

**Southern Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2017**

Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The March 9, 2017 board meeting was held at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Dvon Duncan led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting in prayer.

Supervisors Present

Virgel Caldwell, SCD	Dvon Duncan, SCD
Curtis Murphy, SCD	John Farrell, SCD
Travis Prince, SCD	Oscar Vecellio, SCD
Don Windon, SCD	Randy Prince, SCD
Randall Patton, SCD	Ray Lafferty, SCD
Dennis Bailey, SCD	

Supervisors Absent

Carl Mullins, SCD

Others Present

Dennis Burns, WVCA	Becky Floyd, WVCA
Kim Fisher, WVCA	Marty Walker, WVCA
Dave Stewart, PCWA	Bill Harris, NRCS
Cody Addison, WVFFC	

Approval of minutes

Curtis Murphy moved to approve the February 9, 2017 board meeting minutes as mailed. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the February 16, 2017 special meeting minutes as mailed. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of SCD Financial Reports

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the SCD February financial reports as prepared by Akers and Associates. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the SCD February accounts receivable report as prepared by Akers and Associates.

New River TMDL

Virgel Caldwell stated Dennis Burns has asked to be first on the agenda to introduce the board to the New River TMDL report. Dennis reviewed the March 7 meeting with WVDEP on the Upper Guyandotte Watershed Based Plan. WVDEP has advised the revised TMDL report for the UGWBP will not be complete until 2018. It was suggested at the March 7 meeting the district move forward with

developing watershed based plans based upon the New River Watershed TMDL report. Dennis provided copies to each board member for review. Dvon suggested the SCD 319 Education Committee meet with Dennis in the future to determine which areas of the watershed a 319 project would be feasible for the District to complete. Dennis offered to meet with the committee to assist in the planning. Dennis stated the district is probably looking at a two-year time line in developing a watershed based plan and 319 projects approved for funding.

Oscar Vecellio, Curtis Murphy and Travis Prince were added to the 319 Education Committee list for each county to be represented. Dvon will schedule a committee meeting to meet with Dennis soon.

Dvon thanked Dennis for his time and efforts this week to provide guidance on the 319 program.

WVCA Conservation Specialist Report

Due to Marty Walker attending the Grazing Land Conference later today her report was moved up on the agenda.

Corrections to Approved Applications

Ken Scott	FS	\$197.00 to \$435.00
Douglass Jarrell	NM	\$620.61 to \$621.61

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the corrections as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Cancelations

Howard Albert	FS	\$356.00
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Ray Lafferty moved to approve the contract cancellation as presented. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

Marty reviewed the current AgEP practice list. The board has suggested adding heavy use protection area to their proposed cost share practice list. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the FY18 AgEP list with the addition of heavy use protection area as a practice. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.**

319 Update

Marty is working on finding a new project area for the Athens 319 funds. Marty looked at one site in Wyoming County but the site did not meet the criteria for 319 projects. Marty is looking at a potential ag site in Summers County based upon information from Bill Harris. Marty will be contacting the landowners and scheduling a site visit.

Marty reported the district will start back on the reclamation and seeding work this spring on the PCWA 319 site.

Farm Field Day

The Farm Field Day Committee was selected: John Farrell, Curtis Murphy, Don Windon, Ray Lafferty, Dvon Duncan, Marty Walker, Dave Parkulo, Cody Addison and Becky Floyd. The farm field day committee will hold their first planning meeting on March 22 following the 10:00 AM OM&R meeting. John stated he is looking a possibly holding the field day the 2nd week of June.

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the WVCA/SCD February financial reports as presented. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

Becky Floyd presented a letter of request to the WV Conservation Agency (WVCA) for reimbursement for the FY16 Agreed Upon Procedures cost totaling \$3,300.00. **Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the Letter of Request to the WVCA. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented the following invoices for board approval pending WVCA verification for the payments to be made from OM&R funds:

SCD Invoice 4405	DFCF Bank Stabilization	\$10,928.00
SCD Invoice 4406	Glady Fork Bank Stabilization	\$20,781.50

Dvon Duncan moved to approve payment of the two invoices presented pending verification from WVCA. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Becky presented copies of the FY18 DRAFT CDO budget for board review and approval. Dvon discussed the possibility of working with AmeriCorps to hire a Vista worker for the SCD to work on 319 and educational programs. The Vista worker would cost the district \$3,000.00 a year and it would be a two-year position. Dvon reported she met with Christy Bailey earlier this week to discuss this option. Dvon suggested changing the following line items on the FY18 CDO budget to cover the \$3,000.00 cost for the second year:

Supplies – general	\$1,000.00
Workshops	\$2,000.00

Dvon suggested using \$3,000.00 from current CDO funds to cover the first-year cost.

