suggestion to the board is to reject the bids and do a rebid.

Mark Myers made the motion to reject all bids for the MCD 2015-07-15 SPRP Lower Cobun Creek Project. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

Don Headley moved to rebid the MCD 2015-07-15 SPRP Lower Cobun Creek Project. Seconded by Mark Myers. Ed Utterback, Don Headley, and Mark Myers voted yes. Paul Nesselroad voted no. Motion carried.

Little Laurel Run/Buffalo Creek- Invoice -\$42,600.00- Ed Martin discussed the project and stated that the job had been done well. He passed around pictures of the project.

Mark Myers made motion to approve the invoice of \$42,600.00 pending Ed Martin's verification. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.

Upper Buffalo Watershed- Ed said that the OM&R is underway and two dams have been completed. TVCD pulled out to go to Little Kanawha Conservation District to deal with a blockage. They will be back to finish up within the next two weeks.

Upper Deckers Watershed- Ed said that the OM&R has been completed. He did an inspection and found a couple other issues that will need to be addressed. There are some trees in the spillway, a couple smaller places that need to be mowed, and there are ATVs coming in on the left and riding on the right side of the dam. He hopes that cutting some logs and putting them on the trails they've created will deter them at least for a while. Jim Roy worked with DOH on getting a culvert replaced but the beavers have already started building in the new culvert. Ed wants to speak with the DNR and see what the options are for getting the beavers trapped and removed. Upper Deckers 2 is at normal pool. There are some more debris to remove. Ed stated that TVCD had previously given them a Not To Exceed Price of \$9,100.00 for work previously done but they did not invoice for the full amount. He would like to proceed with the work using the \$3,000.00 that was not utilized on the Not To Exceed Price.

Art Mouser made the motion to proceed with TVCD on the OM&R work that Ed has discussed up to the Not To Exceed price of \$3,000.00. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

Mannington Channel- Justin Tinchler went out yesterday and sprayed the test sites. He used Rodeo and Habitat. Ed hopes to provide even more of a report at the next meeting.

SPRP- there are a couple of sites that will be presented at the next meeting.

WVCA Conservation Specialist- report provided.

Ag Enhancement Program – Brad updated the forms for the new sign-ups. He tried to be sure that he had everything included in the applications. The forms are available. The committee decided that, April 1, 2016, will be the last day that anyone can sign-up for the program. The committee decided that, May 31, 2016, is the completion date. Cooperators must also have their receipts in to the District Office by, May 31, 2016, as well.

Kevin Britton- payment of fence charger \$150.00- Brad said that Mr. Britton did not show him that the charger was hooked up and functional. Brad is busy with new sign-ups and will make the visit when he can.

WVU Extension

-Bill Shockey- report provided

-H.R. Scott- report provided

-John Murray- no report

NRCS – Ray Carr reported that they finished writing their contracts. They had 6 Conservation Stewardship Program contracts. They've completed 4 high tunnels this year. Jim Allen has been busy doing design work. They had a 3 day training on the updates to ToolKit this week. They had 2 WRE contracts that they completed this week. Emily is very busy taking soil samples as well as doing her research for WVU. Right now they have 35 plans for Highly Erodible Soils. He'll be bringing those to the district supervisors for approval in the coming months. Statewide NRCS is going to start a new way of handling EQIP. They are looking to move toward Financial Investment Strategy. It's going back to coming up with priority areas and concentrating money in areas with resource concerns. He said they would have to have another local workgroup meeting. He doesn't know if it will be implemented in their FY16 year.

FSA- report provided

Solid Waste Authority

Monongalia County SWA- Hayward Helmick reported that they are finalizing the liquidation. They did move into an office in the old industrial park and the office is up and running. There isn't much going on right now. The general consensus is to go back, gather facts, and present them to the general public to get their opinion on what kind of program they would like to have. There is a lot to be learned and a lot of information that needs to be provided to the general public.

