

Supervisor Per Diem and Travel: Treasurer, Randy Plaucher, moved the following Supervisors Per Diem and Travel expenses for the month of March:

Richard Steve Hannah	\$ NA
James Foster	\$823.82
William Coffindaffer	\$522.78
Rebecca Jane Collins	\$1117.59
Philip Osborne	\$226.08
William McClain	\$529.32
Larry Sponaugle	\$690.90
Randy Plaucher	\$ 523.82 totaling \$4,434.31

Total gross amount spent to date: \$34,869.28

Plaucher moved to approve Supervisor's March Per Diem and Travel as presented. Motion seconded by McClain. Motion carried.

Randy reported on clarity of forms being submitted. He reminded supervisors to make sure their forms are complete before submission. If he finds a form incomplete, he will send it back to the supervisor before approval can be made.

Unfinished Business

Ag Enhancement Program: Foster reported on the AgEP meeting held on Friday, April 29th, 2016. The committee has decided to fund 6 programs this year; Lime, Fertilizer, Water Systems, Pasture Division Fence, Woodland Exclusion Fence, and Water Way Exclusion Fence. The rates for Lime and Fertilizer have been reduced for this year. Foster thought that the committee had decided to not pay on labor expenses for watering systems. Caleb referred to the minutes from the meeting and explained that the committee had talked about the issue, but never made action on the matter. **Sponaugle moved to exclude the cooperators own personal labor expenses for payment with the water system practice only. Discussion on the motion. Hannah recommended to leave the payment requirements the way that they are, as the practice is still getting completed whether the cooperator pays to have someone do the labor or he completed the labor himself. Sponaugle withdrew his motion. Motion failed.**

Jeremy looked into the necessity of receipts being submitted for flat rate practices, and reported that they are necessary.

Caleb passed out the final draft of the applications for the FY17 practices for the Board to review. **Foster moved to adopt the FY17 AgEP program, and sign up period from May 23rd, 2016- June 17th, 2016 as outlined in the Committee Minutes from April 29th, 2016. Motion does not require a second as it comes out of committee.** Notification of the sign up period would go out to the newspapers ASAP, and would stress pending the availability of funds.

To increase the use of the weed wiper, the Board thought it may be a good idea to lower the rental cost of both weed wipers. **Plaugher moved to reduce the rental rates of the weed wipers to \$25.00/day. Motion seconded by Foster. Motion carried.**

OM&R Salem Fork & Polk Creek: Jim Roy reported on meeting with Dam Safety, WVCA, NRCS, and members of the Board on April 27th, 2016, to discuss the easement violations on Polk Creek site numbers 1,4, and 9. The group present had a consensus of what needed to be done and where the fences needed to be moved. According to “As Built” contracts and easement agreements on site number 4, the fence going across the auxiliary spill way is the responsibility of the District. On sites 1, and 9, the violations are the responsibility of the landowner. The NRCS is working on the design proposals now, and will get that information to the WVCA in the near future. After submission to the WVCA, Jim plans to go over the design proposals with Dam Safety, and the Board.

Coffindaffer said that it was a productive meeting, and he wanted to get the meeting out of the way while Dam Safety could meet. The meeting that was scheduled for May 5th, 2016, is cancelled as they had already met with Dam Safety.

Coffindaffer reported on speaking with the forester about the conditions on Salem Fork site 14 after the logging operation. The forester reported that he cannot go back onto the logging company as it is after the fact. He said grass is growing back, but there is a lot of four wheeler activity going on. The four wheeler traffic is causing a concern for siltation, and erosion taking place in the dam. It would be up to the landowner to address this concern. The Board thought that a letter explaining the issue should be sent to Mr. Muchenhouse, and stress that this is a flood control dam and the Board concern for the health and safety of the dam. A copy of the letter would be sent to the Forestry Department, and WVCA.

