

**Southern Conservation District  
June 8, 2017  
Minutes of Board Meeting**

Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The June 8, 2017 meeting was held at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Randy Prince led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Randall Patton opened the meeting with prayer.

**Supervisors Present**

Virgel Caldwell	Curtis Murphy
Don Windon	John Farrell
Oscar Vecellio	Randy Prince
Dvon Duncan	Randall Patton

**Supervisors Absent**

Travis Prince  
Dennis Bailey  
Ray Lafferty

**Others Present**

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Marty Walker, WVCA	Gary Redden, NRCS
Dave Stewart, PCWA	Bill Harris, NRCS

**Approval of Minutes**

**Oscar Vecellio moved to approve the May 11, 2017 board meeting minutes as mailed. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

**Approval of Financial Reports**

The following reports prepared by Akers and Associates for May were presented to board members for review and approval:

SCD General Account  
SCD Reserve Account  
SCD Supervisor Travel and Per Diem  
SCD CDO Account  
SCD Certificate of Deposits  
SCD Accounts Receivable Reports

**Curtis Murphy moved to approve the reports as prepared by Akers and Associates. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.**

**Randy Prince moved to approve the Accounts Receivable Report for May as prepared by Akers and Associates. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel stated Gary Redden asked to speak earlier on the agenda to discuss the local work group meeting and the FY18 proposals due to his schedule for the day. Gary reviewed the five (5) projects the work group has reviewed for FY18: Guyandotte River Partnership Grassland Project (Wyoming County), Planting Pollinator Food Source Project (District wide), Mercer and Fayette County Grassland Project, McDowell and Wyoming County High Tunnel Project and Raleigh County Enclosed Feed Pad Project. Gary stated NRCS does not have the cost share for these until proposals are submitted and approved by Morgantown.

Gary stated the first four proposals have been discussed at length during local work group meetings. The feed pad proposal was discussed at the last work group meeting. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve all 5 proposals for submittal to NRCS Morgantown Office.** Oscar Vecellio discussed concerns on the proposed feed pad being in a small area which drains into Beaver Creek and eventually Piney Creek. Dvon stated it was her understanding the new feed pad would address some of the drainage and point pollution. Oscar stated he is concerned on how the waste will be disposed of by the landowner. Gary stated the landowner wants to run 100 – 150 cattle on approximately 27 acres. The proposed feed would be a total confinement system. The backside would be set up for manure containment. The group discussed concerns on the trailer court nearby the proposed area for the feed pad. A lot of research and planning would need to go into this by NRCS prior to making an approval. Dvon questioned who approves the plan? Gary stated NRCS creates a CNP plan to address issues on manure and runoff on any approved feed lot plan. Gary reminded the board this proposal would be a resource concern for Raleigh County and would not address only one landowner. Oscar stated he is concerned of the criticism the district would receive on feed pads constructed in neighborhoods. Gary asked if the board sees a resource concern in the SCD? Randy stated he likes the proposal if NRCS overviews the engineering and plans for the total confinement feed pad practice. Dvon stated she was interested in the practice if it keeps the nutrients out of the watershed. Gary suggested the board could visit feed pad sites completed in the past under NRCS programs. Dvon withdrew her original motion due to lack of a second. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the original 4 proposals as presented by Gary Redden and table the 5<sup>th</sup> proposal for feed pads until the July board meeting to allow the board time to research and consider feed pads as a resource concern. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.** Gary suggested the board schedule a time to visit sites and discuss the procedure on feed pads with Donny Dodd. The board would need to have an answer by the July board meeting if they want to move forward with feed pads. The group set June 27 as the date to visit feed pad sites. Gary will set up farm visits. Supervisors will meet at the SCD office at 10:00 a.m. to review local farms.

Dvon discussed NRCS revising the Long-Range Plan created in 2016. Gary will work on this as practices are proposed and submitted to the Morgantown.

