

The **Tygarts Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *January 13, 2016* commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the district's office in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Wolfe.

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

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Corey Lambert – TVCD, Josh Peplowski- WVU Ext., Ben Collier – NRCS, and Matt Oliver –NRCS.

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: Collier introduced Matt Oliver, the new Soil Conservation Technician in the Philippi Field Office.

Gumm led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

January 13, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda: **Sencindiver moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**

December 9, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes: **Nester moved to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.**

Treasurer Report: Frey reviewed her handout (copy attached) and noted the interest rates for the district building expansion, Volvo, and workers comp. She reviewed the accounts open at BCB, including the district's CDs. *Discussed at length the lack of funds currently in the general account, the possibility of refinancing the loan on the building, and cashing the CDs and using the money to pay off the district's loans.* Wolfe commented that if the district goes under financially and sells the equipment, the money will go back to the state. He then recommended that the supervisors contact the DNR about their outstanding bills. *Teets offered to go; Wolfe requested Lambert attend as well. Consensus of the group was for immediate bills to be paid out of the general fund. Frey to investigate with the Linwood CD money can be used for, and check for interest rates on refinancing the building.*

District Report: Lambert reported that he was still waiting for the third estimate on replacing the door for Spokes. Andy's Heating was called to repair a wall heating unit in the Cvechko office. The district crew is on low earnings. The new housekeeper has started employment with the district, and all the tenants have reported being very happy with her services. Lambert has been looking for work to do in the winter months, and has received interest for several brush haul jobs. (Copy of work attached) Karl had been working on the transfer case for the black truck, and the wheel bearing in Lambert's truck. The lowboy is at Quality Machine for an estimate on repairs to pass inspection. They quoted \$4,620.00, and Lambert said that is comparative to other pricing he's found. Nester reported that at the recent Equipment/Safety Committee meeting, they moved to repair the lowboy before any other equipment purchases would be made; this is due to the district being unable to move equipment until after it is fixed. The committee also recommended that the district consider putting the 312 and the dozer up for open bids so a new excavator could be purchased.

Findley moved to put the 312 and dozer up for open bids and to use the money for repairs on other pieces of district equipment; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.

Warner moved to approve the lowboy be repaired by Quality Machine, based on their estimate; seconded by Findley; motion carried.

Lambert to assist in figuring a reserve price to put on the equipment before opening bids.

District Manager Report: Woofter commented that she hoped everyone had enjoyed their Christmas and New Year's, and since the last board meeting, she had been working on AgEP signups that were currently underway. She had completed the winter edition of the district newsletter. Had prepared LORs and processing payments as necessary. Reported that the GSA revised rate for mileage reimbursement was now \$0.54 per mile, effective as of January 1, 2016. Passed around the bank statements and reconciliations for November 2015 for supervisor review.

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

- I. Wednesday January 13th – Personnel Committee Meeting following regular meeting**
- II. Thursday January 14th – Eat & Reap Dinner, Belington 6:30 PM**
- III. Friday January 15th – WV Grazing Steering Committee Meeting 10 am Weston**
- IV. Tuesday January 19th - WesMonTy RC&D Meeting Weston**
- V. Wednesday January 20th – WV Ag Day – Charleston**
- VI. Monday January 25th - TVCD Regular Board Meeting 9 am Philippi**
- VII. Thursday January 28th – WVCA O&M Meeting at ECD 10 am**

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: Woofter reviewed Salyer's written report in his absence. (*Copy attached.*) She stressed plans for Ag Day at the Capitol, the Ag EP timeline for FY17, and an upcoming O&M meeting at ECD. Nester volunteered to attend the meeting on January 28th.

WVU Extension: Peplowski commented that the Eat & Reap dinner in Belington was scheduled for the following evening. He has started training with the land judging team for nationals in April. Also training a team for the stockman's contest at the Beef Expo.