Marion County SWA- Jim McDonald reported that they had their regular meeting on the 27th of July. He met with Commissioner Hawkins from Monongalia County to discuss recycling sites. They got a call from Commissioner Bloom stating that he was very upset that Commissioner Hawkins took it upon himself to discuss setting up a recycling site. The Marion County SWA board all agreed that Marion County cannot handle all of Monongalia County's recycling on top of Marion County's recycling. Resolute wants to do a community event for office paper. They have purchase ordered 6 bins and want Marion County SWA to purchase bins to set up at the schools. The bins are very expensive. They'll have an e-recycling event on August 15th from 9-2. Litter Control Task Force will be meeting at their office tomorrow at 7:30. They had a litter clean-up 2 weeks ago. They received a litter control grant. They met with Appalachian Gathering would like to negotiate another lease when their lease is up in the next few months.

Preston County SWA- no report

District Manager Report- report provided.

Ed Utterback made the motion to provide lunches for the presenters at Hands-on Ag Days. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion Carried.

Mark Myers made the motion to purchase t-shirts for the Hands-on Ag Days event. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion Carried.

WVCA Area Director- report provided

VIII. Invoice/Payments

Mark Matheny for June \$195.00 – Mark Myers made the motion to pay Mark Matheny \$195.00 for services rendered during the month of July. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion Carried.

WVACD Annual Dues- \$4,000.00- Mark Myers made the motion to pay the WVACD Annual Dues of \$4,000.00. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

IX. AgEP Payments

Mike Morris- Division Fence and charger- 1,284 ft. - \$

Mike Morris- Invasive Species- \$

Mike Morris- Heavy Use Area- \$

Nicholas Morris-Exclusion Fence and charger- 842 ft. - \$

Nicholas Morris- Heavy Use Area- \$

Nicholas Morris- Watering Trough- \$

Ted Jenkins- Well development and Watering Trough- \$2,700.00

Roger Lewis- Division Fence- 1657 ft. - \$2,651.20

Leon Metheny- Lime- \$801.75

Chris Brown- Watering Trough- \$1,200.00

Brian Wilson- Watering Trough- \$1,200.0

Mark Myers made the motion to approve the above listed payments except Mike Morris and Nicholas Morris they are approved pending Brad's inspection. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

X. AgEP Cancellations

Carl Bachtel- Water Development

Chris Brown- Heavy Use Area

James Carr- Lime

Cherry Hill Farm- John Hart- Lime

Conrad Gall- Water Development

Robert Hennon- Lime

Roger Henry- Water Development

Roger Henry- Lime

Gordon Lawson- Lime

William Malone- Lime

Bruce Nichols- Lime

Wayne Reckart- Lime

Martin Schmidl- Lime

Benjamin Smith Jr- Lime

Timothy Sphar- Lime

William Statler- Lime

Patricia Taylor- Division Fence

Jeff Wiles- Lime

Brian Wilson- Division Fence

JR Wolfe- Heavy Use Area

Kevin Britton- Heavy Use Area

Mary Myers made the motion to cancel the above listed cooperators in the Agriculture Enhancement Program due to the fact that they did not complete their project by the May 31, 2015 deadline. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.

XI. Unfinished Business

Monongalia County Farm Preservation Committee- no report

Preston County Farm Preservation Committee- their next meeting is September 9, 2015. They have two pending applications.

Travel and Per Diem Policy and Procedure- some discussion was held on the new policy and procedure and those who were not at the committee meeting were updated.

XII. New Business

September meeting- Jean Conley asked Don Headley and Jim McDonald if they had any places in mind to hold the Marion County board meeting. They did not. Jean said that her church hall the Boothsville United Methodist Church would be available for the meeting.

Appoint Committees, Committee Chairs, and Vice Chairs- Jean said that after consideration of the requests from the board members the Committees, Committee Chairs, and Vice Chairs remain the same.

Nomination for WVACD Lifetime Honorary Member- past or present supervisor-it was explained that the district can only submit one nomination. Don Headley withdrew his name from the nomination because he is on the history committee. The nomination from the District will be Paul Nesselroad.

Annual Banquet- The banquet date is October 22, 2015 at the Winfield Community Building. The board would like the baked steak option for the banquet. Eating time was set at 6:00 p.m. and the presentation of awards will start at 7:00 p.m.

LOR- OM&R State match- \$5,000.00- Mark Myers made the motion to send the LOR for \$5,000.00 OM&R State match. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion Carried.

