

**SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2017**

Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The April 13, 2017 meeting was held at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Curtis Murphy led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty Opened the meeting with prayer.

Supervisors Present

Virgel Caldwell	Curtis Murphy
Don Windon	Oscar Vecellio
Dvon Duncan	John Farrell
Dennis Bailey	Ray Lafferty

Supervisors Absent

Randall Patton
Randy Prince
Travis Prince

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Marty Walker, WVCA
Dave Parkulo, SCD	Bill Harris, NRCS
Michael Whitt, NRCS	

Approval of Minutes

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the March 9, 2017 board meeting minutes as mailed. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of SCD Financial Reports

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the SCD March financial reports as prepared by Akers and Associates. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the SCD March accounts receivable report as prepared by Akers and Associates. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the SCD/WVA March financial reports as prepared by WVCA. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.

Becky presented the following invoices for payment approval:

Harold Wolfe	OM&R Work	\$280.03
WVCA	SPRP Work	\$1,580.00
WVCA	SPRP Work	\$2,650.00

Virgel Caldwell recused himself from the room for the vote on the invoice from Harold Wolfe due to being related to Mr. Wolfe. Dvon Duncan called for a vote on the invoice received from Harold Wolfe.

Becky stated all three invoices are being reviewed by the WVCA for payment verification. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the payment for the invoice submitted by Harold Wolfe pending WVCA payment verification. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.** Virgel returned to the meeting. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the payment on the two WVCA invoices pending WVCA payment verification. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

The 2nd annual Women in Ag Workshop will be held May 24, 2017 at the Raleigh County Convention Center. Becky reported speakers include WVU Extension, WV Department of Agriculture and WV Conservation Agency. Topics will include gardening, food nutrition, and the SCD AgEP program. Dvon thanked Becky and Marty for their work on the workshop. Becky distributed flyers to the supervisors and reported approximately 40 flyers have been mailed to local cooperators.

Becky reviewed the quote form 4imprint for 300 SCD scratch pads which could be used at the workshop and the field day. **Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the order for SCD scratch pads. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.** Becky discussed ordering litter bags for both events under the CDO budget money for field days and workshops. The board agreed the litter bags would be a good promotional item.

Becky reported on the information she received from Aimee Figgatt with Capitol CD on the soil tunnel. The rental fee for the soil trailer and to have Aimee bring it to the field day and provide tours is \$200.00. **Dennis Bailey moved to approve the cost of the soil tunnel for the Field Day. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.** Becky will contact Aimee to have her schedule the soil tunnel for the field day.

Becky reported the Agency will be holding a staff meeting May 2-4, 2017 at Camp Dawson.

Becky reported the District received 34 posters for the 2017 Poster Contest. The posters are ready for the Education Committee to judge. The committee agreed to meet following the Plan of Work meeting.

Becky reported the State AgEP Committee has asked each District to review the formula for AgEP allocations for FY18 and to vote on the option they feel is best for the program. Recommendation needs to be sent to Jennifer Skaggs prior to May 1. Becky asked Curtis to review the SCD AgEP Committee recommendations. Curtis Murphy stated the Committee recommends Options 3 and 5. A brief discussion was held on the options. **Curtis Murphy moved to recommend Option 3 as the SCD first choice and Option 5 as the second choice. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Southern Conservation District Crew Foreman Report

Dave Parkulo reported the excavator has been moved to the Soccer Complex. He will work with Marty on the seed to be ordered for the site. Dave reviewed farm work and other small jobs that have been completed. Rental equipment is being rented and lime is scheduled for delivery. Dave reported he is working with Judith on review of stone tickets for the OM&R invoices approved by the board last month.

Dave discussed a call he received concerning flooding issues on Soak Creek Channel in the area behind the Post Office and Fire Department. Dave stated he has talked to Commissioner Tolliver on

this and has notified Judith Lyons. Dave suggested this be reviewed during the OM&R inspections later this month.

Dave met with WVCA, WVDEP, Oakvale PSD and NRCS on Site 3 sinkholes and pond leaking. NRCS is working on an engineering plan to address the leaking into the spillway. Virgel Caldwell stated Judith Lyons will be sending a report on the meeting.

Selection of County Conservation Farms

Dvon Duncan asked if Marty Walker or Gary Redden has met with Randi Dove to develop a conservation plan for her farm. Becky stated she sent an email to Gary asking him to contact Ms. Dove following the phone call the district received from Ms. Dove asking for someone to meet with her to develop a conservation plan. Dvon asked Bill Harris to check with Gary to see if he has contacted Ms. Dove. This is needed if the farm is selected as the Wyoming County Conservation Farm.