NRCS: Collier reported that the first period for ranking EQIP and AMA had closed. The second ranking period for the programs was open until January 21st. He reviewed the fund codes. The contract renewals for CSP contracts from 2011 have been completed. As for the community garden project, the deadline is April 15th so planning must begin soon (will discuss more at education committee meeting on January 25th). Local workgroup meetings are being planned, and will consist of a "focused conservation" format. Multiple meeting will need to be held throughout the year, to formulate a multi-year plan with a minimum of two project proposals for the state office. There is no longer a grassland and soil health plan. The outcome of these projects may possibly affect funding and area staffing. *Discussed at length. Workgroup meeting for TVCD scheduled for February 10th following regular district board meeting.*

FSA: None

DoF: None

WesMonTy RC&D: Teets reported that she had been reviewing the mid-year reports for the RC&D grants and the 2nd payments will be disbursed soon. Had been researching additional grants for the community garden project. Purchased a new computer. Attended state RC&D meeting and the topic discussed was "accountability." Reminded everyone that applications for new grants are due to her by January 31st.

Others: None

Correspondence Received: Brickstreet Authorization for Everson; Workers Compensation Appeal Decision for Everson; Stream Permit for Anglins Run; WVDEP Youth Environmental Camp Brochure and Information; Annual Watershed Celebration Day Funding Request; WV DEP Elkwater Dam EAP.

Reeder moved that the district sponsor the DEP Camp with \$688.00, or the cost for four campers to attend; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.

Findley moved that the district sponsor the Annual Watershed Celebration Day with \$100.00; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Old Business:

Farmland Preservation- Next meeting scheduled for January 21st at 4 pm.

Approval of funds for SPRP/OM&R- No new projects at this time

Completed SPRP Invoices for Payment Approval & Processing

Tenney, Brian	Upshur	Inv. 2100	\$1055.00
Lewis, Caleb	Upshur	Inv. 2101	\$4387.40
White, Ben	Randolph	Inv. 2111	\$2131.15
Elmore, Jason	Randolph	Inv. 2112	\$1336.15

**TOTAL:
\$8909.70**

Reeder moved to approve the SPRP invoices for payment as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: No report.

Equipment/Safety Committee: Nester said that everything from the committee meeting had already been discussed earlier in today's meeting. Would like to go with Lambert to other districts to see what work is available.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: Sencindiver reported that a committee meeting would be held on January 25th, immediately after the regular board meeting. Attended the state Envirothon meeting. Help is needed for the event on April 21st and 22nd. Will be sending a request to district offices for volunteers.

Legislative Committee: Gumm reminded everyone that WV Ag Day at the Capitol was January 21st and stressed that supervisors attend and talk to their legislators.

Grassland/AEP Committee: No report.

Conservation Agreements:

- i. Michael Tenney - Upshur Co. (38 Acres)
- ii. Paul Ferguson - Barbour Co.

Reeder moved to approve the agreements as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.

AgEP Applications: Ongoing at this time

AgEP Cancelations:

- i. House, Mike – Lime
- ii. Kelley, Dennis – Exclusion Fence

- iii. Osburn, Suzan – Pollinator Plantings
- iv. Wolfe, John – Lime

Nester moved to accept the contracts presented as cancelled; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.

AgEP Payments:

Cvechko, Mike	Barbour	Lime, Fert, & Poll.	\$2279.00
Elza, Mary	Randolph	HUAP	\$500.00
Flohr, Douglas	Taylor	Lime	\$1125.00
Lambert, William	Taylor	Lime	\$900.00
Moran, Allen	Randolph	Pollinator	\$93.00
Osburn, Suzan	Upshur	Lime	\$572.10
Reed, Randall	Tucker	Lime, HUAP	\$1973.45
Teter, Zach	Randolph	HUAP, Div. Fence	\$4500.00
Woody, Ron	Upshur	Lime, Water	\$1102.00

TOTAL: \$13,044.55

Sencindiver moved to pay the contracts as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.

Water Resource Committee: No report.

WVACD Directors Report: Sencindiver reviewed his notes from the quarterly meeting held on January 4th and 5th in Flatwoods. (Copy attached)

Personnel Committee: No report.