XIII. Building and Grounds

Water Fountain- Ed Utterback explained that Southern Air Quoted \$1,464.00 to completely repair the water fountain and \$483.02 to repair the existing water fountain. Mark Myers called Koval and got a price of \$428.00 for a new fountain.

Don Headley made the motion to unplug the water fountain and turn off the water for a month. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.

Landscaping Quote- \$1,000.00- Don Headley said that he is upset that he was not made aware that another member of the board had someone come to give a quote on doing the landscaping. **Paul Nesselroad made the motion to accept the bid from Scott Cobb. Seconded by Mark Myers. Don Headley questioned the motion. Don Headley voted no. Motion carried.**

Southern Air- AC Emergency- Quote \$3,451.53- Ed Utterback described the problem. A section of building does not have AC. He met with the Southern Air technician on July 30, 2015. He explained the unit that isn't working is 14 years old. Don Headley would like to completely replace the unit.

Mark Myers made the motion to give Ed Utterback and Jean Conley the authority to obtain a quote for a new unit and to move forward with the installation with a cap of \$7,000.00. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

XIV. Committee Reports:

Finance- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- no report

Education- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- no report

Legislation/Policy- Chairman: Mark Myers- they had a meeting on July 29, 2015 to discuss the Travel and Per Diem Policy and Procedure.

Grasslands- Chairman: Don Headley- attended the meeting in Weston in July.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds- Chairman: Ed Utterback- everything has already been discussed

Ag Enhancement- Chairman: Art Mouser- next meeting is set for August 26, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

Xv. Correspondence- Pierce Lake Invoices- Brad discussed under his report

XVI. Public Comment- none

XVII. Supervisor Reports

- **Paul Nesselroad** – is very grateful to all who came to the dinner for his induction into the Agriculture and Forestry Hall of Fame. He got to see a lot of people at the induction that he hadn't seen for quite some time. He would like to thank everyone for the support he's received. He is very humbled by everyone's kindness. His daughter, a few of his granddaughters, and a few of his great granddaughters came to visit him. They're leaving today.
- **Mark Myers**– went to the Monongalia County Fair and spend a good bit of time with the FFA.
- **Ed Utterback** – attended the conference in Cannan this week. He very much enjoyed himself and learned a lot. He got to finish his first cutting of hay and started a little bit of a second cutting yesterday. They are going to have their first family reunion. There are about 80 people who plan to attend and will be coming to WV from all over the country.
- **Art Mouser** – attended the conference in Cannan this week. He has grandchildren interested in agriculture and antique tractors. They are going to take cattle to the State Fair, the Barbour County Fair, and the Buckwheat Festival. Their garden is about done. Anna has been busy canning. They have someone timbering on the farm.
- **Jim McDonald**–the weather cleared up and he was able to get a cutting of hay. He's happy to see the rain today because things dried up really fast after all the rain we'd had.
- **Jean Conley** – attended the conference in Cannan. She very much liked the farm to table dinner that was prepared with the Tucker County High School FFA. She has a quilt on exhibit at the Mannington Fair. The fellow that works for her had been brush hogging a hillside, he pulled up onto a flat, and the front wheel of the tractor fell off. She's been trying to get a new wheel and plate made.
- **Mary Lebnick** – it was an honor to be at Paul's induction dinner for the Agriculture and Forestry Hall of fame. Her garden is doing much better.
- **Don Headley** –no report

VIII. Adjournment


Paul Nesselroad moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:17 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is September 3, 2015 at the Boothsville United Methodist Church Hall in Fairmont, WV.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

Minutes approved by:


Jean Conley, Chairman


Date

Legislation and Policy Committee Meeting

July 29, 2015

9:30 a.m.

Those in attendance: Jean Conley, Mark Myers, Art Mouser, Don Headley, Jeremy Salyer, Amy Cosco

Jeremy explained how some other districts changed the Travel and Per Diem Policy and Procedures to fit their needs.

Jean Conley said that she feels that if a supervisor feels the need to attend a quarterly meeting that they should be able to go and get reimbursed.

Jeremy explained that the GSA rates were approved through SCC and mileage is 57.5 cents per mile. He also said that the district could stay with the same forms or use new forms.

