

November 5 2015

Name, Title, Agency

Name	Title
Jean Coxley	Supervisor Marion
Mary Fernick	MCD associate Supervisor
Don Headley	MCD SUPERVISOR
Jim McDonald	MCD associate Supervisor
Dick Mouser	Supervisor Preston
Bill Shockley	WRU Extension Service
Bruce Dunt	WUCA
Paul Nessbrook	Mon. Co. Supervisor
Mark Myers	Mon. Co Supervisor
Amy Cosco	District Manager

Monongahela Conservation District
Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2015

I. Call to order

Chairman Jean Conley called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at 9:31 a.m. on **November 5, 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: Art Mouser, Mary Lebnick, Jean Conley, Mark Myers, Donald Headley, Jim McDonald, and Paul Nesselroad. Others present were: Amy Cosco (DM), Ray Carr (NRCS) **Excused**: Ed Utterback

III. Approval of the November 5, 2015 Agenda

Mark Myers made a motion to approve the November 5, 2015 agenda. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Paul Nesselroad moved to approve the October 1, 2015 board meeting minutes as amended. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

V. Approval of financial statements

- a) *Credit Card Receipts and Statements-Mark Myers moved to approve and pay the credit card receipts. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*
- b) *General/CDO financial statements for September 2015 and October 2015. Mark Myers moved to approve the September 2015 and October 2015 General/CDO financial statements. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*
- c) *Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements- Mark Myers made the motion to approve the co-administered funds financial statements for September 2015 and October 2015. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*

VI. Visitors Comments – none

VII. Cooperating Agencies

Watershed Division-

Cobun Creek- the Cobun Creek Tree Removal Project will be finished today. A few changes needed to be made to the plan due to utility lines. Ed is seeking permission from the board to move forward with contracting for the next phase of the Cobun Creek Project.

Don Headley made the motion to allow Ed Martin to move forward with contracting for the next phase of the Cobun Creek Project. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

Upper Buffalo Watershed- no report

Upper Deckers Watershed – Ed would like to get approval to work with TVCD crew for pricing on some channel work to bring back to the board at the December meeting.

Don Headley made the motion to allow Ed to move forward and talk with the TVCD crew to get pricing on channel work for Upper Deckers. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

CTL Invoice \$9,106.50- **Art Mouser made the motion to pay the CTL Invoice for \$9,106.50. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.**

WVCA Conservation Specialist- Brad reported that if the board has any suggestions on how the West Virginia University Soil Lab could improve on their services please fill out their survey and send it back.

Ag Enhancement Program – minutes from the October 29, 2015 meeting were provided.

WVU Extension

-**Bill Shockey-** report provided

-**H.R. Scott-** no report

-**John Murray-** report provided

NRCS – Ray reported that they have two animal waste areas under way, one in Marion County and one in Preston County. They are in the process of making payments for the Conservation Stewardship Program.

FSA- report provided

Solid Waste Authority

Monongalia County SWA- no report

Marion County SWA- Jim McDonald reported they had their meeting October 28th. He attended a conference in Charleston. They might be getting 6 more bales of cardboard per week from Republic Services.

Preston County SWA- no report

District Manager Report- Amy reported that 62 people attended the banquet this year. Bill King of King Equipment called right before the board meeting with an update on the 2 ton and the 4 ton. The 2 ton is repaired but the 4 ton will take a little more time to fix.

WVCA Area Director- report provided.

VIII. Invoice/Payments

Mark Matheny for August \$350.00 – Mark Myers made the motion to pay Mark Matheny \$350.00 for services rendered during the month of October. Seconded by Pau Nesselroad. Motion Carried.