### **WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report**

Becky Floyd presented the May co-administered financial reports prepared by the WV Conservation Agency. **Randy Prince moved to approve the co-administered May financial reports as prepared by the WVCA. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented the following Letters of Request (LOR) for board approval:

#### CDO FY18 Operating Grant Funds

1 <sup>st</sup> allotment	\$19,000.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> allotment	\$6,634.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> allotment	\$6,633.00
4 <sup>th</sup> allotment	\$6,633.00

**Curtis Murphy moved to approve the FY18 Operating Grant Fund Letters of Request to the WVCA. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.**

#### CD Supervisor Travel & Per Diem

1 <sup>st</sup> allotment	\$23,963.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> allotment	\$17,116.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> allotment	\$17,116.00
4 <sup>th</sup> allotment	\$10,270.00

**Randy Prince moved to approve the FY18 Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Fund Letters of Request to the WVCA. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky discussed the Rain Barrel project with Piney Creek Watershed Association. The PCWA will have a website set up for a one-time purchase of Ivy Rain Barrels with the SCD office being the destination for pick-up of the rain barrels. Rain barrels can be ordered through July 10, 2017. PCWA and the District will be available on July 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for landowners to pick up their rain barrel. Becky will have flyers prepared for the Field Day and on hand during the AgEP sign up period in July.

Becky reported she will be on vacation the last week of June.

Becky presented the two (2) photos submitted to the District for the 2017 SCD Photo Contest. The board selected the "Honey Bee" picture submitted by Leisa Moran as the 1<sup>st</sup> place picture. Both pictures will be submitted to the WVACD for the state contest.

Becky reported approximately 30 women attended the Women in Ag Workshop. Becky thanked the board and staff for assisting with the event.

The board reviewed the AgEP Agreement for FY18. Becky stated if approved she will forward the agreement to Brian Farkas and Jennifer Skaggs. **Randall Patton moved to approve the AgEP Agreement for FY18 as presented. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

Virgel Caldwell reported the Joe Valach Farm of Mercer County was selected as the 2017 District Conservation Farm. James Gill Farm was selected as the Summers County Conservation Farm and Randi Dove was selected as the Wyoming County Conservation Farm. Becky reported letters have been mailed to each farmer and the information submitted to Brian Farkas and Kim Fisher for the area judging. Becky will inform supervisors when the date has been set for the area farm judging.

#### **Southern Conservation District Crew Foreman Report**

Dave Parkulo reported on farm work completed last month. The work on the 319 Soccer Project has been on and off as weather permits. Dvon questioned the Chestnut seedlings and when they would be planted on the site? Roger Sybolt has requested to visit the site and look at possibly developing an American Chestnut demonstration orchard that would generate interest for students and teachers in the area. Dvon will send Dave Stewart the information to work with Mr. Sybolt.

Dave reported lime is being spread upon request and weather permitting. He will begin mowing on Mercer County dams today and will continue this next week.

Dave stated three contractors have shown interest in the Asphalt work and bid. Bids will be opened on June 13th.

Dave is working with Gary Redden on mulch to be delivered to the Boy Scout Jamboree site.

Dave has been working with Virgel and Oscar on quotes for a new district work truck to replace the GMC Canyon. Dave reviewed a quote from Sheets on a 2017 RAM 2500 4X4 Crew Cab for \$35,733.50 with a trade in value of \$6,000.00 for the GMC Canyon making the purchase price \$29,733.50. The group suggested this be placed on the on the July agenda.

#### **Board Elections**

**Curtis Murphy moved to nominate Virgel Caldwell as Chairman. Randall Patton seconded. Dvon Duncan asked for nominations from the floor. Randy Prince moved to close nominations. John Farrell seconded. Motion to close nominations carried. Motion to elect Virgel Caldwell as Chairman carried.**

**Don Windon moved to nominate Curtis Murphy as Vice Chairman. Dvon Duncan seconded. Virgel Caldwell asked for nominations from the floor. John Farrell moved nominations be closed. Randy Price seconded. Motion to close nominations carried. Motion to elect Curtis Murphy as Vice Chairman carried.**