Mark Myers likes the forms that TVCD shared.

Jeremy explained that Greenbrier Valley set a cap and decided to do a quarterly payment to their members.

The total amount for supervisors for the year is \$34,233.00

Art agrees with Don and feels that they should keep all the same rates for this first year.

Art would like to stay at the old rates.

\$6 for breakfast, \$9 for lunch, and \$15 for dinner

Mileage is 51 cents

Mark feels that the out of state travel should be pre-approved and he would like to adopt and adapt TVCD forms.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Monongahela Conservation District AgEP Committee Minutes

Agenda

July 30, 2015

9:00 am

Those in attendance: Jean Conley, Ed Utterback, Paul Nesselroad, Art Mouser, Mark Myers, Brad Durst, Amy Cosco

Brad began by explaining the new forms and the changes that he made. He offered to go over each individual form if needed. All of the forms have the information that the District requested.

Dates for continuous signups and completion of practices were discussed. A completion date of May 31, 2016 was set and receipts are to be turned into the office as of May 31, 2016. The District is going to do a continuous signup until April 1, 2016.

Brad explained the process for signing up. He would really like for a district supervisor to attend AgEP visits with him. There would be three visits. First visit is to determine if there is a resource concern, do any field work needed to develop the plan, and at the AgEP Committee meeting the ranking will be done. Brad goes back and develops the plan. There may be another visit to the farm or the cooperator will come into the office to get their plan and sign their landowner agreement form and their W9 form. Then there is a final visit for inspection of the completed project. Every cooperator will need an AgEP Application Eligibility Form filled out in their file.

Cooperator forms were discussed and some questions were raised. There was discussion of asking for deeds at the time they sign up for a cooperator. At this time the deed will not be requested when a person fills out a cooperator form but the supervisors will be thinking on the subject. Amy has organized the more recent cooperators and has put them into excel sheets by county. At the next board meeting the sheets will be handed out to the supervisors for their review of any changes.

Brad went over the ranking form and it was discussed. No changes were made at this time but the District may make changes at a later date.

Payment Considerations: The committee will recommend to the full board to approve these listed payments.

Mike Morris- Division Fence and charger- 1,284 ft- \$2,193.90
Mike Morris- Invasive Species-
Mike Morris- Heavy Use Area-
Nicholas Morris-Exclusion Fence and charger- 842 ft- \$1,486.70
Nicholas Morris- Heavy Use Area- \$
Nicholas Morris- Watering Trough- \$
Ted Jenkins- Well development and trough- \$2,700.00
Leon Metheny- Lime- \$801.75
Brian Wilson- Watering Trough- \$1,200.00
Clayton Dalton- Division Fence- 705 ft- \$1,128.00
Chris Brown- Watering Trough- \$1,200.00
Roger Lewis- Division Fence-1657 ft- \$2,651.20
Kevin Britton- Fence Charger- \$150.00

The committee has no revision proposals at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

July 2015 Report

Bradley Durst, Conservation Specialist, WV Conservation Agency

Conservation Assistance

- Preside dress Nitrogen sampling/testing for Greg Gibson – extremely low residual nitrogen this year due to wet weather.
- Spring development assistance to an NRCS customer
- Assisted a contractor with problems on 3 building sites in regard to erosion controls and seeding difficult sites; took soil samples to provide better recommendations on soil amendments.
- Recommendations for invasive control to one farmer

Ag Enhancement

- Participated in a field training for pasture evaluations with the program
- Completion visits for payments –Brian Wilson, water development; Gary Walls. Fence and water development; Roger Lewis, fencing.
- Composed application forms for program practice enrollment following a template provided by the program manager.
- Discussed the 2015-2016 program to several farmers, took contact information for future notification.
- Ag Enhancement Committee meeting was held to review the application forms and be briefed on the ranking process. Decision when to end sign-ups, April 1, 2016; all practices completed and invoices turned in by May 31, 2016.
- Began informing prospective participants of program opening and offerings
- Took 2 applications for the 2016 program

Another requirement of the program operation starting this year is the approved participant and the practice they were approved for must be posted on the MCD web site and local newspaper within 15 days of the approval.

