

**Southern Conservation District
Minutes of Meeting
June 14, 2018**

The Southern Conservation District held their regular monthly board meeting on June 14, 2018 at the SCD office, 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV. Virgel Caldwell called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. Curtis Murphy led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Lafferty opened the meeting in prayer.

Supervisors Present

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

Others Present

Becky Floyd, WVCA	Dave Parkulo, SCD
Marty Walker, WVCA	Jeremy Salyer, WVCA by video
Danielle Stewart, PCWA	Katie Stanley, WVU Tech
Greg Stone, NRCS	Danielle Leftwich, WVU Tech
Dane Gaiser, WVU Tech	Joey Harless, WV DOF
Mark Hudnall, WV DOF	Bill Harris, Visitor

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the May10, 2018 board meeting minutes as mailed. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Review/Approval of Southern CD May Financial Reports

Ray Lafferty moved to approve the May financial reports for the SCD accounts and certificate of deposits as prepared by Akers and Associates. Oscar Vecellio seconded. Motion carried.

Curtis Murphy discussed the invoices that are 90 days past due. Dave Parkulo stated Beverly Whitehead moved to Florida and sold the property where the work was completed. He is trying to get in touch with Ms. Whitehead. Dvon suggested Harold Wolfe send a letter to the three landowners with past due invoices older than 90 days. Dave reported Harold Wolfe has the invoice for Jack Taylor and is advising the district on this invoice. Dave stated Kenny Lambert is always very late in paying his invoices. Dave will contact him. Oscar suggested putting a mechanic's lien on the property Ms. Whitehead owned when the work was completed. Dave will work with Harold on these invoices. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the May accounts receivable report as prepared by Akers and Associates. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

WV Conservation Agency District Manager Report

Becky Floyd presented the May WVCA/SCD May financial reports for the co-administered funds as prepared by WVCA staff. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the SCD/WVCA May financial reports for the co-administered funds. Randall Patton seconded. Motion carried.**

Becky presented the following invoice for payment approval:

SCD Invoice #4601 OM&R work -DF-CF Channel \$5,360.00

Oscar Vecellio moved to approve Invoice #4601 for payment. Dvon Duncan seconded. Motion carried.

Becky presented the five conservation photos submitted for the SCD 2018 Photo Contest. Four of the five photos are in adult division with one photo in the student division. Supervisors will select the winning photos immediately following the board meeting.

Becky reported the district received the following Expression of Interest packages(EOI): GAI Consultants, S&S Engineers, Thrasher Engineering Group, and CEC. Jeremy is working with Gene Saurborn and Judith Lyons on possible dates to schedule interviews with engineering firms to review the EOI packages submitted to the District. Jeremy and Becky will work with the Agency and District to finalize a date for the EOI review.

Becky presented copies of the two Statement of Qualifications the district received for the current Fayette County board member vacancy. Statements were received from John Brenemen and Christina Jeffries.

The board reviewed both statements of interest received from Fayette county landowners. **Dvon Duncan moved to recommend John Brenemen Sr. to the State Conservation Committee as the candidate to fill the vacancy for Travis Prince.** Dvon stated the motion is based upon Mr. Brenemen's knowledge of the district and supervisor's role due to his previous term as a district supervisor. **Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion was carried.** Becky was asked to submit the information to Brian Farkas for the July 10 SCC meeting.

Becky reported the SCD conservation farm information for 2018 has been sent to Brian Farkas. The Keith Hunt farm of Fayette County was selected by board members attending the farm tour as the 2018 district farm.

A discussion followed on the need for a copy of the conservation plan for the Hunt Farm and updates needing to be made to the plan by NRCS. Virgel will work with Gary Redden and Greg Stone on the conservation plan information needed prior to the area judging in July. Jeremy reported the area judging will be July 16.

Becky reported copies of the approved SCD Plan of Work for 2018-2019 has been placed in each supervisor notebook, a copy has been sent to Brian Farkas and the Plan of Work is on the SCD website. Dvon thanked Becky for her work on the Plan.

Becky reported approximately 50 women attended the June 5 SCD Women in Agriculture workshop held at Daniel Vineyards. Topics included: growing and marketing heirloom vegetables, growing and drying herbs, mindfulness, benefits of a backyard flock, soil health and testing, and growing mushrooms in their natural environment. Becky thanked everyone for their support.

Becky distributed WV State Fair information and encouraged supervisors to let her know what slot they want to work at the WVACD Booth so she can enter them into the database.