-Lance Murray Invoice for repairs to the post driver \$645.00

Paul Nesselroad made the motion to approve Lance Murray's Invoice for repairs to the post driver \$645.00. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

-Lance Murray Invoice for repairs to the 4 ton lime spreader \$268.50

Paul Nesselroad made the motion to approve Lance Murray's Invoice for repairs to the 4 ton lime spreader \$268.50. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

-TVCD Upper Deckers #2- Invoice #2051- \$425.00

Mark Myers made the motion to pay the TVCD Invoice 2051 for \$425.00 pending verification from Ed Martin. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #4- Invoice #2054- \$2,562.50

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #16-Invoice #2056- \$2,200.00

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #22- Invoice #2057- \$3,400.00

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #33a- Invoice #2058- \$1,940.00

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #37a- Invoice #2059- \$2,745.00

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #39- Invoice #2060- \$1,997.50

-TVCD Upper Buffalo #2- Invoice #2062- \$2,362.50

Paul Nesselroad made the motion to approve Invoices 2054, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2062 for a total amount of \$17,207.00 pending verification from Ed Martin. Seconded by Don Headley. Motion carried.

IX. Cooperator Agreements-

Wesley Hunt Marion 62 acres

Robert Shaffer Preston 63 acres

Ralph Lewis Preston 201 acres

Robert Lough Monongalia 76 acres

Steve Milkovich Preston 108 acres

Todd Blosser Monongalia 84 acres

George Miller Marion 77 acres

Allen Wolfe Preston 110 acres

Paul Nesselroad made the motion to approve Wesley Hunt, Ralph Lewis, Steve Milkovich, George Miller, Robert Shaffer, Robert Lough, Todd Blosser, and Allen Wolfe as cooperators. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

X. AgEP Approvals

Ed Utterback -Lime- 50.96 ac- 137.84 tons- \$2,942.68 Robert Lough- Lime- 43.5 ac- 124.5 tons- \$2,645.25
Phyllis Summers -Lime- 46 ac- 108 tons- \$2,336.00 Allen Wolfe- Lime- 68.9 ac- 173.36 tons- \$3,725.02
Jeff Harsh- Lime- 36 ac- 108 tons- \$2,286.00 George Miller- Lime- 28 ac- 56 tons- \$1,232.00
Teddy Jenkins- Lime- 14.1 ac- 41.04 tons- \$870.78 George Miller- Exclusion Fence- 865 ft- \$1,427.25
Gary Walls- Lime- 27 ac- 59.5 tons- \$1,295.25 George Miller- Division Fence- 824 ft- \$1,359.60
Ben Smith Jr. - Lime- 14.6 ac- 124.5 tons- \$642.40 George Miller- Spring and Trough- 1- \$1,500.00
Robert D. Hennon- Lime- 4.85 ac- 9.7 tons- \$213.40 Robert Shaffer- Lime- 19.5 ac- 54.6 tons- \$1,162.20
Steve Milkovich- Lime- 41 ac- 118.45 tons- \$2,514.78
John Fint- Lime- 104.5 ac- 175.08 tons- \$3,936.56- calculations were done incorrectly- \$2,876.45

Mark Myers made the motion to amend John Fint's approval and contract amount from \$3,936.56 to \$2,876.48 due to incorrect calculations. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

Mark Myers made the motion to approve the AgEP committee report for approvals. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

The board members were made aware of the process that Ed Utterback went through for his lime approval and were provided the approval letter from Jeremy Salyer.

XI. AgEP Payments

William Malone- Lime- 28 ac- 68 tons- \$904.75
Ron Brand- Lime- 64 ac- 128 tons- \$1,339.20
James Cummins- Lime- 9.5 ac- 28.5 tons- \$367.06

Mark Myers made the motion to approve the AgEP committee report for payments. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

XII. Approval of Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Claims for the month of September 2015

Don Headley \$549.04 Art Mouser \$289.11
Jean Conley \$826.81 Ed Utterback \$521.16

Mark Myers made the motion to approve the District Supervisor Travel and Per Diem claims for the month of September 2015. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

XIII. Unfinished Business

Monongalia County Farm Preservation Committee- no report

Preston County Farm Preservation Committee- Art Mouser reported there was an article in the paper.