Field Day 2016: Plaugher reported on the minutes from the April 29th, 2016 committee meeting. The committee decided not to have grazing or sorting sticks. Chairman asked the Board if they would rather have something else that day to hand out. Nothing was mentioned. A draft schedule has been made, and they are waiting to get a food contract from Belva.

Bruce reported on possibly getting a group of people together to map out the timing of the schedule, and get an idea for how the day will flow.

Plaugher reported on the cost estimates of each item needed for the field day, and estimated around \$3,000.00. Bruce reported that the speakers involved would not need reimbursement for meals and mileage. Jeff reported on possibly needing to buy a new moisture tester for the field day, as the one that we currently have is old and does not work very well. Plaugher commented that he had recently purchased a new one and the District could use his that day.

The next committee meeting will be held after the Board meeting in June, and a group of individuals would go and map out the schedule after the committee meeting.

Conservation Farmer: The Board has two farmers to recognize this year; Mr. Ira Pritt from Harrison County, and Mr. Kevin Britton from Lewis County. The tour will be on May 16th, 2016 starting at 10 a.m. The Board will meet at the Fire Training Facility at Jackson's Mills and go over to Britton's Farm. After the Britton's farm they will head to the Mount Clare office and plan to be at Ira Pritt's farm by 1 p.m.

Century Farm Applicant: Dinah reported looking at the deeds of the applications, and the Kreyenbuhl's farm only deeded back to 1970. Cheryl reported on contacting the Kreyenbuhl's, and informing that they had until the end of the month to get the information to her. The other two applications had all of the correct information. Upon receipt of the deed from the Krenhbul Farm all applications would be submitted to John Sencindiver

Grazing Sticks: This topic was covered in the Field Day section of the Agenda.

New Business

Fall Banquet: The fall banquet will be in Doddridge County this year, and the banquet will be held at the Doddridge County Park. The Board picked tentative dates of September 22, 2016 or September 15, 2016 depending on availability of the Park. Foster would look into the meal for the event. The Board wanted to make sure individuals such as Mr. Snuffer from FSA, Mr. Farkas from WVCA, Mr. Aspey from NRCS, and the Doddridge County High School Envirothon team were invited. Jeff would again work with the office to create the farm presentations, and the office would check with availability of Mr. Farkas and possibly have him as the master of ceremonies.

Local Work Group- NRCS: Jeff reported on the timeline for the future of the 2017 focus approach. His long range plan was due at the end of April, and he has it submitted to the area office. He is looking to have a local work group meeting between May and July to review this plan and approve funding. The Board would meet at the Mount Clare United Methodist Church on Friday, June 3rd, 2016 at 9a.m.

District Shirts: Belva reported on looking into the cost of having denim shirts made for the Board. They would be between \$23.00- \$24.00 dollars apiece. Dinah talked about having polo shirts identical to the Agency polo's made. Belva would look into the price of getting polo shirts and report at the next meeting.

Gilmer County Meeting: Jane reported that they would follow Lewis County in their decision to keep the meeting at the office. The June Board meeting would be held at the Mount Clare USDA Service Center at 9 a.m.

Board Recess at 10:07am

Board back to session 10:16am

Correspondence:

SCC Minutes April 12th Meeting
AgEP Committee Meeting Minutes 4-29-16
Field Day Committee Meeting Minutes 4-29-16
Letter from WVU Soils Team

Funding Requests: none today

Letters of Request: One LOR is here for submission today. The 50 % Reimbursement from the Agency for the Video Conferencing Equipment totaling \$973.97.

Foster/Sponaugle move to approve and submit the LOR. Motion carried. JB should be here the week of May 16th to set up the system.

SPRP/EWP Project: Jim Roy reported on looking at a site in Gilmer County that did not qualify.

Board Member & Associate Supervisor Reports:

Foster thanked the board for their support in the current Envirothon competition. He reported that this year had the minimum amount of help of all years he has volunteered to help. They were on the low side of the amount of teams present. They had 23 teams total. Doddridge County won the State Envirothon Contest, and Doddridge County Middle is now participating in the Samara exam.