Election of SCD Officers/Directors

Dennis Bailey stated he does not have a ballot ready. Dennis asked current officers if they would consider serving another term as board officers. Current board officers agreed to serve another term. Dennis asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **Dennis Bailey moved current board officers continue in their positions as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. John Farrell seconded. Motion carried.**

Ray Lafferty stated he was interested in continuing as a director. John Farrell stated he is interested in serving as a director in Dvon's place. Dennis Bailey asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed. **Dvon Duncan moved Ray Lafferty and John Farrell be the directors to WVACD for FY19. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

319 Updates

Dennis Bailey reported on local meetings he attended this month. Dennis stated the Ruritan Club has shown a great deal of interest in developing a watershed association. Dennis Burns will be presenting the draft Pipestem Watershed Based Plan at the 319 meeting today. Dvon reported Dr. Tom Ford with Concord University submitted information to her on water quality monitoring completed on Pipestem Creek over the last several years. This information has been forwarded to supervisors and agency representatives.

Becky Floyd reported Virgel Caldwell signed a Sewell Creek Septic Tank application for Danny Brown of Rainelle. Dennis Burns submitted the application to the SCD board for signature and approval. **Ray Lafferty moved to approve the Sewell Creek Septic Tank application for Danny Brown as submitted by Dennis Burns. Curtis Murphy seconded. Motion carried.**

Danielle Stewart gave an update on Piney Creek Watershed and grants that have been submitted to WVDEP for the next fiscal year.

WV Conservation Agency

Jeremy Salyer reviewed the Agency report. He discussed the new supervisor directory being developed by Davin White. The new directory will be in electronic form. Becky can print these for board members once the directory has been completed.

Jeremy discussed HB 4015 and stated Anita May, WVCA Fleet Coordinator, has offered to work with the District to assist them in the upcoming changes in ownership titles for all vehicles with state tags. Anita would need a list of the plate numbers and a copy of the vehicle registration and or title for each CD vehicle running green state tags. Becky stated the email from Anita May has been forwarded to Dave Parkulo.

Dvon questioned if the directory will be public information on the Agency website or on a secured section of the website. Jeremy stated Becky will have access to print copies for the board members. Jeremy will follow up with the Agency to see if the information will be on the public section of the Agency website.

Dvon stated the Oath of Offices will not be available until July 1 which starts the next fiscal year.

Dvon reported a retired judge asked her if she has an office in the county courthouse. She asked this be reflected in the minutes to be researched. Dvon questioned as an elected officer should they have an office in the court house? Jeremy stated the district office has served as the office for elected supervisors.

Marty reported Gary Redden asked her to report he is meeting with a landowner today which is why he is unable to attend the board meeting. Marty reported Gary is working on 14 NRCS contracts.

Piney Creek Watershed Association

Danielle Stewart reported on PCWA events and activities.

WVU Tech Garden Club

Katie Stanley a student at WVU Tech introduced herself to the board. Katie introduced Danielle Leftwich who is the Vice President of the WVU Tech garden club and Dane Gasier who is the treasurer for the garden club. Ms. Leftwich discussed their current projects and high tunnel at the school. The garden club is looking at sustainable agricultural practices students can work on and be a part of the community with conservation services.

Forestry

Mark Hudnall with WV Division of Forestry introduced Joey Harless, Fayette County Service Forester. He is working with landowners on management and service plans. Dvon Duncan discussed the forestry coloring books and stated she could use 300 for Wyoming County schools. Randall Patton stated he could use coloring books for McDowell County schools. Mark

stated he could check on this but the supplies are limited to each county and the DOF coloring books are used as tools when they visit local schools.

Greg Stone congratulated the District and the Raleigh County Solid Waste Authority on the high tunnel grant. Greg stated Gary Redden will be working with the SWA on development of the high tunnel.

Greg reported NRCS is moving forward on the Upper Guyandotte watershed project for Wyoming County. He will contact Dvon and Ray when a planning meeting has been scheduled. Dvon stated if she has a vote on the location of a project it would be Indian Creek. Greg stated the district will have vote on locations of the projects.

Greg discussed an agreement NRCS has entered with WVU on food deserts. Greg stated the southern coalfields are in this area. High tunnels have started to help in these areas but many challenges remain that need to be addressed by conservation and agriculture partners. NRCS is working to put together a work plan to address agriculture concerns and needs for southern WV. Greg discussed two landowners who are currently operating a nonprofit agriculture project in McDowell county helping with production of fresh food. Greg plans to introduce this group to WVU leaders to help make contacts with all partners.

Greg reported they have approximately 20 landowners interested in the high tunnel focus project, with most of these from McDowell and Wyoming counties.

Dvon encouraged NRCS to pull the Saulsville Community Tech campus into the food desert project. Greg stated he does not have the connections for this but encouraged the board to work directly with the campus.