XIV. New Business

RFQ Letters for Auditing Firm- Mark Myers made the motion to send the letters of request to the auditing firms. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.

XV. Building and Grounds

Sealing the parking lot and painting lines- Miller Seal Coating and Striping Invoice #1704- \$3,598.70

Paul Nesselroad made the motion to pay the invoice less the sales tax. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.

XVI. Committee Reports:

Finance- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- he would like to have a committee meeting.

Education- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- no report

Legislation/Policy- Chairman: Mark Myers- January 20, 2016 is Ag Day at the Capitol

Grasslands- Chairman: Don Headley- he and Ed attended the meeting in Weston.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds- Chairman: Don Headley- report was given under buildings and grounds

Ag Enhancement- Chairman: Art Mouser- the next meeting will be November 19th at 9:30 a.m.

XVII. Correspondence- newsletters from other districts. Soils Health Letter- NRCS

VIII. Public Comment- none

XIX. Supervisor Reports

- **Paul Nesselroad** – he is also proud of Mary.

- **Mark Myers**– he’s enjoyed the weather this week. He attended the conference in Flatwoods. He thanked Anna Mouser and Jean Conley for their contributions to the auction. He was very proud of Mary. He also thanked Glendora for her time and efforts with the Women’s Auxiliary.

- **Ed Utterback** –no report

- **Art Mouser** – he and Anna’s anniversary is December 3rd and they will have been married for 57 years. He will be attending the Beef Short Course at Stonewall Jackson on December 4th and 5th.

- **Jim McDonald**– no report

- **Jean Conley** – she attended the banquet and the conference.

- **Mary Lebnick** – she really appreciates the nice accolades she has received.

- **Don Headley** – no report

There will be a special meeting on November 16th at 9:30 a.m. and a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting at 10:00 a.m.

XX. **Adjournment**

Paul Nesselroad moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:11 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is December 3, 2015 at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

Minutes approved by:

Jean Conley
Jean Conley, Chairman

Dec 3, 2015
Date

DRAFT

MCD AgEP committee meeting

October 29, 2015

Those in attendance: Art Mouser, Ed Utterback, Mark Myers, Brad Durst, Amy Cosco

Art Mouser called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Updates: Brad stated that there are not current updates to the program

Discussion was held on those that also had Conservation Agreements to be approved. It was determined to approve the practices pending the approval of the Conservation Agreements at the board meeting.

Discussion was held on an application that was requesting board fence. The committee did not feel that board fence would be adequate and did not grant a variance.

Discussion was also held on two more applications that needed a variance. One application needed discussion because the person applied for 104.5 acres and the maximum acreage is 100 acres. The committee decided to approve the variance of 104.5 acres. The other application applied for 4.85 acres and the minimum limit is 5 acres. The committee decided to approve the variance and allow the 4.85 acres.

Discussion was held on the rest of the applicants and no issues came up. The committee decided to approve the applicants.

Mark Myers made the motion to approve applications for Ed Utterback, Phyllis Summers, Jeff Harsh, Teddy Jenkins, Gary Walls, Ben Smith Jr., John Fint, and Robert D. Hennon. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried. *Ed Utterback recused himself.

Mark Myers made the motion to approve applications for Robert Lough, Allen Wolfe, George Miller, Robert Shaffer, and Steve Milkovich, pending approval of their Cooperator Agreements at the, November 5, 2015, MCD Board Meeting. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the payments for William Malone, Ron Brand, and James Cummins.

Mark Myers made the motion to approve payment for William Malone, Ron Brand, and James, Cummins. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 19, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Art Mouser adjourned the meeting at 11:47 p.m.

