

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *September 9, 2015* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the district conference room in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Wolfe.

Supervisors Present: Robert Wolfe, Joe Gumm, Rex Reeder, Sheldon Findley, Joe Shaffer, Jim Nester, John Sencindiver, David Bonner, and Sigrid Teets – TVCD/WesMonTy RC&D.

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Corey Lambert – TVCD, Jeremy Salyer- WVCA, and Ben Collier- NRCS.

Reeder led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

September 9, 2015 Board Meeting Agenda & August 31, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes: **Shaffer moved to approve the agenda and minutes as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

July 27, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes Correction: **Nester moved to approve the revision to the meeting minutes; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: None present

Treasurer Report: Frey reported that the district had roughly \$20,000.00 remaining in the general checking account, and noted that it was a payroll week. Because of this, she advised that the district may need to take out a loan since there was still roughly \$54,000.00 out in aging A/R invoices. Salyer added that a payment from MCD should be coming soon. Frey went on to say that the Becky Walton job had been completed by another company and asked that the supervisors advise her on how to proceed with billing. Frey was still working with Lambert to bill out the Winspear job. Lastly, Frey read correspondence from Suttle & Stalnaker that thanked her and Woofter for their preparation and assistance in the FY15 audit.

District Report: Lambert reported that earlier in the week, the floor drains in the bathroom were backed up. The new laborers had been mowing and trimming around the building. The crew finished Wright's pond, and sealed concrete out on a Salem Creek dam. A few WFCD dams might need additional mowing before the season is over. The crew was preparing to start work on Kennedy's brush haul, and the Mackaboy job in Upshur County. Holley on the work crew was looking into getting his CDLs. As for equipment, Lambert said that a wheel on the tractor broke while working at Upper Buffalo, and there had also been a small fire due to grass getting in the PTO shaft.

District Manager Report: Woofter reported that she had generated all FY16 AgEP contracts and denial letters and disbursed them the week prior. She had prepared a final list of all approved contracts and passed it around for the supervisors to initial. As required by legislature, the approval list was sent to the local newspapers for publishing, and was also posted to the district website. Lastly, Woofter shared that the letter to the WV DNR had been drafted, and with Wolfe's and Sencindiver's approval today, it would be mailed later that week.

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

I. Friday September 11th – WV Envirothon Committee Meeting

- II. Tuesday September 15th - WesMonTy RC&D Meeting 10 AM (TVCD Office)**
III. Monday September 28th – TVCD Regular Board Meeting 9 AM

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: *Salyer* reviewed his written report (copy attached) and added that per recent inquiry, the rumored funding being given to County Commissioners for stream blockage removal is still in the early planning stages. The funding would allow the county office to do their own projects and would not replace SPRP. Gumm voiced concerns over the changes ultimately replacing SPRP and the district's involvement. Wolfe voiced concern about the supervisor's authority being removed from programs, such as AgEP. *Discussed at length.*

WVU Extension: *None present.* Frey said that per a discussion with Peplowski earlier that morning, the Barbour County Fair went very well, and thanked TVCD for participating. The recent livestock sale went well, and added he would be working at the Randolph County Fair to help judge displays.

NRCS: *Collier* reported that the Farm Bill allocations are complete and the office is busy catching up on contract management. Open NRCS positions are working on being filled. Lastly, Cecil Springer's retirement party was being planned for October 4th.

FSA: None

WesMonTy RC&D: *Teets* reported she was writing a newsletter article for the quarterly publishing of the Potomac Valley Weed Management Area on the aerial herbicide treatment done in Barbour County. The cost for an embroidered logo RC&D t-shirt is \$21.00 each and anyone who was interested in purchasing one was to inform her. Lastly, she was still working on delivering seeds to program participants, and drafting project guidelines for grant projects with Sencindiver.

WVDOF: None

Others: None

Correspondence Received: Request from Barbour Co. Reading Council; Request from Barbour Co. Early Childhood Committee

Old Business:

Farmland Preservation- *No update*

Approval of funds for SPRP/OM&R- *No update*

Ongoing Myles Lumber Case- *No update*

Ongoing investigation with Mr. Powers Deputy Director - Commission on Special Investigations- *No update*

Forestry Field Day- Woofter summarized event planning up to that point. A sign-up sheet was passed around the room for anyone who was interested in attending.

Shavers Fork Train Excursion- Findley reported that he had confirmed that 20 people would be allowed to ride the train for free on October 8th. *It was discussed at length who would be invited to attend.*

Chris Winslow Wetlands Designation Appeal- *No update*

WVSTA Conference- Frey asked that since she and Woofter would be attending the conference in Flatwoods for 2 days, if the board would pay for an overnight hotel room.

Gumm moved to approve one night's shared travel accommodation for Frey and Woofter; seconded by Nester; motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: Wolfe reported that the sewer main had broken up the road from the office a few days prior and had caused a minor drainage issue with the district building's line.

Equipment/Safety Committee: No report.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: Sencindiver reported that at the recent committee meeting, the possibility of hosting a spring field day with the WV DoF was discussed. Frey spoke to Bennett about possibly hosting the event at his family farm, and to coordinate presentations with the NRCS and WVU Ext.

Legislative Committee: No report/update.

Grassland/AEP Committee: The next WV Grazing Steering committee meeting is planned for October 9th at 10:00 AM in Weston.

Conservation Agreements: None

AgEP Applications: None

AgEP Cancelations: None

AgEP Payments: None

Water Resource Committee: Shaffer had not heard any updates on the Barbour County Dam. A new water line extension for Chestnut Ridge was installed by the Preston County line along Route 92. *Local drought conditions, PSD project funding, and the impacts of drilling on water supplies were discussed at length.*

WVACD Directors Report: No report. Woofter commented she sent notification to Jim Moore that Teets would be a proxy for Sencindiver at the October meeting.

Personnel Committee: No report. Meeting scheduled for 9/22/2015 at 10:00 AM.

New Business:

1. **Seeding and mulching requirement for all district work-** Wolfe reviewed the concerns previously raised about not requiring cooperators to seed and mulch before a job was to be marked completed by the district work crew. *Discussed at length. No action taken.*

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Sencindiver- Attended the Barbour County Fair Education Day.

Nester- The Tucker County Chapter of the WV Farm Bureau would be holding their annual banquet on September 12th. Attended the Barbour County Fair Education Day.

Bonner- Had talked to several local farmers about drought conditions in the area, and their having to haul water for livestock.

Teets- Attended the Barbour County Fair Education Day.

Reeder- Expressed interest in getting youth more involved in agricultural events and education.

Gumm – Requested that the supervisors attempt to get legislators more involved with the district, in addition to expanding the partnership with the WVDof. Would like to have a presentation be given on timber harvesting and management.

Wolfe- Visited Wright's Farm the week prior. Expressed concerns over local drought conditions.

Public Comment Period: None

There being no further business to attend to, Chairman Wolfe declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Secretary

Minutes recorded and prepared by Hillary Woofter – WVCA District Manager/ASA 3.

September 9, 2015 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions

- 1. Shaffer moved to approve the agenda and minutes as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 2. Nester moved to approve the revision to the meeting minutes; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 3. Gumm moved to approve one night's shared travel accommodation for Frey and Woofter; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**