Camp Dawson

Bilco Construction has returned and performed grading, top soiling and seeding at the entrance that had been improperly restored. Currently waiting for WVANG approval of the work so that payment can be made and the Riverbank Stabilization Project can be considered complete.

Stantec has a draft plan for the security fence repair and will be reviewed for consideration toward the contract and the bidding process.

Monongahela Conservation District

August 6, 2015

Upcoming events

- ❖ Every Saturday Morgantown Farmers Market, Spruce Street, 8:30am - 12:00pm
- ❖ Every Tuesday Westover Farmers Market, Shop N Save, 3:00 – 6:00pm
- ❖ WV State Dairy Show, Jackson's Mill – August 15- 18
- ❖ State Fair of WV, Lewisburg – August 14 – 22
- ❖ Monongalia County 4-H and FFA Show/Sale, Wadestown – August 27-29
- ❖ Monongalia County Farm Bureau Picnic at WVU Animal Science Farm, September 6 at 1:00 pm, Cover Dish

During July the Monongalia County Younger 4-H Camp was held with over 100 youth in attendance and they had a great time. The Battelle District Fair and the Monongalia County Fairs both were held with good attendance. The youth exhibited their projects for the 2014-2015 year. Monongalia County Fair held their first livestock sale and it was successful. Several of the local youth will be going to the State Fair of WV with their projects in August and we wish them well in their exhibitions.



West Virginia University

Extension Service

August 6, 2015

Subject: Preston County Report to Monongahela Conservation District

From: Bill Shockey, Preston County Extension Agent

Bill

July Report:

Attended the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in Sioux Falls SD, July 11-16. Excellent professional development programs.

Preston County Younger 4-H Camp was held from July 12-17. Over 100 youth attended.

Preston County Antique Tractor and Machinery Association held their 11th Annual Show at the WVU Reedsville Arena on July 25-26. Both attendance and participation was light.

August Calendar:

Every Friday at 2 pm: Livestock Auction at Preston Farmers Market, Terra Alta.

August 6: Preston County Livestock Association, Cow Palace, Kingwood, 8 pm.

August 13: Preston County Antique Tractor Association, Preston County Extension Office, 7 pm.

August 14-23: State Fair of WV, Fairlea

August 20: Preston County Beekeepers Association, Preston County Extension Office, 7 pm.

August 29-30: WV Fiber Festival, Mylan Park, Hazel and J.W. Ruby Community Center, 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday

September 1: Preston County Master Gardeners, Preston County Extension Office, 7 pm.

*Cooperative
Extension Service*

The West Virginia
University Cooperative
Extension Service,
U. S. Department
of Agriculture,
West Virginia County
Boards of Education and
County Commissions
Cooperating

Preston County Extension Office

Phone: 304 329-1391
Fax: 304 329-1395
www.wvu.edu/~exten/

115 West Court Street
Kingwood WV 26537-1192

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

NRCS-PAM YOST

Amy, I'll be in Fayette County tomorrow so I won't be able to attend the Mon District Meeting, but I wanted to give you an update to share with the Board.

- Design work is continuing on Upper Deckers Creek Site 1 and a preliminary design and cost estimate for construction is due on August 21.
- The Watershed Plan was revised to reflect the change in the spillway and to include the mitigation requirements. This Environmental Assessment (EA) was sent to the NRCS-National Water Management Center in Arkansas for review in July. Once they review it, it will be sent to the Sponsors & other interested parties. It was necessary to go back and re-do the EA because of the change in the spillway.
- The permit application is being prepared by WVCA.
- NRCS and WVCA met with Preston County PSD1 on June 21 to review the costs they will incur to add water supply and mitigate for the impacts of raising the pool 10 feet. Preston County Commissioners and the PSD discussed the need to go forward based on the PSD's share being estimated at \$3 million dollars. This cost is still based on the 'worst case scenario' of \$2.5 million in mitigation fees for the permit.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Farm and
Foreign
Agricultural
Service