**Curtis Murphy moved to nominate Dvon Duncan as Secretary. Randall Patton seconded. Virgel Caldwell asked for nominations from the floor. John Farrell moved nominations be closed. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion to close nominations carried. Motion to elect Dvon Duncan as secretary carried.**



Stuart Oxley \$1,781.47

Dennis Daniel \$253.43

**Frost Seeding**

Dennis Daniel \$ 197.00

Gary Jarrell \$607.00

Michael Carr \$435.00

**Invasive Species**

Joy McKinney \$121.31

Ralph Richmond \$517.95

**Dvon Duncan moved to approve all AgEP contracts presented for payment. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

**319 Projects**

Marty reported she is continuing to work with the SCD and PCWA on the 319 project at the Raleigh County soccer field complex.

Marty reported the Athens Project has been turned over to Dennis Burns to carry out the proposed project for these funds. The proposed project is in Summers County.

**WV Association of Conservation Districts Update**

Dvon thanked Becky for forwarding the May 31 and June 8 emails from Timothy VanReenen concerning the reorganization of NRCS and locally led conservation. The WVACD will forward comments they receive from Districts to NACD by June 10.

Curtis Murphy and Ray Lafferty will be the representatives at the July quarterly meeting. The proxy information has been sent to Timothy VanReenen. Becky Floyd reminded the board the winning photos and posters will need to be sent to the July quarterly meeting for state judging.

Supervisors were encouraged to work the state conservation partnership booth and advised to let Becky know what time slot and day they want to serve so it can be entered in the schedule.

**Visiting Agencies**

*Natural Resources Conservation Service*

Bill Harris discussed the grassland component of the Grassland Reserve Program which is a rental payment per acre based upon a grassland management plan being developed for all acres under the contract. Bill asked the board to approve the grassland management plan developed by NRCS for James Canterbury. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the update to the management plan for James Canterbury. John Farrell seconded. Motion carried.**

Bill discussed the FAC practice for Forage Management for extended winter grazing Code 511 that was not included in the original proposal. Bill asked the board to revise the proposal to include Code 511 practice to the original proposal for Summers County. **Curtis Murphy moved to approve the practice revision. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

#### *WV Conservation Agency*

Becky Floyd reviewed the WVCA written report June. The next State Committee meeting will be July 11.

Dvon discussed a blockage on Slab Fork Creek in Mullens. She is concerned on the trees and debris backing up in this area. Dvon has submitted the information to the Agency for review and assistance.

#### **Supervisor Reports**

The group discussed the upcoming Farm Field Day. Virgel encouraged supervisors to attend.

Dvon submitted the SCD VISTA Goal sheet for board review. Dvon discussed the goals for the VISTA worker and the action steps that will be required for the position. The goal is to have a self-sustaining program in place where the district can hire someone part or full time to implement/continue the processes put in place. Dvon stated the goals were pulled from the SCD 2017-18 Plan of Work. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the goals for the VISTA Worker as submitted. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.**

Dvon discussed Kiosk being placed on the Guyandotte River. Dvon requested to use SCD contact information to purchase the cloth for the project. Mountain RC&D will cover the cost of the cloth for the project.

Dvon reported the Glen Rogers Memorial Ceremony will be held June 19.

Dvon reported Clark Mollohan is representing the Mountain RC&D at the state Mountain RC&D meeting today. Dvon stated she wanted to make the board aware that realignment of the RC&D counties may be discussed at the meeting. Dvon stated she made this request because of the Mountain RC&D covering 11 counties.

Randy Prince scheduled a safety meeting for June 30 at 9:00 a.m. at the SCD office.

Dvon reminded the board on June 30 at Ward Park she will be working with PCWA from 11 to 1 p.m. for a water conservation day.

Dvon reported the next Mountain RC&D meeting will be July 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the downstairs conference room.

Virgel discussed supervisor expenses and reminded board members expenses and per diem should be turned in monthly and placed in the yellow folder at Oscar's chair.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully submitted:

Virgel Caldwell/Dvon Duncan  
Chairman/Secretary