



**Coffindaffer/Law motion carried to approve the Co-Administered report for February.** The report will be filed pending audit.

**Approval of Invoices & Payments:** There are none at this time.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Committee Reports:** Jim reported for the Appalachian Grazing Conference meeting where they met last Friday. Each District should have received a letter requesting funding for the Conference to be held next year. Randy is chairman of the vendor committee and he asks if Supervisors know someone, let him know and he will give them a call. It will be held March 13 & 14, 2015. The Grassland Committee meeting will be held next week in Weston to finalize the contest coming up during the Beef Expo.

**Ag Enhancement Program:** Amy reported that the two people that we had requested payments from due to overpayment have paid the amounts. There are no payments or cancellations at this time. Amy also reported on the last shared position for WVCA, they are in the process of hiring a civil engineer, who would be out of Parkersburg. This person would be able to take care of AgEP practices. She is not sure if that person will be here when we need them. Bill and Amy have spoken to Greg Linder with Civil & Environmental Consultants, who said those services for them would be relatively cheap. That cost cannot come out of the AgEP funds. In our situation, we may have some priority with this new person being hired. The next AgEP committee meeting will be on March 25 at 9:00 a.m.

**Polk Creek & Salem Fork O & M – 2014:** Ed Martin, WVCA, has met with Bill Coffindaffer on this year's proposal for the O & M work. Ed noted that last fall when the inspections were being done, they were also getting ready for this summer's O&M work. Ed distributed the Polk Creek & Salem Fork Summaries to the Supervisors. The total for Polk Creek OM&R is \$88,450.00. The estimated post maintenance OM&R funds would be \$33,101.26 for Polk Creek. The total for Salem Fork OM&R is \$36,840.00 and the estimated post maintenance OM&R funds will be \$33,853.44 for Salem Fork. These summaries do not include engineering need on them. The goal is to get these dams back to where they were when they were built. We would not be anticipating this cost every year. These will be lump sum contracts. Does the board want to go in the direction of contractors or use another District? Ed has his schedule laid out for the Polk Creek work in June and Salem Fork in August. He would like to get the contracts together and a job showing in late April. Would there be an objection for the board to put together a contract for Polk Creek? **Coffindaffer moved that the District give Ed permission to move ahead with a contract for the Polk Creek dams OM&R work and it was seconded by Plaugher. Motion carried.** Dinah noted the EAP's will also need to be updated. Ed mentioned some ongoing easements issues on Salem Fork #11-A, where they had done some flagging last week.

**Plan of Work Update:** This will be deferred into the end of the meeting today.

**Senate Bill 365 – House Bill 4340:** The Senate bill has passed and is on the House floor today, with no amendments it could be completed on Thursday, March 6. This will authorize the WV State Conservation Committee to write rules governing how

Supervisors can participate in WVCA programs. The law also allows for the drafting of emergency rules. Until the rules are in place, the \$1,000 cap remains in place for Supervisors. Once the legislation passes, Brian Farkas will form a committee to begin drafting the rules. Senate Bill 454 defining dam owner bill is still pending in the House Judiciary as of this update from WVCA. This is part of the WVCA report today.

### **New Business**

**Conservation Farm Program:** It is time to be thinking of potential Conservation Farm cooperators in each of the four counties. This will be on the agenda next month and hope we can come up with a farm from each county. **Coffindaffer moved the District have the Conservation Farm Program for this year and it was seconded by Plaughter. Motion carried.**

**Plan of Work FY14-15:** The group will need to meet to prepare the Plan of work for next fiscal year. The Plan of Work will need to be submitted on or before June 13, 2014. The meeting will be held after the board meeting on April 1.

**Budget Committee Meeting:** The meeting for this year's budgets will be March 19 in the afternoon, 1:00 p.m.

### **Correspondence:**

WVACD – NACD North East Regional Meeting requesting funding. **Coffindaffer made a motion to send \$1,000.00 to the NACD Northeast Regional meeting and it was seconded by McClain. Motion carried. Coffindaffer made a motion for Foster to serve on this committee and it was seconded by Plaughter. Motion carried.**

CC Jeff Griffith, NRCS to Jackson Flanagan.

2014 Watershed North Tentative Annual Inspection Calendar. Those dates will be April 21-24, 2014. Polk Creek will begin on April 21.

