

**SOUTHERN CONSERVATION DISTRICT
JANUARY 11, 2018
MINUTES OF MEETING**

The Southern Conservation District January 11, 2018 board meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Virgel Caldwell, SCD Chairman. Randall Patton led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting with prayer.

Supervisors Present

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

Supervisors Absent

Travis Prince
John Farrell
Randy Prince

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Marty Walker, WVCA
Dave Parkulo, SCD	Dave Stewart, PCWA
Stephen McDaniel, WVDNR	Jeremy Salyer, WVCA

Approval of Minutes

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the December 14, 2017 board meeting minutes as mailed. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.

Approval/Review of December Financial Reports

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the SCD financial reports for December as prepared by Akers and Associates. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.

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

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Becky Floyd reviewed the increase in the federal mileage rate for travel reimbursement for supervisors. A copy has been provided to Mike Akers.

Becky reviewed the election dates for supervisors to sign up in their county for the 2018 election.

Becky reported Dvon Duncan asked that a copy of the current District Plan of Work be placed in each supervisor notebook for review at board meetings.

Becky presented the December co-administered financial reports for board review and approval. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the December co-administered financial reports as prepared by WV Conservation Agency fiscal staff. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.**

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

WVCA	FY17 Audit Cost	\$3,300.00
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Dennis Bailey moved to approve the LOR as presented. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Becky presented the letter from the WV Watershed Network requesting donations for the 20th annual Watershed Celebration Day. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve a \$100.00 donation from the SCD/CDO account. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky reported the District has received emails from Jodi Richmond, Brian Sparks and David Richmond requesting assistance with the dinner meetings being held by Extension this winter in Mercer, Fayette, Raleigh and Summers County. **Dennis Bailey moved to approve a \$250.00 donation from the CDO account for each county to assist with the cost of the dinner meetings. Curtis Murphy seconded.** A discussion was held on the dinner meetings and if Districts had representation at the meetings. Dvon stated Mountain RC&D also received the request for donations for the dinner meetings and safety day. Dvon stated they received feedback from the WV Conservation Agency questioning the relation of the meetings to the mission of the RC&D. Becky stated the Safety Day request is separate from this request. **Motion carried.**

The board reviewed the request from Extension for a donation towards the cost of their Farm Safety Days. The request died for lack of a motion.

The group reviewed the request for sponsors for the WV Small Farm Conference. **Curtis Murphy moved the district donate \$150.00 from the CDO account for a half page advertisement in the conference program. Ray Lafferty seconded.** Becky will prepare the advertisement and submit it with the check. **Motion carried.**

Becky distributed copies of the "Save the Date" for the February 7 legislative breakfast.

Dvon Duncan reported she prepared and sent a letter to Wyoming County Commission in support of the Coal Mountain Waterline Extension Project. No action required.

Visiting Agency Reports

WV Conservation Agency

Jeremy Salyer stated he is glad to be back in the southern area. He will be in the WVCA Princeton office. He reported the State Committee reviewed and approved the SSRP document. Managers will unfold this program to districts in the future. Dvon asked that a

representative from the WVCA attend a Wyoming County Commission meeting to present the document to Commissioners. Jeremy will mention this to Brian Farkas and get back with the board.

Jeremy reviewed the AgEP timelines, legislative calendar and WVACD quarterly meeting dates.

Jeremy reminded supervisors Financial Disclosure reports need to be completed by supervisors and filed with Ethics Commission by Feb. 1, 2018.

Piney Creek Watershed Association

Dave Stewart reviewed Earth Day 2018 activities. April 21 will be the day of events in Raleigh County. They will hold an event at Maxell Hill Community Center from noon to 4:00 on the 21st.

WV Department of Natural Resources

Stephen McDaniel introduced himself the board. He will contact Camp Creek and Pipestem to discuss Chestnut Tree plantings. He reviewed ongoing projects in southern WV.

Southern Conservation District Crew Foreman Report

Dave Parkulo reported the SCD policy has been updated from the recent policy meeting. A copy of the updated policy was provided to each board member.

