



D/M **Committee Reports:**

Finance- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad

Education- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad

Legislation/Policy: Chairman: Mark Myers

Grasslands- Chairman: Don Headley

Safety/Buildings and Grounds: Chairman: Ed Utterback

Ag Enhancement: Chairman: Art Mouser

**Correspondence Reports & Various Newsletters**

**Public Comment**

**Supervisor's Reports**

**Meeting Adjournment**

Monongahela Conservation District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2017

**I. Call to order**

**Chairman Jean Conley** called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at 9:31 a.m. on, **January 5, 2017**, at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV. **Ed Utterback** 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: Ed Utterback, Mary Lebnick, Paul Nesselroad, Mark Myers, Jean Conley, Art Mouser, and Jim McDonald. Others present were: Amy Cosco (DM), Jeremy Salyer (WVCA), Hayward Helmick (Mon County SWA), H.R Scott (WVU Extension), Bill Shockey (WVU Extension), Rudy Williams (WV Division of Forestry), Alexa Talkington (FSA), Noah Cummings (NRCS), Gene Sauborn (WVCA). **Excused:**

**III. Approval of December Meeting Minutes**

*Paul Nesselroad moved to approve the December 8, 2016 board meeting minutes. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.*

**IV. Approval of financial statements**

- a) *Credit Card Receipts and Statements- Mark Myers moved to approve and pay the credit card receipts. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.*
- b) *General/CDO financial statements for December 2016. Mark Myers moved to approve the December 2016 General/CDO financial statements. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*
- c) *Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements- Mark Myers moved to approve the December 2016 Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.*

**VI. Visitors Comments – None**

**VII. Cooperating Agencies**

**WV Division of Forestry-** Rudy reported the Smokey the Bear calendars will be in next week.

**Watershed Division**

**Upper Buffalo Watershed-** no report.

**Upper Deckers Watershed- Upper Deckers 1-** The job showing is tentatively set for March 15, 2017.

*Art Mouser reported, per his delegation of authority, he approved Gene Sauborn to hire Hilary Bright of McNeer, Highland, McMunn, and Varner, L.C. to write the easements needed for the Upper Deckers 1 Project.*

The project will be part of the Appalachian Grazing Conference and a tour is being offered. The first Wednesday of the month there are Upper Deckers 1 Rehab calls. Gene will get the call in number for Art and Jean but anyone can participate. Gene would like an alternate selected in case Art is unavailable.

**Mark Myers made the motion to appoint Jean Conley as alternate Project Coordinator for the Upper Deckers 1 Project. Seconded by Art Mouser. Motion carried.**

**Conservation Technician**- Noah reported he has two cooperators ready for payment. They are listed on the agenda for payment today.

Jamey Darlington is acting District Conservationist since Ray Carr has retired.

**WVU Extension**

-**Bill Shockey**- report provided.

-**H.R. Scott**- report provided.

-**John Murray**- no report.

**NRCS** – Noah covered previously.

**FSA**- Alexa reported Ted Jenkins was voted back to COC. January 11<sup>th</sup> is their next meeting. Farm Storage Facility loan rates are 1.5-2.5%.

**Solid Waste Authority**

**Monongalia County SWA**- Hayward reported the citing plan is up for review and revision. In the coming months they will be sending out questionnaires to gather information within the county. Jack Recycling in Mt. Morris is working on putting in another transfer station. 100% of the solid waste in Monongalia County is disposed of outside of the county.

**Marion County SWA**- Jim reported their regular meeting was held December 19<sup>th</sup>. There are 12 sites within the county they have assessed. They will be moving some bins around.

**Preston County SWA**- no report.

**District Manager**- no report.

**WVCA Area Director**- report provided.

**VIII. Invoice/Payments**

**Mark Matheny for December \$248.30 –Mark Myers moved to pay Mark Matheny \$248.30 for services rendered during the month of December. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion Carried.**

**IX.**

**X. AgEP Payments**

Jennifer Kahly- Lime- 53.3 ac- \$2,640.85

Rick Humphreys- Fence- 2,500 ft- \$5,250.00

**Mark Myers moved to approve the above listed AgEP payments. Seconded by Paul Nesselroad. Motion carried.**

**Approval of Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Claims**

Don Headley- \$220.03    Mark Myers- \$126.12- November \$121.02 December    Paul Nesselroad- \$55.41  
Ed Utterback- \$101.31    Jean Conley- \$328.55    Art Mouser- \$158.40

**Mark Myers moved to approve the District Supervisor Travel and Per Diem claims as listed. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.**

**XIII. Unfinished Business**

**Preston County Farm Preservation Committee-** Ed reported he attended the meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup>. They've hired a new appraiser who will be looking at two new properties. They have also hired a new lawyer.