WVACD State Fair Committee draft minutes for February 4, 2014.

Doddridge County FFA Chapter: Auction on March 13 to begin at 6:00 p.m.

**Funding Requests:** There are none at this time.

**Letters of Request:** There were none to request.

**SPRP Project:** There are none at this time.

**Board Member Reports:** Jim attended the Doddridge County Watershed Association last week. They are pulling samples of water and sending them into be analyzed. Tim noted the Envirothon meeting being held tomorrow. The District Envirothon training will be on April 9 at the Doddridge County Park. **Collins made a motion to spend up to \$150.00 for lunch at the Envirothon training and it was seconded by McClain. Motion carried.** Bernadette commented on the Speech & Poster contests coming up this month.

### **Report of Cooperating Agencies:**

**Jeff Griffith, NRCS:** Jeff reported on the recent Farm Bill where he does not have a lot of specifics yet. He has heard that WV was included in an initiative called Strike Force. These funds will be used in designated states and those counties eligible include Lewis, Gilmer and Doddridge. Funds will come to NRCS through the EQIP program. It will be

used for seasonal high tunnels. They are on hold for CSP. The weather has slowed them down in the field. They do have an active volunteer in Gilmer County. A vacancy has been posted on their website, for part time help, which could be here in this District.

**Bruce Loyd, WVU Extension Service:** Bruce reported on the dinner meeting next week in West Milford. The speaker will be talking on farm diversification. The dinner meeting in Doddridge County is on March 24 at the Doddridge County Park. On March 14, they will be doing breeding soundness exams at Jackson's Mill. There will be a sheep and goat management meeting on March 20. Wardensville Bull sale is also coming up the end of the month. He also discussed the Small Farms conference last week in Morgantown that was very well attended.

**Joel Barnosky, FSA:** Joel reported on their 1026 training form held recently in Elkins. This is for the standard wetland and highly erodible land. This is a cooperative effort between FSA and NRCS. The Livestock Indemnity program is going through and sign up will be sometime after April 15. This will be one of the first things implemented out of the Farm Bill.

**Chuck Copeland, Forestry:** Chuck reported fire season started March 1 and ends the end of May. He will start looking at dates for the Forestry Contest at Mountwood Park. It should be the first week in June. This is the contest this District holds with the Little Kanawha CD.

**WVCA:** Kim reported on the WVCA report for March. The WVACD Quarterly meeting is April 7 & 8 at Twin Falls State Park. Districts are being asked to prepare the CDO budget report for FY2015. It will need to be received on or before March 28 so it can be presented to the WVSCC in April. The next WVSCC meeting is scheduled for April 15. Districts will need to think about how to cut 7.5% for FY15. They should know the budget allocation for WVCA by mid-March, unless the legislature extends the budget finalization until later in the fiscal year due to revenue collections. The legislative update was also a part of the WVCA report with the last day of the legislative session this coming Saturday, March 8. Dinah noted the Century Farm applications and scholarship applications will need to be in this month. What with the adverse weather conditions, do we extend these programs, especially for District scholarships? **Plaugher made a motion to extend deadline for scholarships until March 14 due to adverse weather. Collins second. Motion carried.** So far, she has given out three Century Farm applications in Lewis County. The Women in AG committee met last week and they have a total of 15 vendors. Suttle & Stalnaker were here on February 14 to work on the District audit.

**WFCD:** Robin reported on the Speech and Poster rules where there was a mix-up. She has sent out a mass email to the teachers and they seem to be ok with it. The Education Committee will meet on April 4 at 10:00 a.m.

**Conservation Agreements:** The following Conservation Agreement has been received for new cooperators;

- Paul Jerrett – 53 acres – Doddridge County

**Plaugher/Coffindaffer motion carried to approve the Conservation Agreement for Jerrett.** Dinah noted that two Districts in our area are no longer using the Conservation Agreements. After much discussion, it was decided that this District will continue to use them.

At this time, the Plan of Work was reviewed for the last quarter.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

**Set Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on April 1, 2014 at the Hickory House Restaurant, Weston, WV to begin at 9:00 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Bernadette Law, Secretary**

**Minutes Recorded by Dinah Hannah, Administrative Officer**