



MINUTES

Western Conservation District Board Meeting July 19, 2018

In Attendance

Supervisors: Charles Lipscomb, Chairman; Oscar Harris, Vice-Chairman; Donald Stephens, Treasurer; Jim Withrow, Secretary; Jeremy Grant and D. W. Peachie Arthur

Others: Mary Perdue, Representing Dennis Brumfield CPA; Jackie Byars, District Conservationist, USDA; Kim Fisher, Area Director; Russell Kidwell, Conservation Technician and Sherry Pearson, District Manager; WVCA.

Call to Order

Chairman Lipscomb called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. at the district office in Point Pleasant.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

On a Harris/Stephens motion the agenda was adopted. Motion carried.

On a Stephens/Harris motion the minutes for June was approved as emailed. Motion carried.

Financial Reports

General & CDO Funds - District CPA, Dennis Brumfield reviewed the financial reports.

Co-Administered Funds - WCD Co-Administered Funds Report was presented by DM as prepared by WVCA. Both reports will be field for audit. The cost for the new Watson floats was discussed. **On a Harris/Stephens motion the district will charge \$95 for the floats. Motion carried.** It was also noted that the plates and bolts for NRCS projects have been received.

Financial Transactions for July were approved as presented on a Stephens/Grant motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Don prepared a spreadsheet showing expenses per supervisor. A total of \$674.33 was approved on a Harris/Withrow motion. Motion carried.

Power Point Presentation – Welcome to Supervisors

Sherry reviewed a presentation she put together to inform supervisors about the workings of the district. Supervisors will be provided a copy of the information for their WCD Handbooks. Plans are to review it with supervisors on an annual basis.

Report of Supervisors

Bob Siebel emailed his written report on the Great Kanawha RC&D meeting.

On a Withrow/Harris motion Peachie will represent the district on the GKRC&D Council. Motion carried.

WVACD Quarterly – Chairman Lipscomb attended the meeting and gave a report.

Chuck is on the Water Resources Committee. Jim Withrow and Clyde Bailey were selected by the WVACD to attend the National Grasslands Conference. New WVACD Officers were named.

Jim Withrow reported he is on the District Operations Committee and the WVACD representative to the Ag Hall of Fame.

State Conservation Committee - JimWithrow reported he and Peachie attended the State Committee meeting. The LKCD Supervisors are requesting a per diem increase to \$80. The Attorney General decision on watershed agreements with county commission was discussed.

LK RC&D meeting was attended by Don Stephens he gave a report.

Programs

Operation, Maintenance & Repair of Watershed Dams

Southern CD is doing an excellent job with the OM&R Oscar reported. Judith Lyons provided a written report and some pictures both were reviewed.

Contract Payment to Southern CD

On a Withrow/Grant motion the board gave Don and Oscar authorization to approve contract modifications for emergency work on Mill Creek 9. Motion carried.

Agriculture Enhancement Program

Review of Close of FY18 Program -The final totals for FY18 are \$73,582 paid out with \$114,762 cost share that had been approved. Total of unfunded applications \$136,867.70

Allocation of Carry Over

The carry over balance from FY18 \$23,677.57 was added to the \$81,000 for a total of \$104,677.57 for FY19.

FY19 Rankings Reviewed with the board by Russell Kidwell.

After reviewing rankings and contracts for each practice the board decided to fund \$147,674.10 worth of contracts. **On a Harris/Stephens motion the board approved \$140,000, this includes \$30,000 from the Potato funds for FY19 program. A motion to reconsider their previous motion was made. Motion carried. On a Grant/Withrow motion to amend the amount to \$147,674.10 was approved. Motion carried.**

On a Stephens/Withrow motion the board approved the contracts be funded. Motion carried. Lime ranking from 60, Water from 98, Division Fence 102 and Exclusion 55 with all frost seed and pollinator applications approved.

Correspondence

Request from WVU Extension to support Women in Ag Conference. **On a Withrow/Harris motion the board will provide financial support the same as last year. Motion carried.**

Old Business

Conservation Farm Area Tour - Plans are to meet at the Service Center in Ripley at 5:30 p.m. Be at the Hunter Farm at 6 for one hour.

Return Unused NPS Livestock Exclusion Funds - **On a Harris/Stephens motion the board approved to return the unused funds. Motion carried.**

New Business

Focused Conservation Approval

Jackie Byars spoke about the Focused Conservation Initiative plans the local work group had suggested.

On a Harris/Withrow motion the board approved of Jackie's recommendation on the Focused Conservation Initiative. Motion carried. This includes extended grazing hay land for fall, forestry access road for fire prevention and grassland for all Mill Creek in Jackson County. Emailed information was received from Louis Aspey to all districts regarding a funding opportunity to put additional staff in districts. Positions requested for Western CD is a Forester and a Biologist. Applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on August 15, 2018. The board is in support of these positions. Chairman Lipscomb named a committee of Don, Jeremy and Jim to work with Jackie to submit applications for both positions.

Bank Accounts Approved Signature Changes

On a Harris/Stephens motion changes to the signature authority was approved for all accounts to remove Bob Siebel and add Peachie Arthur. Motion carried. The board will take care of this after the August meeting.

Set Date of Awards Banquet

Jim asked for the banquet to be held at the new facility at Valley Park. The board set the date of October 4th at the Valley Park facility.

Nominations Due Sept 1st for Carroll Greene, WVACD Honorary Member & Member At Large Supervisors will bring back to the August meeting any nominations.

Agency Reports

West Virginia Conservation Agency

Kim Fisher, Area Director - Written Report Submitted (attached)

Kim had to leave at noon to make the Guyan CD board meeting.

Charles Copeland, LOA Specialist – Written Report Submitted (attached)

Adjournment

Chairman Lipscomb stated the date of the next meeting will be Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 9 a.m. With no further business, Chairman Lipscomb adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Sherry Pearson

Approved by: _____

James Withrow, Secretary

Attachments