Monongahela Conservation District, Ag Enhancement Considerations, October 29, 2015

Robert Shaffer, Preston (Needs Conservation Agreement approval)

Lime – 19.5 acres, 54.6 Tons, \$1,162.2 Max. Payment

Ranking score - 61

Gary Walls, Preston

Lime – 27 acres, 59.5 Tons, \$1295.25 Max. Payment

Ranking score – 47

Edward Utterback, Preston

Lime – 50.6 acres, 137.84 Tons, \$2940.88 Max. Payment

Ranking score – 59.1 (Done by Barbie Elliott)

Teddy Jenkins, Preston

Lime – 14.1 Acres, 41.04 Tons, \$870.78 Max. Payment

Ranking score – 61.2

Allen Wolfe, Preston

Lime – 68.9 Acres, 173.36 Tons, \$3725.02 Max. Payment

Ranking score 55.28

Benjamin Smith, Marion

Lime – 14.6 Acres, 29.2 Tons, \$642.40 Max Payment

Ranking score – 49

Robert Lough, Monongalia (Needs Conservation Agreement approval)

Lime – 43.5 Acres, 124.5 Tons, \$2645.25 Max Payment

Ranking score – 62.24

Jeff Harsh, Preston

Lime – 36 Acres, 108 Tons, \$2286.00 Max. Payment

Ranking score - 65

James & Phyllis Summers, Preston

Lime – 46 Acres, 108 Tons, \$2336.00 Max. Payment

Ranking score – 49.96

Steve Milkovich, Preston

Lime – 41 Acres, 118.45 Tons, \$2514.78 Max. Payment

Ranking score – 62.78

George Miller, Marion (Needs Conservation Agreement)

Lime – 28 Acres, 56 Tons, \$1232.00. Max. Payment

Ranking score - 45

1 – Spring and Watering Trough, Max. Payment \$1500.00

Ranking score – 70

Pasture Division Fence, 824', Max Payment, \$1359.60 (additional \$552.75, total \$1912.35 if extra barn lot fence is approved)

Ranking score – 71

Exclusion Fence – 865', Max. Payment \$1427.25 (689' and \$1136.85 if board fence is not approved)

Ranking score – 75

Note: Mr. Miller would like part of the exclusion fence to be a board fence, 176'. It is along a stream and part of the barn lot. NRCS does have a standard for board fence, never had this requested until now, acceptable?

He also asked if part of his barn lot fence could be approved as division fence, 335', and he would like it to be board fence as well.

John Fint, Preston

Lime – 104.5 Acres, 175.08 Tons, Max. Payment, \$3936.56

Ranking score – 36.508

Note: This exceeds the maximum of 100 acres so a variance must be granted for this total to be approved.

Robert D Hennen, Monongalia

Lime – 6.95 Acres, 4.85 Acres eligible, 9.7 Tons, Max. Payment \$213.40

Ranking - 45

Note: The district minimum is 5 acres so a variance must be granted for this to be approved.



West Virginia University

Extension Service

November 5, 2015

Subject: Preston County Report to Monongahela Conservation District

From: Bill Shockey, Preston County Extension Agent

October Report:

The Blue Jean Bash, which was a ground-breaking ceremony to dedicate The Hazel Ruby McQuain Equine Education and Resource Center at the J. W. Ruby Research Farm in Reedsville on October 2. The event was hosted by Dean Dan Robison and attended by WVU President Gordon Gee and WVU Provost Joyce McConnell. Expected completion date for Phase 1 is December 2019. Read details at: <http://wvutoday.wvu.edu/n/2015/10/02/wvu-to-break-ground-on-new-equine-facility-oct-2>

Extension Agent training was conducted for oil and gas pipeline right of way negotiations at Jackson's Mill on October 14.

Dr. Sheldon Owen, Extension Wildlife Specialist, presented a deer control and management program to the Cranberry Garden Club in Terra Alta on October 15.

Women in Agriculture Conference was held at Canaan Valley on October 23 and 24. Tours conducted on Friday the 23rd were attended by about 130; while over 200 registered for educational programs on Saturday the 24th.

My office colleague, David Hartley, the Preston County 4-H Agent, and his wife Lindsey were blessed with a baby girl at 5:09 pm on Halloween Evening. Annabell Joannellen Hartley weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 ½ inches long.