**XIV. New Business**

**Appalachian Grazing Conference-** Jean reported she had an idea for the District to purchase pencils for the Appalachian Grazing Conference. These pencils can also be used for various other events throughout the year.  
**Ed Utterback made the motion to purchase 1,000 pencils. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.**

**Mon County Fair-** Amy presented the letter. Paul reported he is pleased with the improvements and growth he has seen in the last couple years. Ed Utterback discussed in the letter they are specific in what the support will go towards.

**Paul Nesselroad made the motion to support the Monongalia County Fair in the amount of \$1,000.00. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried. Art Mouser voted No.**

**Annual Watershed Appreciation Day-** Amy presented the letter.

**Ed Utterback made the motion to support the Annual Watershed Appreciation Day in the amount of \$100.00. Seconded by Mark Myers. Motion carried.**

**XV. Building and Grounds**

Southern Air Quote to fix conduit

**Mark Myers made the motion to accept the Quote from Southern Air to replace the conduit in the amount of \$400.00. Seconded by Ed Utterback. Motion carried.**

**XVI. Committee Reports:**

Finance- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- issues have been covered

Education- Chairman: Paul Nesselroad- will be scheduling a meeting

Legislation/Policy- Chairman: Mark Myers- will be scheduling a meeting

Grasslands- Chairman: Don Headley- no report

Safety/Buildings and Grounds- Chairman: Ed Utterback- will be scheduling a meeting

Ag Enhancement- Chairman: Art Mouser- meeting will be scheduled in February

VII. Correspondence- Amy reviewed the correspondence.

VIII. Public Comment- None.

XIX. Supervisor Reports

- **Paul Nesselroad** – had a good Christmas and New Year. He will be gone from the 11<sup>th</sup> until the 25<sup>th</sup> of February.
- **Mark Myers**– had a good Christmas.
- **Ed Utterback** – no report
- **Art Mouser** – reported there is a new Commissioner of Agriculture, Joe Hatten has been appointed Deputy Commissioner, and Norm Bailey has been appointed Chief of Staff. They had 38 people for Christmas dinner.
- **Jim McDonald**– had a nice Christmas. He has a new great-granddaughter.
- **Jean Conley** – went to Atlanta for Christmas.
- **Mary Lebnick** – took a trip with her daughter, Stevie, to The Greenbrier. She also had a good Christmas.
- **Don Headley** – no report

XX. Adjournment

Paul Nesselroad moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:34 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is February 2, 2017 at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

Minutes approved by:

  
Jean Conley, Chairman

  
Date



West Virginia University

Extension Service

February 2, 2017

Subject: Preston County Report to Monongahela Conservation District

From: Bill Shockey, Preston County Extension Agent

*Bill*

January Report:

Deadline for Preston County Buckwheat Festival Royalty applications was January 11. Three (3) applicants for King Buckwheat were received. Selection will be made prior to the Royalty Pageant set for Saturday, May 6, 2017.

Over 100 attended the Tri-State Hay and Pasture Conference in Accident on January 12. Approximately 25 were from WV. Topics included fencing, hay and pasture management, forage testing, and nutrient management regulations.

On January 20 about 20 members of the Preston County Farm Bureau met at the Preston County Extension Office and heard a presentation on the Veterinarian Feed Directive. They also conducted business and set the next meeting on February 17.

Volunteered as a judge at Terra Alta/East Preston Science and Social Studies Fair. Always enjoyable to listen and appreciate the efforts of young people.

February Calendar:

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

February 6: Preston County Extension Service Committee meeting, Extension Office, 1:30 pm.

February 12 - 14: WVU Small Farm Conference, Charleston Civic Center. Registration is open online at <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1918821>

February 16: Preston County Beekeepers Association. Preston County Extension Office, 7 pm.

February 17: Preston County Farm Bureau. Preston County Extension Office.

February 22: Ag Day at the Legislature. Charleston.

February 28: Farm Bureau Day at the Legislature. Charleston.

Preston County Extension Office

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  
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115 West Court Street  
Kingwood WV 26537-1192

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution





## **February 2017 WVCA Report**

### **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 these reviews, please disregard this request.

The district personnel plan is due to SCC in March, so please add to your February agenda for review and approval.

### **AGEP:**

- **February 2017** - Comments reviewed and forms revised
- **Late February 2017** - Revisions sent to CDs/staff for review
- **Mid-March 2017** - CDs submit recommendations for FY 18 practices
- **Late March 2017** - State AgEP committee to meet and review proposed changes for FY 18 and establish allocation formula
- **April 2017** - Presentation of FY 18 AgEP to SCC
- **June 15, 2017** – Deadline for CDs submit final practice list to WVCA (CDs can submit final list any time after SCC approval)
- **July 1, 2017** - Start of FY 18 program
- **July 31, 2017** - CDs submit annual progress report (per legislative rule)

The AgEP funding allocation formula will be looked at soon by the state AgEP committee. If you have comments on what factors you would like to see utilized in the formula, please contact your district state AgEP committee member or Jennifer Skaggs.

