

The **Tygart's Valley Conservation District** Board of Supervisors held a Regular Board Meeting on *April 25, 2016* commencing at 9:03 a.m. at the district's office in Philippi, WV. The meeting was called to order by Acting Chairman John Sencindiver.

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

Others Present: Hillary Woofter – WVCA, Joyce Frey – TVCD, Ben Collier – NRCS, Corey Lambert – TVCD, Robert True, James Dean, Caleb Smith – WVCA, and Brian Young – WVDOF.

Nester led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading/Approval of the Agenda/Minutes:

April 25, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda & March 28, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes: **Reeder moved to approve the agenda and minutes as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**

Introduction and/or Recognition of Visitors: James Dean introduced himself to the group as the new supervisor elect for Randolph County District Supervisor. He resides in East Dailey and has roughly 100 cattle and 200 sheep.

Treasurer Report: Frey reviewed her written report (copy attached). **Findley moved to accept the financial report as presented and file for audit; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**

District Report: Lambert reported that there had been some repairs on the district spreaders. Had a few jobs lined up for using the hydroseeder. Needs to meet with the building committee regarding the wiring to the fuel tank from the shop and also the shop lighting. Heating unit in Cvechko's office is shot. Dave has been working in Morgantown installing water troughs for the WVCA. The job was estimated at \$11,000.00. Reviewed his outstanding job list (copy attached). Recently completed Minnix, Wernicke, and Winslow jobs. Teets thanked Lambert for helping to implement the pollinator garden in front of the NRCS office and asked what the status was of getting the flags replaced. Woofter added that the flag pole had previously been discussed at several meetings and the purchase of new flags had been approved and the old could be properly disposed via the VFW drop box downtown. Lambert said that the current plan was to raise the pole by two feet with a concrete base so the flags would no longer catch on the roof. Will look into and try to get an estimate on modifications.

District Manager Report: Woofter reviewed her written report (copy attached). Woofter also passed around the March 2016 bank statements and reconciliations for supervisor review and signature. She added that she had received the WVACD financial statements through 3/31/2016 as prepared by Shirley Hyre and would forward them on to any supervisor who requested them.

Bob True joined the meeting and introduced himself to the group.

Dates (District Meetings/Work Sessions) to Remember:

I. April

- a. Thursday 28th – WVCEC Meeting @ Camp Mahonegan
- b. Friday 29th – TVCD Forestry Field Day @ Audra State Park 9 am
- c. Saturday 30th – Discovery Day 2016 @ Seneca Rocks 10 am

II. May

- a. Friday 13th – Upshur County Ag & Natural Resources in the Classroom
- b. Monday 16th – NRCS Local Work Group Meeting @ TVCD Office 9 am
- c. Tuesday 17th – WesMonTy RC&D Meeting @ Weston 10 am
- d. Wednesday 18th- Thursday 19th – District Farm Judging/Tour
- e. Monday 23rd – TVCD Regular Board Meeting @ TVCD Office 9 am
- f. Monday 30th – Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED

III. June

- a. Wednesday 1st – State RC&D Meeting 10 am

Report of Officers and Agencies:

WVCA: *Woofter* reviewed Salyer's report in his absence (copy attached) and stressed the budget situation and SB159 as requested by Salyer over the phone.

Smith reported that he had forwarded the comments on the FY17 AgEP to Jennifer Skaggs and had been working on a color brochure for the district's program and offered practices.

WVU Extension: None

NRCS: *Collier* reviewed his written report. (Copy attached)

FSA: None

WesMonTy RC&D: *Teets* reported that she had received reimbursement from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, written several news articles for the district newsletter, and had been working on the display for Discovery Day on the 30th. She had recently backed up the RC&D's files to cloud storage and suggested the district try to do the same. Discussed her proposal for a Conservation Innovation grant through a partnership with TVCD. *Woofter* reviewed the intentions of the grant and supported the district allowing *Teets* to use the AgEP funds from invasive species and pollinator plantings as an example of matched funds. Additionally the internal audit had been completed and she was still working on reviewing the safety deposit box.

DoF: *Young* reported that there are no new forestry programs at this time, and that they have started seeing the emergence of Cicadas and Poplar Weevils.

Others: None

Correspondence Received: WVACD Scholarship Notification; (3) Brickstreet Authorizations for Everson; WVU Collegiate Soils Team Thankyou Letter

Old Business:

- *Farmland Preservation*- Next meeting scheduled for April 28th.
 - *Approval of funds for SPRP/OM&R – No new projects at this time*
 - *Completed SPRP Invoices for Payment Approval & Processing – None at this time*
 - **Building Maintenance** – *Ongoing/no further update*
 - **Conservation Farmer of the Year**- May 18th and 19th were chosen for the dates to conduct the farm tours and judging. Woofter would finalize schedule.
 - **Review sealed bids received for district equipment**- *Ongoing, May 20th deadline*
 - **Elkwater Fork Litigation Funds & Title/Deed Transfer**- *Ongoing, May 20th deadline*
 - **EOI for Engineering Services**- *Ongoing, May 20th deadline*
 - **Elkwater Dam storage building and mowing**- Warner and Gumm will review what type of building is needed and report back to the board at the next meeting.
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Committee Reports:

Building/Finance/Budget Committee: No report.