November Calendar:

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

November 5: Preston County Livestock Association, PHS Cafeteria, Kingwood, 7:30 pm.

November 9: Preston Growers Group, Preston County Extension Office, 6 pm.

November 12: Preston County Antique Tractor Association, Preston County Extension Office, 6 pm (Annual Holiday Meal).

November 17: Winter Tree Identification Workshop, Preston County Extension Office, 6:30 pm, RSVP to 304-329-1391.

November 19: Preston County Beekeepers Association, Preston County Extension Office, 7 pm.

Cooperative Extension Service

The West Virginia University Cooperative Extension Service,

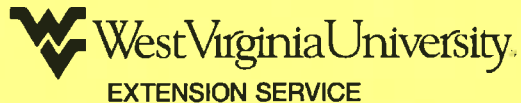
U. S. Department of Agriculture, West Virginia County Boards of Education and County Commissions Cooperating

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

Preston County Extension Office

115 West Court Street
Kingwood WV 26537-1192

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution



WVU Extension Service – Marion County Report, November 2015

John Murray

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Marion County Farm Bureau

The Marion County Farm Bureau will meet Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 for their monthly meeting. The meeting will be held at the Grace Lutheran Church on Third Street in Fairmont. The speaker for the meeting will be Mary Jouver, USDA FSA County Executive Director to discuss ELAP and LIP which are the programs for providing assistance for farmers following the loss of livestock and honeybees as a result of extreme weather events.

Soil Testing Workshop

A workshop on soil testing will be held on Thursday, November 12 at the Marion County 4-H Camp Mar Mac. The workshop will be held at 2:00 and provide a short presentation on how to perform soil test and the importance of soil testing. Following the short presentation the group will do a hands on sampling and preparing the samples to submit to the lab from the lawn area at the camp. This is a free workshop with no pre-registration required. The 4-H Camp is located on 4-H Camp Road off of US 250 between Fairmont and Farmington.

Marion County Master Gardener Wreath Workshop

The annual Marion County Master Gardener Wreath Workshop will be held on December 4 starting at 5:00 pm and 5 starting at 10:00 am at Pricketts Fort. Cost of the workshop is \$20 and pre-registration is required and limited. Registration began on Wednesday, October 21 and all sessions, totaling a combined 60 people filled up November 2. A wait list is currently being maintained.



Farm Service Agency Date: November 4, 2015
Valley View FSA To: Monongahela Conservation District

47 Mt. Park Drive From: Mary F. Jouver, CED
White Hall Valley View FSA Office
WV, 26554
Voice 304-363-8861
Fax 855-865-4855 Subject: MCD November Meeting Information

Producers are Reminded to Complete NASS Crop Surveys

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Field Offices are currently completing 2015 small grain yield surveys and will contact growers in December to complete row crop yield surveys. If you are one of the producers contacted to complete a 2015 yield survey, we encourage your participation and cooperation as many USDA agencies including the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Risk Management Agency (RMA) use the NASS yield data for their programs.

FSA uses NASS county yield data for farm credit, conservation, disaster programs, loan and commodity programs. Under the 2014 Farm Bill, FSA uses the NASS county yield data to calculate Agriculture Risk Coverage – County (ARC-CO) benchmark revenues and current year county revenues. For example, the 2014 NASS county yield, along with the crop's marketing year average price (MYA), are used to determine the county's current year revenue to determine if the county will trigger an ARC-CO payment. An ARC-CO payment is triggered for a county when the current year revenue falls below the guarantee revenue for the crop and crop year. In cases where NASS county yield data is not available, the FSA State Committee must determine a county yield using RMA yield data or the best available yield data, including assigning a county yield using neighboring county yields from NASS or RMA.

Any information that producers provide to NASS is kept confidential and protected by federal law. NASS publishes only aggregate-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified. All reports will be available at www.nass.usda.gov.

