

Supervisor Per Diem and Travel: Treasurer, Randy Plaucher, moved the following Supervisors Per Diem and Travel expenses for the month of February:

Richard Steve Hannah	\$43.26
James Foster	\$996.76
William Coffindaffer	\$395.04
Rebecca Jane Collins	\$929.64
Philip Osborne	\$185.28
William McClain	\$317.52
Larry Sponaugle	\$552.90
Randy Plaucher	\$654.22 totaling \$4,074.62

Total gross amount spent to date: \$30,434.97

Plaucher moved to approve Supervisor's February Per Diem and Travel as presented. Motion seconded by McClain. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Ag Enhancement Program: Coffindaffer reported that the final draft of the applications have been submitted, and Jennifer Skaggs is presenting those final reports to the SCC today. Jennifer is appreciative of WFCD's commitment to getting those done.

Robin reported that with the current budget situation in Charleston, Districts will not know how much they are getting for their AgEP program until July 1. The Districts will be able to still advertise their programs and take applications, but approvals cannot be made until the amount allotted for AgEP is known and received.

Foster requested that the AgEP committee should meet to discuss the programs they want to offer this year. The committee will meet on April 29th, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the USDA Service Center in Mt. Clare, WV.

OM&R Salem Fork & Polk Creek: Jim Roy reported on the dam inspections that have been going on, and he commented that the dams looked good but there was some debris the City was going to take out.

Plaucher moved to write a letter of complaint and make a phone call to the Division of Forestry on a timber job located around Salem Fork site #14 dam. Motion seconded by McClain. Motion carried. In addition to the motion, in the letter/ phone call it would be stressed that the District is willing to work with the Division of Forestry. Jim Roy will go with the Board when they meet with the Division of Forestry.

Polk Creek Dam inspections were yesterday, and there is some concern about fencing in the auxiliary spill way of site numbers 9, 4, and 1 that need to be moved. Coffindaffer reported that the Board needs to act equally on all three sites. The landowners have been notified about the issue. Coffindaffer would like the District to work with the NRCS, WVCA, and Dam Safety to correct the issue. Also, there needs to be engineering help on

site #13. The Board will plan to have a meeting with the NRCS, Dam Safety, WVCA, and Landowners on May 5th, 2016 at 10 a.m. at the Pricetown Firehall. Jim Roy would contact Dam Safety and see if they are available on that date.

Field Day 2016: Cheryl had received in the mail an approval from the Lewis County Board of Education for use of the school bus on our field day. She felt that the committee needs to meet to discuss advertisement of the field day and create a schedule. Steve Hannah reported that he had told the other Districts that they would be invited to the field day. The Field Day committee will meet after the AgEP meeting on April 29th, 2016.

Conservation Farmer: Jeff reported that Ira Pritt from Harrison County had called this morning and agreed to be a candidate this year. The tentative tour date will be on May 16th, 2016. Time will be announced later pending on other submissions from surrounding counties. Coffindaffer urged the Supervisors to come up with a farmer at the next Board meeting.

New Business

Century Farm Applicant: Three applications have been received for the Century Farm award. Karen and Barry Lay from Gilmer County, James and Leopold Hinter from Doddridge County, and John and Charlotte Kreyenbuhl from Doddridge County. Coffindaffer selected Belva and Dinah to review the applications and make sure that they are correct to be submitted to John Sencindiver by the deadline.

Gilmer County High Tunnel: Larry reported that Jane wrote up a press release for their high tunnel and a copy of the release is here to look at. Larry would like to ask the total Board of Supervisors for support if he were to go and ask for more money for the high tunnel project in Gilmer County. The Board reminded Larry that being an elected official restricts him from going and asking for money, both as a District and as an individual.