### **Conservation Farm Tour**

It is time for districts to be thinking about the farm families to be awarded. The awards council voted at its January 24 meeting to begin the process of reviewing the current format with potential recommendations for change. Tim VanReenen was elected as the awards council vice president and will work with Brian on gathering a committee to review the awards process.

### **WVACD Scholarship**

Applications are due to the district offices by the **first Monday in March**. All entries must be date stamped at the district office and mailed to the WVACD office by the third Monday in March. Contact Mark Fitzsimmons, WVACD Education Committee Chairman, for additional information.



### **WVCA Strategic Plan**

The State Conservation Committee has approved a motion to review the WVCA Strategic Plan. Brian is working with Tim VanReenen to select representatives from the Association to serve on the oversight committee. A series of meetings will be planned for late spring, early summer.

### **Engineering Expression of Interest**

Review your current contract and if needed, prepare to advertise and go through interview/selection process if needed.

The WVCA is interested in working with the district to ensure they retain a firm that has strong civil engineering and is familiar with dams. Under our 50/50, 5-year agreement with NRCS this will be important because we hope to work with the district's engineering firm to perform engineering work on dams if necessary.

Because of questions raised about these agreements, it's important to make sure that the scope of work is clearly defined and an agreement between the district and engineering firm is signed.

Also, the district may want to consider whether it wants an engineering firm that also has the ability to perform environmental assessments.

### **Agricultural Day at the Capitol**

Agricultural Conservation Day will be February 22, 2017. Please make appointments to see your House and Senate representatives before going to Agricultural Conservation Day.

WVCA will shuttle supervisors and staff from Laidley Field beginning at 6:30 a.m. to the Gaston Caperton Training Center, Bldg. 7, which will open at 7:00 a.m.

The legislative breakfast is scheduled to begin at 7:30 a.m. Please contact your representatives to invite them to the breakfast.

The planned House Finance presentation has been changed to Feb. 13 and will not be on Ag. Day.

### **WVACD Quarterly Meeting Dates/Locations:**

April 18, 2017	Twin Falls State Park
July 17 & 18, 2017	Cacapon State Park
October 16 & 17, 2017	Flatwoods Days Inn

### **West Virginia Legislature – 2017 Legislative Calendar**

February 8, 2017 - First day of session  
February 27, 2017 - Legislative Rule-Making Review bills due  
March 20, 2017 - Last day to introduce bills in the Senate  
March 21, 2017 - Last day to introduce bills in the House

March 26, 2017 - Bills due out of committees

March 29, 2017 - Last day to consider bill on third reading in house of origin

April 8, 2017 - Last day of session

### **SCC Dates**

April 11, 2017

July 11, 2017

October 10, 2017

### **WVCA Project Section:**

#### **EWP**

- Planned work:
  - Debris contracts are complete in Greenbrier, Webster and Nicholas and Clay Counties. The total for the first round of debris removal was \$1,203,763.22.
  - Working with NRCS, we have identified 62 eligible bank stabilization sites. These projects include the installation of rip rap/gabions. NRCS is doing the contracting for these projects. The first contracts are in the process of being awarded.
  - Working with counties, we are identifying streams that have limited capacity due to sedimentation (Roane, Greenbrier, Webster and Kanawha). The Corp is currently reviewing permit applications for this work. These projects are contingent upon funding.
  - Work continues on Howard's Creek through the town of Caldwell.
  - Work is starting on the Howard's Creek flood control channel at White Sulphur Springs. This work is being contracted by NRCS.
  - Surveying is underway to develop a scope of work for the Rainelle Flood Control Channel Project.

#### **OM&R**

- Project Section staff is performing monthly and quarterly inspections of watershed dams. The total spent on O&M for calendar year 2016 is \$686,315.15. Yearly summaries will be provided to each district.
- Work continues with NRCS to develop engineering plans for watershed dams. The seep investigation work being conducted by CEC in South Fork is currently underway.
- The Harmon Creek (NPCD) contract is moving forward, work on the seep box on site 13 is underway.
- Attached is the annual inspection date for the North Area. The schedule for the South Area is in planning.

#### **Dam Rehab**

- Gannett Fleming is continuing to work on planning studies for Brush Creek 9 & 15 and New Creek 1 & 17, and perform the construction oversight for UDC1.
- Upper Deckers 1

- The contract and permit process is beginning for UDC1 with construction slated for 2017/2018.
- WVCA is preparing the permit applications and mitigation plan as well as preparing the contract.
- The scoping meeting for New Creek 1 is scheduled for February 16, 2017 at Potomac State College.
- NPCD, SCD, MCD and PVCD – Please track hours that District Supervisors attend any rehab meetings.
- Reminder: Rehab meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. Any District that has rehab projects can participate in these meetings by phone.

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.