USDA Extends Dairy Margin Protection Program Deadline

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that the deadline to enroll for the dairy Margin Protection Program for coverage in 2016 has been extended until Nov. 20, 2015. The voluntary program, established by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to participating farmers when the margin – the difference between the price of milk and feed costs – falls below the coverage level selected by the farmer.

Producers are encouraged to use the online Web resource at www.fsa.usda.gov/mpptool to calculate the best levels of coverage for their dairy operation. The secure website can be accessed via computer, smartphone or tablet.

Producers who were enrolled in 2015 will need to make a coverage election for 2016 and pay the \$100 administration fee. Although any unpaid premium balances for 2015 must be paid in full by the enrollment deadline to remain eligible for higher coverage levels in 2016, premiums for 2016 are not due until Sept. 1, 2016. Also, producers can work with milk marketing companies to remit premiums on their behalf.

To enroll in the Margin Protection Program for Dairy, contact your local FSA county office. To find your local FSA county office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Payments under the program may be reduced by a certain percentage due to a sequester order required by Congress and issued pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. Should a payment reduction be necessary, FSA will reduce the payment by the required amount.

Incentives for Working Grass, Range and Pasture Lands

Beginning Sept. 1, farmers and ranchers can apply for financial assistance to help conserve working grasslands, rangeland and pastureland while maintaining the areas as livestock grazing lands.

The initiative is part of the voluntary Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), a federally funded program that for 30 years has assisted agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat. In return, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. CRP has helped farmers and ranchers prevent more than 8 billion tons of soil from eroding, reduce nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively, and even sequester 43 million tons of greenhouse gases annually, equal to taking 8 million cars off the road.

The CRP-Grasslands initiative will provide participants who establish long-term, resource-conserving covers with annual rental payments up to 75 percent of the grazing value of the land. Cost-share assistance also is available for up to 50 percent of the covers and other practices, such as cross fencing to support rotational grazing or improving pasture cover to benefit pollinators or other wildlife. Participants may still conduct common grazing practices, produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production, conduct fire rehabilitation, and construct firebreaks and fences.

With the publication of the CRP regulation today, the Farm Service Agency will accept applications on an ongoing basis beginning Sept. 1, 2015, with those applications scored against published ranking criteria, and approved based on the competitiveness of the offer. The ranking period will occur at least once per year and be announced at least 30 days prior to its start. The end of the first ranking period will be Nov. 20, 2015.

To learn more about participating in CRP-Grasslands or SAFE, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/crp or consult with the local Farm Service Agency county office. To locate a nearby Farm Service Agency office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>. To learn more about the 30th anniversary of CRP, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30 or follow on Twitter using #CRPis30.

Breaking New Ground

Agricultural producers are reminded to consult with FSA and NRCS before breaking out new ground for production purposes as doing so without prior authorization may put a producer's federal farm program benefits in jeopardy. This is especially true for land that must meet Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) provisions.

Producers with HEL determined soils are required to apply tillage, crop residue and rotational requirements as specified in their conservation plan.

Producers should notify FSA as a first point of contact prior to conducting land clearing or drainage type projects to ensure the proposed actions meet compliance criteria such as clearing any trees to create new cropland, then these areas will need to be reviewed to ensure such work will not risk your eligibility for benefits.

Landowners and operators complete the form AD-1026 - Highly Erodible Land Conservation (HELC) and Wetland Conservation (WC) Certification to identify the proposed action and allow FSA to determine whether a referral to Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for further review is necessary.



November 2015 WVCA Report

2015 WV Conservation Awards and Recognition Program

2015 WV Conservation Farm Winners are:

1st place, Chimney Hill Farms representing the Potomac Valley Conservation District

2nd place, Meadow View Farm, representing the Northern Panhandle Conservation District

3rd place – Morning Mist Farm, representing the Greenbrier Valley Conservation District

Videos of the First, Second, and Third place winners for Conservation Farm of the Year are available on the WVCA [Facebook page](#) and [Youtube](#). Each video is about 3.5 minutes long.