Foster also reported that on May 18th, 2016 there will be an oil and gas meeting put on by extension.

Belva thanked the Board for their donation to the Ovarian Cancer Research center in memory of her sister.

Dinah reported on attending the WVCEC meeting last week in attendance with Cheryl and Belva. There were 12 people total in attendance, and the committee is trying to get their act together and hopefully can survive as a committee. There were three District's represented. She reported on making attendance to the Envirothon meeting tomorrow, as she would like to get involved with the Envirothon since it was hopefully coming to our District and they would probably need help.

Coffindaffer reported that Cheryl and Robin are going to be taking a display to the Master Gardener program on May 14th, 2016. They will also have an additional display on pollinators and bees provided by Joyce at the TVCD.

Report of Cooperating Agencies:

NRCS: Jeff reported that they were still obligating contracts. He reported on the community garden projects. He passed around a picture received from Mrs. Minich from Jane Lew of the recently constructed garden bed. He was hoping to contact the other

schools and get an update of where they were in their projects. The seasonal high tunnel strike force application deadline has been extended to the end of May.

FSA: Joel reported on having a few trainings coming up on May 10th- 12th, 2016, and May 16th-17th, 2016. They still have the ELAP program for honey bee losses. They are going to be sending out acreage reporting, and Joel asked that everyone could send them back so they could keep their records straight.

Forestry: Chuck reported on also attending the CREP training. He reminded that the forestry field day is on May 17th, 2016 at Mountwood Park.

WVU Extension: Bruce reported on working with a group in Weston for a Farmers Market. During the Gilmer County field day on Saturday, he will be doing a pasture walk. Extension has 4 program units, and all units have interim directors. Extension administration has been searching and looks to fill those positions by July 1, 2016.

WVCA Report: Caleb reported on a few trainings he has coming up that he will be out of the office for. Also, that he and Robin would be attending the Liberty High School FFA banquet this Thursday.

Jeremy reported on the paper copy he gave to the Supervisors. If a budget is not proposed by July 1 the WVCA will close and Agency employees cannot work. He updated on the SB 159 status. After Supervisor elections, DM's will need to report to Belinda and area directors who won the elections. He reported on the Conservation Farm tour dates, and the top 10 results for the Envirothon. The State Fair schedule is up on the Agency page, and Supervisors can begin signing up for work slots. Hotel accommodations are available too. The deadline to reserve a room is July 13, 2016. The WVCA has hired an engineer for dam rehabilitation, and Jeremy reviewed the AgEP timeline from here out.

Robin reported on recently having a break in attempt at the office, and in light of this a dead bolt has been purchased to put on the outbuilding. Also, when the office has a slow break we are working to create a digital Cooperator file. There are a lot of Cooperator applications from the 1950's that will need to be terminated or up dated. The FY 16 audit will be completed during August 16th, and 17th, 2016. Parker plans to start on Friday for soil sampling.

WFCD Report: Cheryl reported on receiving the soil probe and tips in the mail. She reported on a Cooperator suggesting maintenance ideas for the lime spreader. The hitch pin attached to the spreaders is too big for his equipment and thought maybe the Board could weld something smaller to the spreader. Also, the idea of using fluorescent spray paint to identify all grease fittings to be greased was mentioned. The Board thought it may not be a bad idea to paint the fittings. Possibly Parker could do this sometime during the summer. Cheryl reported on the topics to be discussed in the summer newsletter and asked if there was anything else the Board wanted to add. She also provided a refreshment sign up sheet for future Board meetings, and asked Supervisors to put their name next to the month they would like to provide refreshments.

Conservation Agreements: There is one agreement here today for approval:

Richard L. Chickerell Jr., Harrison County, 371 acres

Foster/ Plaugher. Motion carried to approve Conservation Agreements.

Set Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on June 7th, 2016 at the USDA Service Center at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Collins, Secretary

William Coffindaffer, Chairman

Minutes Recorded by Robin Ward; District Manager, West Fork CD

The Board Adjourned at 11:02 a.m.