Southern CD Crew Foreman

Dave Parkulo suggested the WVU Tech garden club possibly assisting with the high tunnel being developed at the Solid Waste Authority. Oscar will work with all partners in developing the high tunnel.

Dave reported on crew work being completed under the OM&R program.

Dave reported he will be completing additional 319 work on the Rodney Wickline pond.

Dave reported on the June 1 Field Day and discussed ideas for next year.

Dave reported two Army trucks were sold by sealed bid.

WV Conservation Specialist Report

Marty Walker gave an update on the AgEP practices and contracts for FY18.

Marty reminded the board the first application period for FY19 will be July 5-13th.

Marty presented the following completed AgEP contracts for payment approval:

Frost Seeding	
Charles Oxley	\$114.75

Dvon Duncan moved to approve the frost seeding AgEP payment as presented. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.

Heavy Use Protection Area

Luther Bennett	\$500.00
Jerry Bennett	\$500.00
Steve Dehart	\$500.00
Michael Fink	\$500.00
Paul Fink	\$500.00
Travis Redden	\$500.00
Michael Barnes	\$500.00
Ron Testerman	\$500.00
Shannon Daniel	\$500.00

Dennis Bailey moved to approve the Heavy Use Protection Area AgEP payments as presented. Ray Lafferty seconded. Motion carried.

WV Association of Conservation Districts Update

The group discussed the July 11-12 quarterly meeting. Training for newly elected supervisors will be July 12-13. Becky asked recently elected supervisors to submit a copy of their oath of office by the July 13th SCD board meeting.

The group discussed the NACD Summer meeting being held in Williamsburg, Virginia. The board agreed to send Ray Lafferty as their representative.

The group discussed the NACD Annual meeting which will be held in San Antonio, Texas on February 2-6, 2019. The board agreed to postpone any decisions on this meeting until November. Becky was asked to place this on the November board meeting agenda.

Supervisor Reports

Oscar Vecellio asked the board to consider donating \$6,000.00 from CDO funds to be used towards the RCSWA high tunnel project to help with grant funds they will receive from WVACD/NRCS. The RCSWA will provide in-kind funds like, labor, electricity, and daily overview. Greg stated he believes the WVACD/NRCS grant fund is on a reimbursable basis. The RCSWA will send invoices to WVACD to be reimbursed for dollars spent towards the high tunnel.

Oscar Vecellio moved to donate \$6,000.00 from the CDO account to the Raleigh County Solid Waste Authority to be used on the development and construction of the high tunnel. Randall

Patton seconded. Motion carried. The District will donate the \$6,000.00 to the RCSWA with the request for a detailed report to be provided by the RCSWA on how the dollars are spent.

Dvon reported the national community service announcement of the VISTA position that has been approved and has now been posted on their website and the SCD website.

Dvon presented the Germ Plasm Agreement for signature. Dvon stated the agreement simply states the district will not sell any of the chestnut tree seedlings donated by the Chestnut Association. **Dvon Duncan moved to approve the Germ Plasm Agreement for signature by Virgel Caldwell. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

Dvon reported on meeting with representatives on Section 10 and Section 404 permitting on the Guyandotte. Dvon stated she was advised if a landowner is only pulling material out of the stream they do not need a permit.

Randall Patton discussed a demolition project in McDowell County. The McDowell County SWA has applied for grants to use for demolition expenses. Randall discussed the MCSWA possibly hiring the district crew for the demolition work. Randall stated he has discussed the work with Dave Parkulo and asked for an adjusted cost if the work is done during a slow work time for the district crew. Dave stated the work could be done (basically at cost with a small overhead) for \$6,000.00 for a standard 40-hour work week for one excavator, two trucks and operators. Dave stated he would have to look at the work again to determine a final cost estimate. Randall will discuss this with the County Commission and the SWA. Randall stated the work would be done during a time when it is not a peak work time for the crew. The original estimate was \$8,400.00 if the work needs to be done during a busy work time. Dennis Bailey asked if this is a conflict of interest if the district does the work? Jeremy encouraged Randall if he is representing the SWA then he should not make the motion due to a possible conflict of interest. Randall stated he is the SCD representative on the SWA board and not representing the SWA. **Randall Patton moved the district crew contract with the McDowell County SWA to perform the demolition work which would include one excavator, two trucks and operators estimated at \$6,000.00 for a 40-hour week during slow work periods or if the work is at peak season the SWA would pay the full rate of \$8,400.00. Dennis Bailey seconded. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

Respectfully submitted

Virgel Caldwell
Chairman

Dvon Duncan
Secretary