New Business:

- **Door Replacement With Panic Bar for Spokes-** No action taken
- **On Road vs. Off Road Fuel Purchasing-** No action taken
- **Randy Elza Invoice & AgEP Payment-** Sencindiver moved to leave the invoice as is and to contact Mr. Elza regarding the pricing of materials and man hours versus changes in the job description and estimate, seconded by Nester; motion carried.
- **LOR Conservation Technician Reimbursement for October-December 2015-** Reeder moved to approve the LOR as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.

Gumm moved to go into executive session per WV state code 6-9A-4a to discuss a personnel issue; seconded by Nester; motion carried. The board went in to executive session at 11:44 AM.

Sencindiver moved to resume regular board meeting at 12:26 PM; motion carried.

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Sencindiver- attended WVACD quarterly meeting and WV Envirothon meeting.

Teets- attended supervisor training on December 4th. There are upcoming changes with FOIA. Commented that it is a sad day for the district that Wolfe is resigning. Thanked and recognized him for his service.

Reeder- Attended the national grazing lands conference in Texas on December 13-16th.

Gumm- At recent WV RC&D meeting, Teets was elected as secretary. She has also been appointed to a committee of representatives from the RC&D and WVCA to demonstrate the

potential for RC&D throughout the state. Attended the national grazing lands conference in Texas and will be attended the NACD annual meeting in Reno.

Wolfe- Discovered a deadspace of the Shavers Fork River around the Cheat Mountain Club. Has a legitimate concern about the preference of beginning and young farmers for financial assistance programs versus those who have been in business for years. Thanked everyone for the help and service over the past few years.

Public Comment Period: None

There being no further business to attend to, Chairman Wolfe declared the meeting adjourned at 11:49 PM.

Secretary

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

January 13, 2016 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions

1. Sencindiver moved to approve the January 13, 2016 board meeting agenda as presented; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
2. Nester moved to approve the December 9, 2015 board meeting minutes: as presented; seconded by Teets; motion carried.
3. Findley moved to put the 312 and dozer up for open bids and to use the money for repairs on other pieces of district equipment; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
4. Warner moved to approve the lowboy be repaired by Quality Machine, based on their estimate; seconded by Findley; motion carried.
5. Reeder moved that the district sponsor the DEP Camp with \$688.00, or the cost for four campers to attend; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.
6. Findley moved that the district sponsor the Annual Watershed Celebration Day with \$100.00; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.
7. Reeder moved to approve the SPRP invoices for payment as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

TOTAL: \$8909.70

Tenney, Brian	Upshur	Inv. 2100	\$1055.00
Lewis, Caleb	Upshur	Inv. 2101	\$4387.40
White, Ben	Randolph	Inv. 2111	\$2131.15
Elmore, Jason	Randolph	Inv. 2112	\$1336.15

8. **Reeder moved to approve the agreements as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**

- a. Michael Tenney - Upshur Co. (38 Acres)
- b. Paul Ferguson - Barbour Co.

9. **Nester moved to accept the contracts presented as cancelled; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

- a. House, Mike – Lime
- b. Kelley, Dennis – Exclusion Fence
- c. Osburn, Suzan – Pollinator Plantings
- d. Wolfe, John – Lime

10. **Sencindiver moved to pay the FY16 AgEP contracts as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

Cvechko, Mike	Barbour	Lime, Fert, & Poll.	\$2279.00
Elza, Mary	Randolph	HUAP	\$500.00
Flohr, Douglas	Taylor	Lime	\$1125.00
Lambert, William	Taylor	Lime	\$900.00
Moran, Allen	Randolph	Pollinator	\$93.00
Osburn, Suzan	Upshur	Lime	\$572.10
Reed, Randall	Tucker	Lime, HUAP	\$1973.45
Teter, Zach	Randolph	HUAP, Div. Fence	\$4500.00
Woody, Ron	Upshur	Lime, Water	\$1102.00

TOTAL: \$13,044.55

11. **Sencindiver moved to leave the invoice for Randy Elza as is and to contact Mr. Elza regarding the pricing of materials and man hours versus changes in the job description and estimate, seconded by Nester; motion carried.**

12. **Reeder moved to approve the LOR for the Conservation Tech. Reimbursement (Oct.-Dec. 2015) as presented; seconded by Sencindiver; motion carried.**