Equipment/Safety Committee: No report. Crew will attend Forestry Field Day for chainsaw safety presentation on Friday.

Education/Publicity/Exhibit Committee: No district report. Sencindiver reviewed scores from WV Envirothon. *Discussed at length.*

Legislative Committee: Gumm said that with the lack of a state budget, supervisors should talk to their delegates about the importance of funding conservation districts and their programs.

There has been an ongoing discussion about the number and need of district supervisors. Will meet with congressional officers in October on a site visit in the Eastern Panhandle.

Grassland/AEP Committee: Reeder thanked Nester and Lambert for their help at the Grassland Contest at the WV Beef Expo.

- **Conservation Agreements: Michael & Trina Keomer (Barbour) 80 Acres** – Nester moved to approve the agreement as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.
- **AgEP Applications:** *None*
- **AgEP Cancelations:** *None*
- **AgEP Payments:** *None*

Water Resource Committee: No report.

WVACD Directors Report: Findley stated that the WVACD is looking for state fair participants and anyone who is interested in signing up needed to meet with Woofter for the online registration. A number of hotel rooms have been blocked for supervisor use. This past quarterly meeting was the last for Bob Baird and Jim Moore. Many new FSA agents and loan officers have been hired throughout the state. The WVACD will hold the legislative breakfast next year on Ag Day. ECD and GVCD are now a part of Helmick's potato project. Gumm added that SCD has a BBQ planned for the next quarterly meeting on July 13th and 14th. Asked that the supervisors contact their delegates about getting SB159 on the call for special session.

Personnel Committee: No report.

New Business:

- **Grazing Conference meter sticks-** Gumm moved to authorize the purchase of 50 sticks at \$4.00 each; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
- **LOR District Support (Conference Equipment) \$1083.34-** Gumm moved to approve and submit the LOR as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.
- **2016 WVCEC Membership \$50.00-** Gumm moved to renew TVCD's membership for \$50.00; seconded by Nester; motion carried.
- **Invoice 2190 Elkwater OM&R \$314.04-** Findley moved to approve the invoice as presented and submit for reimbursement; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.
- **FY17 AgEP Practices for TVCD-** Findley moved to approve the following practices for inclusion in TVCD's FY17 AgEP: Heavy Use Area Protection, Invasive Species Management, Lime, Nutrient Management, Pasture Division Fence, Pollinator Planting, Watering Systems, Water Protection Exclusion Fence, and Woodland Exclusion Fence; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.

Report of Individual Supervisors:

Gumm- Hopes that the next state RC&D meeting can be held via teleconference. Will attend the State technical meeting this Wednesday in Morgantown. The 2017 Appalachian Grazing Conference will be held in Morgantown at the Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center. Added that the NE NACD meeting will be held in NJ this August.

Reeder- Will attend the spring Farm Bureau meeting for Upshur County the next day.

Warner- Stressed that supervisors talk with their state legislators for SB159. Asked why the state couldn't timber state forests to get the needed money for the FY17 budget.

Teets- Attended the LWG meeting and the Orchard Management field day. Felt the event was very well organized and very educational.

Shaffer- Called WVDOH about cleaning ditches within Taylor County and was not well received. Roads needing repair get attention first.

Bonner- Attended the WV Beef Expo.

Nester- Attended annual inspections for TVCD, the WV Beef Expo, and WV Envirothon.

Sencindiver- Thanked Reeder for overseeing the last meeting while out of the country. Reminded everyone that May 10th was the primary election. Asked that the next meeting agenda include a nominating committee be appointed.

Public Comment Period: *None*

There being no further business to attend to, Acting Chairman Sencindiver declared the meeting adjourned at 11:11 am.

Secretary

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

April 25, 2016 Regular TVCD Board Meeting Minutes Summary of Motions

- 1. Reeder moved to approve the April 25th agenda and March 28th minutes as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 2. Findley moved to accept the financial report as presented and file for audit; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 3. Nester moved to approve the agreement with Michael & Trina Keomer (Barbour) for 80 acres as presented; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 4. Gumm moved to authorize the purchase of 50 Grazing Conference meter sticks at \$4.00 each; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**
- 5. Gumm moved to approve and submit the LOR for District Support (Conference Equipment \$1083.34) as presented; seconded by Reeder; motion carried.**
- 6. Gumm moved to renew TVCD's membership with the WVCEC for \$50.00; seconded by Nester; motion carried.**
- 7. Findley moved to approve the Invoice 2190 Elkwater OM&R \$314.04 as presented and submit for reimbursement; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**
- 8. Findley moved to approve the following practices for inclusion in TVCD's FY17 AgEP: Heavy Use Area Protection, Invasive Species Management, Lime, Nutrient Management, Pasture Division Fence, Pollinator Planting, Watering Systems, Water Protection Exclusion Fence, and Woodland Exclusion Fence; seconded by Gumm; motion carried.**