The 2015 Carroll Greene award was presented to Gary Truex, GVCD and the 2015 WVACD Member at Large award recipient is Mary Lebnick, from the Monongahela Conservation District.

WVACD Supervisor's Years of Service:

5 Years

Gary Pullin, CCD
Shirley Hyre, ECD
PVCD
Mike Smalley, ECD
Jerry Clifton, GVCD
John Oblinger, GCD
George Mathis, GCD
Rocky Adkins, GCD
Charles Huff, NPCD
Mark Fitzsimmons, NPCD
George Leatherman, PVCD
Ronald Miller, PVCD
Joe Shaffer, TVCD
Robert Siebel, WCD

10 Years

Grady Hayner, GCD
John Bill Perry, GCD

Don Windon, SCD

15 Years

Art Mouser, MCD
Carl Mullins, SCD
Bill Coffindaffer, WFCD

25 Years

Jim Caldwell, NPCD
Charlotte Hoover,

Honorary Members:

Mike Smalley, ECD

Bill Shiflet, GVCD

Paul Nesselroad, MCD

Charles Pugh, NPCD

Don Windon, SCD

Floyd Kursey, EPCD

Denzil Huff, WFCD

The Conservation Education District of the year for 2015 is the Northern Panhandle Conservation District.

Legislative Code Review Committee:

The committee presented their proposed changes to the WVACD for discussion. It was determined not to submit any of the proposed changes at this time and continue to work under current code.

Video/Teleconference Systems for District Offices:

The WVCA IT section has presented a video/teleconference system option to SCC and the WVACD. This system would allow CD Supervisors and WVCA staff to limit travel and still attend meetings across the state. The WVCA requests that Districts that are interested in the system to work with their Area Director to schedule IT to create individual plans for their offices. This system would be a 50/50 cost share between the CD's and the WVCA. Costs will vary based on differences on individual office needs.

Agreed Procedures Engagement (Audit):

Conservation Districts are asked to begin the Agreed Procedures Engagement (APE) audit. Please check your current agreement to make sure it is valid for FY15.

Request to Conservation Districts

The WVCA is encouraging Conservation Districts to review and update your District Policy Manuals. In addition to your policy manual you are encouraged to review your CD Employee Manual (if you have one) and your CD Plan of Work. If you are already doing the reviews please disregard this request. However, please let us know with a written response that you are already reviewing or will be reviewing the documents.

WVCA Budget:

The Governor has announced a 4 percent budget cut for state agencies as the state's fiscal health does not appear to be improving and the end-of-the-year deficit now stands at \$250 Million.

A 4 percent cut to WVCA funding means we will have to reduce spending by \$333,369 this fiscal year.

We will use vacancies to fund the cut, and no reduction to the districts or other areas we fund such as RC&Ds, stream and dam gauges, etc.

What this cut means is that districts need to manager their money closely, especially their travel and per diem budgets, because there will not be any spare funds.

As a reminder, this cut comes in a fiscal year in which we had \$490,000 less to spend than the year before, and it comes three months after the administration cut conservation's budget by \$100,000 to prevent the state from ending the fiscal year on June 30 with a deficit.

Agricultural Day at the Capitol

Agricultural / Conservation Day will be on January 20, 2015. Please make appointments to see your House and Senate representatives before going to Agricultural Conservation Day.

Parking at Laidley Field starting at 7:30 AM

Shuttles will be available to shuttle persons to the Capitol

We will have 3 staff with state vehicles to shuttle

3 agency staff to help with the displays

Talking points briefing Q/A starting at 8:30 AM tentative location Governor's Conference Room located at the back of the Secretary of State's Office

Start shuttle's back to Laidley at 2:00 PM

WVCA Project Section:

NPCD, SCD, MCD and PVCD – Please track hours that District Supervisors attend any rehab meetings.

