

**SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
AUGUST 10, 2017
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The August 10, 2017 meeting was held at the Southern Conservation District office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Dennis Bailey led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Virgel requested a moment of silence in memory of Billy Joe Edwards. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting with prayer.

Billy Joe Edwards, past SCD Summers County Supervisor, passed away on August 5, 2017 at his home.

Supervisors Present

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

Supervisors Absent

Travis Prince

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Kim Fisher, WVCA
Marty Walker, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Greg Stone, NRCS	Bill Harris, NRCS
Robert Sypolt, American Chestnut Foundation	

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the July 13, 2017 board meeting minutes as mailed. Randy Prince seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of SCD July Financial Reports

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the July SCD financial reports as prepared by Akers and Associates. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the July Accounts Receivable report as prepared by Akers and Associates. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Curtis Murphy moved to approve the July WVCA/SCD financial reports as prepared and presented by the WVCA staff. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Becky read the email requesting supervisors working the state fair booth to bring fair handouts for their district.

Becky reported the letter of request for the FY18 AgEP funds totaling \$63,000.00 has been submitted for processing.

Becky presented the following 319 invoice for payment approval pending WVCA approval:
Invoice 4471 YMCA 319 Project \$25,189.27

Dvon Duncan moved to approve payment of Invoice 4471 pending WVCA approval of the invoice. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Becky reported she has started planning the annual awards banquet with Virgel. The group decided to try to schedule the banquet for Oct. 3 or 5th at the Black Knight Country Club.

A discussion was held on FY17 SCD travel and expenses. Virgel reminded board members all FY17 expenses must be submitted today to close out the fiscal year and reimburse the district for a part of the cost of the new truck.

Becky reminded supervisors SCD conservation coloring books are ready for delivery to elementary schools. Marty reported she will be visiting local schools to read to students as part of her role as Mrs. WV and asked if she could take district coloring books to the schools she visits. Dvon encouraged supervisors to pick up books for their county schools. Becky reported she presented several boxes last year during Arbor Day events.

Southern Conservation District Foreman Report

Dave Parkulo reviewed work completed during the last month. A discussion was held on the meeting with Joel McGraw concerning repairs to Billy Joe Edwards pond. Dave stated he provided an estimate of \$500.00 for the work. No action taken.

Dave reported on SPRP sites he toured with Brian Fry. Dave has provided estimates for the work to Judith Lyons. Dvon asked if the Mullens site was one of the sites visited during the tour? Dave said they did not look at the Mullens site. Dave discussed a site at Sandbranch he found and will submit to the Agency to review. Dvon and Ray discussed concerns on the site near the high school which could create major flooding during a high-water event. Kim Fisher provided a copy of the report from Judith for board members to review. The report reflected the Guyandotte River site called in by Dvon is not eligible due to the following:

- Guyandotte River – navigable water by the COE jurisdiction (listed on rivers the Agency does not work on)
- Not adjacent to a home or improved building
- On WV-DOH bridge abutment – we do not work within 50’ of wingwalls of DOH bridges

Kim reminded board members all calls on blockages must be sent to Kim Neal to register and track progress of eligibility.

Group reviewed eligible SPRP sites pending contracts and one site in progress.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker reported she has been out of the office this week due to the flu. Marty reported she has completed ranking on the lime, pond cleanout and water system applications and these ready for board review and approval. Marty reported she has not completed the ranking on fencing applications or compiled the new cooperator list due to being out of the office. Marty reported the SCD AgEP committee met and reviewed the cost share percentages verses the FY18 amount of funds the district will be receiving and agreed to use the same percentages and budget as last year. Marty discussed concerns on the amount of fencing applications that may not get funded this year in addition to lime applications not funded. The group discussed concerns on the amount of AgEP funds being decreased due to the WVACD funding allocation process. Marty stated there may not be enough funds for a second sign up period. Dvon questioned if the district will be able to have a second sign up period to fund the new proposed heavy use protection practice.

Marty presented the following applications for board approval:

Lime

Donald Stump	\$273.00
David Mullins	\$1,459.25
Gary Davis	\$2,000.00
Gary Hall	\$1,064.75
John McLaughlin	\$1,050.00
Cristy Jones	\$1,890.00
Alicia Wright	\$1,425.00
Dean Bailey	\$1,575.75
Fred Booth	\$1,225.00
Jeff McLaughlin	\$1,500.00
Robert Lilly	\$842.25
Harold Shrewsbury	\$2,000.00
Douglas Grimmett	\$1,307.75
Adrian Harper	\$2,000.00
Cheryl Williams	\$250.00
Rebecca Moretto	\$275.00
Ricky Moye	\$344.25
Johnathon Meadows	\$2,000.00
Billy Johnson	\$1,373.00
Jimmy Manning	\$1,427.75
Robert Littreal Jr.	\$878.00
Derek Johnson	\$157.75
Terry Bennett	\$382.00
Homer Plumley	\$819.50
Josette Phillips	\$1,123.00