Farm Service
Agency

Valley View FSA
Office
47 Mt. Park Dr.
White Hall, WV
26554
304-363-8861

DATE: August 3, 2015

TO: Amy Cosco

FROM: Mary F. Jouver, /s/ Mary F. Jouver
County Executive Director, FSA

SUBJECT: Items of Interest for MCD August Meeting

Enrollment for 2016 Dairy Margin Protection Program Started July 1

FSA today announced that as of July 1, 2015, dairy farmers can enroll in Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016. The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating dairy operations when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

The Margin Protection Program gives participating dairy producers the flexibility to select coverage levels best suited for their operation. Enrollment begins July 1 and ends on Sept. 30, 2015, for coverage in 2016. Participating farmers will remain in the program through 2018 and pay a \$100 administrative fee each year. Producers also have the option of selecting a different coverage level during open enrollment each year. Margin Protection Program payments are based on an operation's historical production. An operation's historical production will increase by 2.61 percent in 2016 if the operation participated in 2015, providing a stronger safety net.

USDA also has an online resource available to help dairy producers decide which level of coverage will provide them with the strongest safety net under a variety of conditions. The enhanced Web tool, available at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool, allows dairy farmers to quickly and easily combine their unique operation data and other key variables to calculate their coverage needs based on price projections. Producers can also review historical data or estimate future coverage based on data projections. The secure site can be accessed via computer, mobile phone, or tablet, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Dairy operations enrolling in the program must meet conservation compliance provisions. Producers participating in the Livestock Gross Margin insurance program may register for the Margin Protection Program, but this new margin program will only begin once their livestock dairy insurance coverage has ended. Producers must also submit form CCC-782 for 2016, confirming their Margin Protection Program coverage level selection, to the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. If electing higher coverage for 2016, dairy producers can either pay the premium in full at the time of enrollment or pay a minimum of 25 percent of the premium by Feb. 1, 2016.



For more information, visit FSA online at www.fsa.usda.gov/dairy for more information, or stop by a local FSA office to learn more about the Margin Protection Program. To find a local FSA office in your area, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

USDA Opens Enrollment Period for Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Safety-Net Programs

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that eligible producers may now formally enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for 2014 and 2015. The enrollment period began June 17, 2015, and will end Sept. 30, 2015.

The new programs, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, trigger financial protections for agricultural producers when market forces cause substantial drops in crop prices or revenues. More than 1.76 million farmers have elected ARC or PLC. Previously, 1.7 million producers had enrolled to receive direct payments (the program replaced with ARC and PLC by the 2014 Farm Bill). This means more farms have elected ARC or PLC than previously enrolled under previously administered programs.

Nationwide, 96 percent of soybean farms, 91 percent of corn farms, and 66 percent of wheat farms elected ARC. 99 percent of long grain rice farms, 99 percent of peanut farms, and 94 percent of medium grain rice farms elected PLC. For data about other crops and state-by-state program election results go to www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

Covered commodities under ARC and PLC include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity.

For more information please contact your local FSA office <https://offices.usda.gov>.



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District Manager Report 9-3-15

- I received a call from the NRCS in Fairmont. They had to do a survey about our building. This was the first time that they've had to do something like this. Jamey asked me about the security system, the locks on the doors in the building, about sprinklers, fire alarms-extinguishers-smoke detectors, ect. The NRCS has already told the District to hold off on the server room, which I was also questioned about, because that there will be other things that will need updated and/or repaired before the contract is signed next year. One of the things that we discussed is the locks for the doors in the building. The questions was, had the locks on the doors to the offices been changed in the last 10 years? The only lock I'm aware of being changed is the door to the watershed office. The reason behind asking this is because people and agencies have come and left the building and it would be a good idea to change them all and issue new keys. This also applies to the fobs for the security system. Those fobs have been used since the system was purchased. It would be a good idea to deactivate all on the list, order new, and reissue fobs. I'm trying to keep the District updated the best of my ability so that there aren't a number of things that need done within a short time frame next year before NRCS will sign the contract. Changing the locks and fobs is something that could be done now, just as a maintenance item.
- Hands-on Ag Days is coming up next week. I urge those who haven't participated before to join us!! We will see an estimated five hundred and eighty 8th grade students over the course of three days.
- I have included an order form in your binders. The company we ordered pens from last year sent us another promotional item. It is a knife that is similar to a Swiss Army knife. I thought I would let the board review it to see if it were something you would be interested in purchasing as a promotional item this year.