Harrison County Chapter/ Master Gardeners Association: Mrs. Chong had brought a flyer to the office inviting us to have a display at the Master Gardeners Association event on May 14th, 2016. **Collins moved to have a display at the event and pay the 20 dollar fee to have a booth set up inside. Motion seconded by Osborne. Motion carried.** Cheryl commented that Mrs. Chong would like for us to have bush axes available for sale that day. Robin will ask Jeremy if it is alright to sell these items at our display.

Board recessed at 10:20 a.m.

Board back to session at 10:31 a.m.

Solid Waste Authority Appointee: The District had received a letter from the Solid Waste Authority asking for reappointment of Don Wikert to the Authority. **Foster moved to reappoint Don Wikert. Motion seconded by Plaughter. Motion carried.** A letter will be drafted to reappoint Don to the Solid Waste Authority.

District Employee/ Summer Soil Sampler: Phil Osborne excused himself from the meeting. There are two individuals that have applied for the position this summer. Casey Cowen, who has been working with Gary Bush in Gilmer County, and Parker Osborne who has been the Soil Sampler for the District the past two summers. The Board addressed both individuals and felt that experience would help this summer. **Plaucher moved to accept Parker Osbornes application. Motion Seconded by McClain. Motion carried.** Robin will inform both applicants and see when Parker could start.

Soil Probe/ Grazing Sticks: Plaucher had asked Robin to place this on the agenda. Ed Rayburn is making a new grazing stick, and Plaucher felt that it may be a nice thing to have for individuals at the field day. The sorting sticks that the District had purchased before were considered instead of the grazing sticks. Coffindaffer had asked Plaucher to look into the cost of the grazing sticks and report back at the next meeting.

Cheryl reported on working with Osborne to find the tips needed for our current soil probe, and also purchasing a taller probe for the soil sampler to use. **Foster moved to buy a new soil probe and tips for the old probe. Motion seconded by Sponagle. Motion carried.**

WVCEC Dues: Robin had received in the mail yesterday a request from the West Virginia Conservation Education Council to pay membership dues of \$50.00. **Foster moved to pay the \$50.00 dues to the WVCEC. Motion seconded by McClain. Motion carried.**

Correspondence:

TVCD- Bid Equipment
Minutes from Special Meeting 3/17/16
Minutes AgEP Meeting 3/11/16
Harrison County Farm Bureau
Minutes Video Conference Meeting 3/11/16
Minutes Community Garden Meeting 3/14/16
Minutes Envirothon Meeting
Field Day Committee Meeting
Liberty FFA Annual Banquet

Funding Requests: none today

Letters of Request: One LOR for submission today, pending paperwork, submitted from Melinda for the CD Employee for months JFM 16. The amount of the LOR will be approximately for an amount of \$3,979.10 **Hannah moved to accept the LOR as presented pending paperwork from the accountant. Motion seconded by Foster. Motion carried.**

SPRP/EWP Project: None to Report

Board Member & Associate Supervisor Reports: Foster reported on the Grassland Contest, and its success. Ravenswood won the contest, and overall they had 11 teams.

Foster reported on the Quarterly Meeting. There will be a training for new Supervisors at the annual July meeting. Any Supervisor is welcome to attend. The annual meeting will be at Glade Springs in Daniels, WV on July 13th and 14th, 2016. New Supervisors will need to get their Oath of Office on their own and provide a copy to the District and to Charleston. He reported that Jim Moore has resigned and will continue his duties up until June 30th and that Bob Baird has retired.

Hannah reported that next year is the Grazing Conference, and he feels that we need to look at our budget again to accommodate the expenses for the scholarships of two individuals from each county within the District to attend, as well as the sponsorship of \$1,000.00 for the event.

Foster reported that we did have a winner for the WVACD \$500.00 scholarship. The individual is from Lewis County. Foster gave the letter to Hannah for he and McClain to present at the school award's ceremony. The letter also included the instructions to receive the funds.