The district crew is busy with a fencing project in Fayette County this week. Dave has several pond cleanouts he is looking at, one of which Don Fink is working on today. Routine maintenance has been completed on district equipment.

WV Conservation Agency Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker reported the first sign-up period closed December 15. The following items for approval will close out the first period.

AgEP Contract Cancelations

Darrell Nutter	Pond Cleanout	\$2,000.00
Rebecca Morretto	Lime	\$ 275.00

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the AgEP contract cancelations as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Extension of AgEP Contract

Marty discussed a new cooperator, John Harless who was approved for a pasture division fence contract. Marty stated Mr. Harless tried to reach her by phone and email during the time the phone system was down on multiple occasions while emails and voice mails were not being stored in the system. Mr. Harless has asked for an extension on his contract due to not getting his questions answered until close to the end of the contract. He has agreed to complete the fence project in a timely manner. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the PD Fence AgEP contract**

for John Harless with Marty setting a completion date. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Marty presented the following completed AgEP contracts for payment approval:

Lime

Charles Pennington \$1,987.50

Pond Cleanout

Kevin Okes \$1,975.00

Water System

Judy Winsett \$810.50

Exclusion Fence

David Walker \$2,000.00

Michael Barnes \$2,000.00

Michael Carr \$2,000.00

Pond Cleanout

Benny Jones \$1,927.50

Richard Barnes \$972.50

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

Marty reported the SCD AgEP committee set January 22 -26 for the second sign-up period. Frost Seeding and Heavy Use Area Protection practices will be offered during the sign-up period. Due to the funds on hand the committee suggested agreed only two practices would be offered to cooperators. Marty suggested the district set a cap of \$500.00 per cooperator. Cooperators will only be able to sign for one practice. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the \$500.00 cap per cooperator. Don Windon seconded. Motion carried.**

Marty stated the newsletter has been completed and will be mailed to SCD cooperators. Becky will include the district brochure.

Marty stated her and Dave receive a lot of questions on pond health and what chemicals are safe to use on ponds to address invasive species. She suggested a class or workshop be set up for cooperators and for staff to obtain more information on pond cleanouts and chemicals that can be used to treat farm ponds. Dennis Bailey said he could assist them with setting up a class and obtaining information on pond health from Rural King. Dvon asked if Extension has any information on pond health. Marty stated she has checked and they do not have the information they need to address questions being asked by cooperators. Marty and Dave will work with Dennis and report back to the board on a possible training or workshop.

WV Association of Conservation Districts

Becky provided copies of the agenda for the Winter Quarterly meeting being held January 16-17 at Flatwoods in addition to the minutes from the July 17, 2017 meeting. Becky reported the District's quarterly report has been emailed to each district.

Ray reviewed WVACD meeting dates and locations for the coming year. He encouraged board members to attend the July meeting being held at the Tamarack Conference Center.

Dvon reminded the board about the WVACD Youth Conservation Education Grant.

Supervisor Updates

Oscar Vecellio passed out a financial report for the district funds for 2017. Oscar stated he worked with Mike Akers on the report to reflect the profit and loss for the year. Oscar discussed the building income and expenses for the year.

Dvon discussed the Watershed Based Plan and funding possibilities through AGO grants. She will keep the board updated as information is available from WV Department of Environmental Protection.

Dvon asked the board to review their Plan of Work. Dvon discussed the district ordering seed mix native to our region for the pollinator program. Mr. McDaniel stated DNR has seed mix they use in state parks. Dvon asked Mr McDaniel if DNR could donate seed to use to hand out to cooperators and schools. He will check and contact Becky with information on the seed packets.

Randall discussed the Big Sandy River Coalition and the involvement Carl Mullins had with the Coalition. Randall asked if the board wants him to attend meetings on this and if so is it reimbursable? Ray stated the state did not pay out of state expenses but he did attend some of the meetings with Carl. Virgel stated he would not see why the district could not reimburse Randall for attending the meetings. Randall will research this and report back to the board.

Virgel thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned at 11:14.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman

Dvon Duncan
Secretary