The group discussed possible farms for Summers County. Bill Harris reviewed several eligible farms. Dennis Bailey stated due to his new job he will not be able to work with Bill on the selection of a farm. John Farrell will work with Bill and have a farm ready to submit by the May board meeting. Marty will work with John and Bill on the farm selection.

Becky reported a copy of the conservation farm contest rules and score sheet has been placed in each notebook for supervisors to consider when they are selecting a county farm.

Oscar Vecellio and Don Windon will work with Marty to schedule a visit to Jerry Bennett's farm to see if he will participate in the contest this year for Raleigh County.

Virgel Caldwell reported they have two farms in Mercer county that could compete in the contest. After a brief discussion, the board decided to select the Joe Valach farm as the Mercer County Farm. Bill Harris will work with Virgel and Curtis and schedule a time to visit the farm to meet with Mr. Valach about the contest.

Bill stated he does not have a recommendation for McDowell County.

Fayette County was not discussed.

May 18 was set as the date for the SCD County Conservation Farm Tour. Time and schedule will be set as other farms are selected. Becky was asked to place the Conservation Farm Contest on the May agenda.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker reviewed workload for past month and activities with ongoing projects and programs.

Marty reported she is making farm visits upon request from cooperators and as follow up to current AgEP contracts.

Marty is continuing to work with Sprouting Farms providing technical assistance for the Agency.

Dvon and Marty are working on contacting farmers in Wyoming County to work towards more farmers in this area becoming cooperators with the District.

Marty presented the following frost seeding contracts for board approval:

Richard Pate	\$182.00
Virgel Caldwell	\$181.25
Glen Buck McKinney	\$428.00
Kenneth M. Scott	\$300.48
John McLaughlin	\$135.00

Virgel Caldwell recused himself from the room due to having a contract for payment approval. Dvon Duncan called for a vote on the frost seeding payments. Ray Lafferty moved to approve the payments for the completed frost seeding contracts as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried. Virgel returned to the meeting room.

Marty presented the nutrient management contracts for board approval

Shannon Daniel	\$2,000.00
Dennis Lilly	\$739.25
Robert Lee Lilly	\$475.00

Curtis Murphy moved to approve the payments for the completed nutrient management contracts as presented. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Marty presented the invasive species contracts for board approval

Charles Pennington	\$443.25
Jeffrey McLaughlin	\$525.00

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the payments for the completed invasive species contracts as presented. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Marty reported the SCD AgEP Committee met and selected July 5 – 14 as the first sign up period for FY18 sign ups.

319 Program Update

Marty reported she is working on a potential 319 project at Indian Mills due to the Athens Project being canceled.

The YMCA project is ready to start again. Dvon asked if they have an area for the American Chestnut trees. Dave stated will work with Dave Stewart on selection of the final site. Dvon asked to be kept in the loop on the planting of the trees.

Visiting Agency Reports

WV Conservation Agency

Becky Floyd reviewed the written report for the Agency for April and discussed deadlines and highlights of the report. Copies were provided to the supervisors.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Bill Harris introduced Michael Whitt. Mr. Whitt will be in the area office until July while Greg Stone is in Washington. Mr. Whitt discussed his work in Washington on NRCS policies and programs.

WV Association of Conservation Districts Update

Dvon Duncan and Curtis Murphy will attend the April 17 meeting at Twin Falls representing the District. Dvon will take the quarterly reports.

Supervisor Reports/Committee Reports

John Farrell reported the SCD Farm Field Day Committee met on his farm to select area for parking and area for vendors to use during the event. John is contacting local vendors and plans to meet with WOAY following the meeting today.

Dvon Duncan reported she has not started on the application or paperwork yet for the Vista worker but will start on this soon.

Dave Parkulo distributed copies of the suggested 2017 equipment rates as agreed upon by the Equipment Committee. **Curtis Murphy moved to accept the 2017 equipment rates as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel Caldwell stated unless there is opposition to the action he will appoint Curtis Murphy to serve as SCD Vice Chairman until the next officer elections. Members agreed upon the selection.

An Equipment Committee meeting was scheduled for April 21 at 10:00 a.m.

Virgel reminded board members to stay after lunch to review the SCD Plan of Work.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell, Dvon Duncan
Chairman, Secretary