Dennis Bailey moved to approve the lime applications as presented. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Water Systems	
Judy Winsett	\$2,000.00
Mary Milam	\$2,000.00
James Hartwell	\$2,000.00

Dennis Bailey moved to approve the water system applications as presented. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

Pond Cleanout	
Larry McClintic	\$2,000.00
Darrell Nutter	\$2,000.00
Benny Jones	\$2,000.00
Kevin Okes	\$2,000.00
Garland Ellis	\$2,000.00
John Fox	\$2,000.00

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the pond cleanout applications as presented. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

Marty requested a special meeting for next week to review and approve new cooperators and the fencing applications. **The board agreed to hold a special meeting on August 15, 2017 at the SCD office. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m.**

319 Update

Marty Walker reported the YMCA Piney Creek 319 Project work has been completed. She will provide payment approval on the SCD invoice after review of the work has been completed.

Visiting Agency Reports

WV Conservation Agency

Kim Fisher reviewed the Agency report. Kim congratulated the district on the poster and photo winners in the state contest. Shelby Rose placed 1st in the 4-6 division of the state poster contest and Leisa Moran placed 2nd in the adult division of the state photo contest.

Kim read the email from Timothy VanReenen concerning the Leopold Farm Conservation Contest. This will be placed on the September board meeting agenda for discussion and review. Becky will provide copies of the contest information to the supervisors.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Greg Stone reported for NRCS. Greg discussed at length the opportunity they have for District's to request federal dollars for non-structural watershed projects in WV. Greg reported they are looking at Wyoming and McDowell county for possible projects. Dvon and Ray reported they met with Greg to discuss the possibilities for assistance in Wyoming County. Greg discussed the plans underway by the WVU Law Clinic and other sponsors to request a watershed study for McDowell County. A copy of the Elkhorn Watershed request document package was provided to Randall

Patton. A copy of a draft letter to NRCS requesting a watershed study for Wyoming County was reviewed by board members. **Ray Lafferty moved the board approve the draft letter to NRCS requesting assistance with a watershed study for Wyoming County. Dvon Duncan seconded. Randall Patton requested the motion be amended to include McDowell County.** Greg stated a sponsor letter would only be required for McDowell County. A completed SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance and a narrative will need to be sent with the sponsor request letter for Wyoming County. **Ray Lafferty amended his motion to include a letter also be sent on behalf of McDowell County. Dvon Duncan seconded the amendment to the motion. The original motion carried. The motion as amended carried.**

Dvon will prepare the attachments for the Wyoming County request being submitted to NRCS.

Greg gave an EQIP update and employee update. A technician will be hired for the Princeton office.

Dvon reviewed the final Focus Proposal prepared by NRCS. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the FY18 Focus Proposals as prepared by NRCS. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.**

American Chestnut Foundation

Robert Sypolt gave an update on the Foundation and discussed demonstrational plantings in WV. A discussion followed on membership to the American Chestnut Foundation. Mr. Sypolt brought an additional six chestnut trees to the SCD for the YMCA soccer field site. Dvon **Duncan moved the District become a member of the American Chestnut Foundation at the \$500.00 level. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

WV Association of Conservation Districts

Ray Lafferty reported on the WVACD July quarterly meeting. Ray will be attending the national watershed meeting this fall in Nebraska. Ray encouraged each board member to donate an item for the WVACD Auction this October. Curtis Murphy reported on the Century Farm Program. Curtis stated the WVACD voted to go back to two day meetings.

The next Ag Day and Legislative Breakfast will be held February 7, 2018.

Nominations

Randall Patton and Dvon Duncan reported they have discussed selections for the 2017 awards for the SCD. **Randall Patton moved to nominate Oscar Vecellio as the 2017 Carroll Greene nominee and SCD Supervisor of the Year. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried. Randall Patton moved to nominate Don Windon as the 2017 SCD Honorary Member to the WVACD. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried. Randall Patton moved to nominate Marty Walker as the 2017 SCD nominee for the WVACD Member at Large award. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky will work with each of the nominees to complete the entry applications and forms.

Kim reported the Carroll Greene nomination should be sent to the WVACD office.

Supervisor Reports

Virgel Caldwell asked board members to review the highlighted areas on the Travel and Per Diem policy. Virgel stated these are suggested changes to the current policy. **Randall Patton moved to approve the changes to the policy as presented. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried with one negative vote from Dennis Bailey.**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman

Dvon Duncan
Secretary