August 2015 WVCA Report

West Virginia WVACD State Fair Booth sign up– The sign-up sheet to work the WVACD booth is available on the WVCA webpage. It is suggested the District Supervisors contact their District Manager to sign-up for the time period(s) they wish to work. The WV State Fair will be held August 14-23, 2015.

Watershed Section

OM&R

- * The WVCA Project Section is continuing monthly inspections of flood control dams. O&M work has started in all areas.
- * Work continues with NRCS to develop engineering plans for watershed dams.
- * The Project Section is working with WVU Extension on Cranberry Creek and Mannington Channel so far this year on spraying plans. Some of this work will be research based. Channels will be broken into smaller test sections and results will be used to develop spraying plans statewide.
- * Gene and Penny are working with WVDNR to determine which dams we can streamline efforts on.
- * There have been changes in some of the responsibilities for Emergency Action Plans. Some of the plans are now being worked on by Kim, Karen and Sharon. Penny has contacted Dam Safety to locate older submissions. Once these have been received and approved, they will be sent to the Districts.

EWP Update

- * March and April Flooding – The Project Section continues work with FEMA on blockage removal sites and NRCS on bank stabilization sites.
- * July Flooding – The Project Section has been working on EWP work in Braxton County.

Melanie Boothe has been hired as a Project Manager to work on the WVCA Rehab program.

Don Phillips retired from the Agency. We have a current Vacancy Announcement to fill his position.

Karen Stickley has been given a new task with the section. Karen will be responsible for meeting OES directors and conducting tabletop exercises for the EAP's. She will also be working on completing yearend summaries for local sponsors and districts in the fall to show how local dollars are utilized. Karen will also be conducting public informational meetings to educate the public on the importance of flood control dams.

Ed Martin will be the new Watershed Manager for the PVCD, EPCD and TVCD.

OM&R MOU

Final copy has been provided for signature. Please place on your agenda for approval if you haven't already submitted it.

AgEP Funding

These are based on allocation formula option #1 as selected by the districts and the \$880,000 budget. This information has been submitted to Guthrie to start the LOR process.

In FY 15 the CDs paid out \$1,695,447.54 through AgEP. Jennifer will be working on the FY 15 report and will send to the CDs for distribution. Jennifer is also working on a booklet that will highlight program changes.

FY 16 Allocations

CCD	\$12,000.00
ECD	\$50,000.00
EPCD	\$120,000.00
GCD	\$28,000.00
GVCD	\$93,000.00
LKCD	\$64,000.00
MCD	\$28,000.00
NPCD	\$63,000.00
PVCD	\$68,000.00
SCD	\$98,000.00
TVCD	\$65,000.00
UOCD	\$27,000.00
WCD	\$87,000.00
WFCD	\$77,000.00
Total	\$880,000.00

Conservation District Farm Contest

Area I winner is Morning Mist Farm, Kenneth and Norma Smith, Monroe County, GVCD

Area II winner is Jeff Allen Family, Marshall County, NPCD

Area III winner is the Chimney Hill Farm, Tom and Andy Stump, Hampshire County, PVCD

State Tour dates are August 25, 26 and 27th.

Agreed Procedures Engagement (Audit)

Please verify your engagement is current. If it needs to be extended or rebid, please begin the process.

Conservation District Plan of Work

District Plan of Work was due by June 15th. Please submit your Plan of Work if you have not done so.

Items to be thinking about and placed on your agendas in the coming month:

Carroll Greene Nomination – form is due to Belinda Withrow by September 12th

WVACD Honorary Member At Large – form due to Joe Gumm by September 1st

WVACD Lifetime Honorary Member – form due to Joe Gumm by September 1st

WVSCC Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2015, at 10:30 a.m. in Guthrie.

WVACD Quarterly Meeting

The WVACD Quarterly meeting will be held October 26 & 27 at Flatwoods.

NE NACD Meeting

To be held August 2-4 at Canaan Valley Resort. Registration information can be found at www.nacdne.us. There is a link to this site on the WVCA homepage as well. To make room reservations please call 800-622-4121, or visit www.canaanresort.com and mention NACD NE Meeting when reserving your room.