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the FY18 CDO budget as presented with line items supplies and workshops being changed to Vista worker expense. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried. Dvon will work with Christy Bailey to begin the application process.

The board asked Becky to place the CDO change on the current budget on the OM&R meeting agenda for March 22.

Becky read the letter from James Thompson with WVU requesting assistance to help with the cost of the WVU Soils Team attending the National Collegiate Soils Contest in April. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve a \$100.00 donation from the CDO account. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky reported she has been receiving posters for the 2017 contest and photo contest information has been posted on the website.

Southern CD Crew Foreman Report

Dave Parkulo reported stabilization work has been completed on DFCF site and Glady Fork site – invoices submitted.

The District crew is working at work at Flat Top on boat ramp. Piney Creek project is next in line when weather permits.

Dave toured possible SPRP sites with Brian Fry this week. Most sites were not eligible. There are a couple of sites the district can begin work on as soon as the WVCA approves the work.

Dvon discussed a huge blockage in Wyoming County off Rt. 54. Dave stated they did not travel in that direction. Dave will let Brian Fry know about the site. The group discussed the Miranda Bailey site. This site was taken off list due to landowner not providing land rights to property.

Becky provided copies of Judith Lyons report on eligible and non-eligible sites and OM&R work.

Visiting Agencies

WV Conservation Agency

Kim Fisher reviewed the WV Conservation Agency report for March. Kim reminded the board to review their Annual Plan of Work prior to June 15. The board agreed to review the current Plan of Work following the April board meeting. Dvon suggested the Vista worker be included in the revised Plan of Work.

Kim thanked supervisors for attending Ag Day and the legislative breakfast.

Kim reminded the board the WVACD April 17 meeting will be held at Twin Falls State Park.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Bill Harris reviewed the NRCS report for March.

Dvon asked about the application for stream bank erosion and status update. Bill stated due to funding these are on low priority.

Bill reported the EWP project on Ramp Rd. in Summers County has been completed.

Piney Creek Watershed Association

Dave Stewart stated one of the Chestnut trees has started sprouting leaves – as soon as they can be planted he will work with SCD on a planting dedication.

Dave stated Thrasher Engineering will be doing the engineering design on the 2nd 319 project at the Conference Center.

The PCWA Earth Day events are being planned. A Facebook Page highlight the projects which include clean up and beautification has been developed.

WV Food and Farm Coalition

Cody Addison introduced himself to the board. Cody is a Vista worker with the WV Food and Farm Coalition. He is working to promote food access in the area (community sponsored agriculture).

Cody will work with the SCD on their Women in Ag Workshop and the upcoming Field Day.

WV Association of Conservation Districts Update

Ray encouraged supervisors to attend the April 17 meeting at Twin Falls. Ray will not be able to attend and stated Curtis Murphy has agreed to represent him at this meeting. **Ray Lafferty moved to appoint**

Curtis Murphy to represent the SCD at the April 17 meeting as one of the directors. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Ray gave an update on Carl Mullins. Carl's health is not good and he is at home.

The group discussed selection of conservation farms in their counties. The April board meeting agenda will include selection of county conservation farms.

Supervisor Reports

The group reviewed the design for the SCD National Boy Scout Jamboree patch presented by Randall Patton. Concerns were discussed on the some of the detail getting lost when the patch is converted to the 3-inch patch. Dvon reminded the group the they are limited to 9 colors. Ray feels National Jamboree needs to be on it but we need to add Boy Scouts. The group discussed adding the Boy Scout logo. Ray Lafferty offered to take the design to a local art teacher to see if they could incorporate the changes discussed and the colors. Ray will have this ready by the April board meeting.

Board members thanked Randall for his work and want to send his son in law a thank you for the work done on the patch. Randall stated his son in law has asked for a patch once they have been completed.

The board will not pursue hiring a Program Coordinator until after they can review hiring a Vista worker.

Becky reported Mike Akers has asked board members to begin using the new federal mileage which is .53 ½ cents.

Dvon reported on upcoming events and meetings she will be attending in Wyoming County.

Supervisors scheduled Safety and Equipment Committee meetings for March 24th. The Equipment Committee will begin at 9:00 AM and the Equipment Committee will meet at 10:00 AM.

Dvon discussed the trees for the memorial site. She needs to purchase the trees and get them to the site by Monday. Dvon asked if anyone could assist with the trees. Dvon will make the purchase or have Dave put the expense on the SCD credit card.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53

Respectfully submitted

Dvon Duncan/Virgel Caldwell
Secretary/Chairman