A summary of all OM&R, SPRP and EWP expenses for calendar year 2015 will be provided to all Districts in January of 2016.

OM&R

- The WVCA Project Section is continuing monthly inspections of flood control dams.
- 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. A section of Mannington Channel has been sprayed, results will be used to develop spraying plans statewide. The results on this study will be reported.
- Meetings are progressing with DNR to determine responsible parties on the dams that DNR has interest in.

Dam Rehab

- Dam rehabilitation work continues to progress. The Project Section is working on the permits for Upper Deckers Creek site #1. An engineer has been selected and will begin work on November 16.
- A Public meeting was held in Mercer County for Brush Creek #14.

EWP Update

- March and April Flooding – The Project Section continues work with FEMA on blockage removal sites and NRCS on bank stabilization sites. Bank stabilization includes sites in Guyan, Elk and Greenbrier Valley Conservation Districts.
- July Flooding – Work with FEMA continues on blockage removal sites and NRCS on bank stabilization sites. Bank stabilization includes sites in Little Kanawha, Elk and Guyan Conservation Districts.

SPRP Project for Cobun Creek in Monongahela District is in progress and is expected to be completed by the middle of November.

Each area manager will be contacting area directors to provide details of activities in their respective areas. As always, feel free to contact Gene or Penny for further information.

October 22, 2015

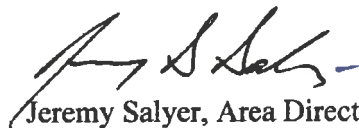
Mr. Ed Utterback,

Your MCD AgEP application for the practice and amounts listed below, has been approved by the West Virginia Conservation Agency (WVCA).

Practice	Acres / Tons	Cost Share Amount
Lime	50.96 ac/137.84 tons	\$2942.68

This decision was based upon a ranking score of 59.1 and conservation district funds available at this time.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Salyer, Area Director East
West Virginia Conservation Agency

Cc: Brian Farkas
Jennifer Skaggs
Brad Durst, District Conservation Specialist

MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

201 Scott Ave

Morgantown, WV 26508

The Agricultural Enhancement committee met on __10/29/15__ and approved the following practices.

Name	Practice	Acres	Tons	\$Encumbered
Robert Lough*	Lime	43.5	124.5	\$2,645.25
Allen Wolfe*	Lime	68.9	173.36	\$3,725.02
George Miller*	Lime	28	56	\$1,232.00
George Miller*	Fence	Exclusion	865	\$1,427.25
George Miller *	Fence	Division	824	\$1,359.60
George Miller *	Spring and Trough	1		\$1,500.00
Robert Shaffer*	Lime	19.5	54.6	\$1,162.20
Steve Milkovich*	Lime	41	118.45	\$2,514.78
			TOTAL	\$15,566.10

Committee Chair

MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

201 Scott Ave

Morgantown, WV 26508

The Agricultural Enhancement committee met on __10/29/15__ and approved the following practices.

Name	Practice	Acres	Tons	\$Encumbered
Ed Utterback	Lime	50.96	137.84	\$2,942.68
Phyllis Summers	Lime	46	108	\$2,336.00
Jeff Harsh	Lime	36	108	\$2,286.00
Teddy Jenkins	Lime	14.1	41.04	\$870.78
Gary Walls	Lime	27	59.5	\$1,295.25
Ben Smith Jr	Lime	14.6	124.5	\$642.40
John Fint	Lime	104.5	175.08	\$3,936.56
Robert D. Hennon	Lime	4.85	9.7	\$213.40
			TOTAL	\$14,523.07

Committee Chair

MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT

201 Scott Ave

Morgantown, WV 26508

The Agricultural Enhancement committee met on __10/29/15__ and approved the following payments.

Name	Practice	Acres	Tons	\$Encumbered
William Malone	Lime	28	68	\$904.75
Ron Brand	Lime	64	128	\$1,339.20
James Cummins	Lime	9.5	28.5	\$367.06
			TOTAL	\$2,611.01

Committee Chair