Dinah reported on having a newspaper article of the doomed dams of the West Fork, if anyone wanted to read it. She reported that the WVCEC will meet on April 28th, 2016 at Camp Mohonagan, and she would like to see the District represented more. Dinah is the President of the council now.

Foster reported that Doddridge Middle School was thinking about doing the Samara Exam this year.

Plaugher reported that the WVU soils team was the national winner this year.

Report of Cooperating Agencies:

NRCS: Jeff reported that Rex is back to work for the summer. He and his staff are working on writing Farm Bill contracts, and they are past their deadline. The long range plan is due April 22nd. Jeff has a lot of ideas down on paper, and needs to put them into publication. He reported on their set up at the Expo, and thinks that next year he is looking at setting up at the Cattleman College in December rather than at the Expo. He reported that Jane Lew Elementary is getting funding support from the PTO for their Community Garden Project.

FSA: no one present to report.

Forestry: Jesse reported that the Forestry Contest is going to be held on May 17th, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. at Mountwood Park.

WVU Extension: Bruce reported on the weather at the Expo being the worst it has ever been in a long time. Sales were down from last year however, the number of cattle are up this year compared to last. They held the Stockman Contest, and it went well. They had a lot of participation in that contest. Mineral County FFA won the senior division of that contest for the 4th year in a row.

WVCA Report: Caleb reported on the AgEP dates from Jeremy's paper report. He urged the Board to be thinking about what practices they want to have this year. Also, Caleb had provided the final draft of the lime fact sheet in the Supervisor's books for review. He had been working one on one with Jennifer to complete the fact sheet.

Jeremy was not present to report, but he had provided a paper report that is in supervisor's books for review. Robin informed that the SB 159 had been vetoed by the Governor, and they are currently operating under the emergency rule.

Robin reported on supplying mailboxes to the Supervisors to be able to place materials they may need for future Board meetings. The idea is to alleviate having to make extra copies of materials needed. The boxes will be in the conference room on Board day, but will be locked up in the office otherwise. Also, she informed after talking with Jeff, that it may be a good idea to have a booth at the Cattleman's College as well.

WFCD Report:

Cheryl reported on the Expo being extremely cold, and struggling to keep our materials from blowing around. She commented that hardly anyone asked about our programs, and took handfuls of our handout items. She enjoyed the Envirothon training day, and it was nice to see the kid's involvement and learn a little about the contest. The lime spreaders have started to come in and out. So far all has been well with them, except the belts breaking on numbers 1 and 2. Belva will be refreshments for the next meeting, and Cheryl said that for the next FY she would make a calendar, and Supervisors could select which month they wished to bring refreshments.

Conservation Agreements: There are four agreements here today for approval:

- SJ Haynes LLC or Steve Haynes, Harrison County, 50 Acres
- Eugene F & Constanza S. Baker, Harrison County, 98.52 Acres
- Jeffrey H. Tichinel, Doddridge County, 32.2 Acres
- Micheal Ryan, Doddridge County, 77 Acres
- John W. Smith Jr., Harrison County, 177 Acres

Foster/ Plaughter. Motion carried to approve Conservation Agreements.

Set Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on May 3rd, 2016 at the USDA Service Center at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Collins, Secretary

William Coffindaffer, Chairman

**Minutes Recorded by Robin Ward; District Manager, West Fork CD
Meeting Adjourned at 11:21 a.m.**

The Board reconvened at 11:24 a.m.

The agenda item District employee/ Soil Sampler failed to be talked about to the full extent, and the board reconvened to discuss Cheryl's salary. The Board tossed around idea's and felt that Cheryl has been very helpful in her year of service to the District. **Plaucher moved to increase Cheryl's hourly wage to \$11.25/ Hr, and grant her 5 days of paid vacation effective May 1, 2016. Motion seconded by Collins. Motion carried.**

Belva reported on getting a quote on the denim shirts. She said the cost per shirt would be around \$23.00-\$24.00, and the minimum order would be 13.

The Board Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.