

WEST FORK CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
August 12th, 2020

MINUTES

With a quorum being present, Chairman Plaughter called the August Board of Supervisors meeting to order on Wednesday August 12th, 2020 at 9:03 a.m. via teleconference from the USDA Service Center in Mount Clare, WV.

Supervisors Present: **William Coffindaffer** **Jane Cain**
 Randy Plaughter
 Steve Hannah **Larry Sponaugle**
 Jim Foster **Phil Osborne**

Others Present: **Belva Junkins, WFCD**
 Dinah Hannah, WFCD
 Cheryl Carlin, WFCD
 Jim Roy, WVCA
 Sigrid Teets, WVCA
 Robin Ward, WVCA
 Jeremy Salyer, WVCA
 Brandon Duckworth, NRCS
 Joel Barnosky, FSA

Welcome and Introductions: none

Agenda Approval: With no additions or changes made to the agenda. **Coffindaffer/ Foster. Motion carried. Approve today's agenda.**

Minutes: With no additions made, the July 8th, 2020 minutes will stand approved as mailed. **S. Hannah/ Coffindaffer. Motion carried. Approve minutes.**

Financial Report: The WVCA financial reports for July are in the Supervisor's books for review. The balance sheet and income statement from John Law CPA for July is present today. John Law CPA General and CDO account financials for July are present today. Quickbooks report for July is also available. **S. Hannah/ Coffindaffer. Motion carried. Financial reports will be filed for audit.**

Supervisor Per Diem and Travel: Treasurer S. Hannah reported on the following Supervisor's Per Diem and Travel expenses for the month of June:

Randy Plaughter	\$217.50
Jane Cain	\$120.00

William Coffindaffer	\$143.00					
William McClain	\$40.00					
Larry Sponaugle	\$80.00					
James Foster	\$NA					
Richard Steve Hannah	\$168.30					
Philip Osborne	\$449.44	Feb.	Mar.	May.	June.	<i>Totaling \$1,218.14</i>
Total gross spent to date:						\$38,563.18

S. Hannah moved to approve Supervisor’s June per Diem and Travel as presented. Motion seconded by Foster. Motion carried.

Approval of Invoices and Payments: Robin reported on having one received from TVCD this morning for work done on Polk Creek site #9 for \$2,800.00. The Board would like to have more information provided on this invoice.

Unfinished Business:

Ag Enhancement Program: Sigrid reported she is currently working on AgEP rankings for the FY21 program, and she hopes to have them completed in the next 2-3 weeks. She would like to have an AgEP committee meeting to discuss percentages of funds that should be allocated to each practice. The AgEP committee will meet on Monday, August 17th, 2020 at 9 a.m. at the Mount Clare USDA Service Center. Sigrid also reported on meeting with M. Burke along with Gilmer County supervisors to discuss her water development.

Fence Kits: The fence kits will be added to the agenda for the AgEP committee meeting on 8-17-2020, and they will be discussed at that time.

OM&R Salem Fork & Polk Creek: Roy reported City of Salem has mowed site #11 and #13 and they look good. Coffindaffer reported the dams look good. Roy reported TVCD has moved in to complete the O&M work for Polk Creek. He also reports that Mrs. Goldsmith has put fence posts in the spillway to keep people out, but the fence posts have to be removed. She would like to have a meeting with Board members. Ed Martin suggested meeting with her and giving her the option to put signs up and take the posts down. Coffindaffer is willing to meet with her.

Roy reports that he has a work order from the City of Weston to do work on the Polk Creek Channel for \$4,000.00. This amount will come out of FY20 O&M contribution funds. **Coffindaffer/ S. Hannah. Motion carried. Approve \$4,000.00 work order.**

Water Gap Fence Site #4: Roy reported there is nothing new to report other than after the mowing is complete, Mr. Donaldson plans to start work on the fence.

THRASHER Site #6 Slip Proposal: Foster reported on going to look at the dam site with other Board members, and they have decided to take no action on the proposal and just to keep an eye on the slip.

Dam Inspection Reports: Roy reported the dams look good and he is continuing to monitor them.

New Business:

Fall Banquet/ Grassland Farmer: Foster/Coffindaffer. Motion carried to cancel the 2020 fall banquet at Doddridge County. The Board felt that without a fall banquet there would be no need to have a grassland farmer this year.

Certificate of Deposit Movement: Plaughter reported on going to MVB and closing the \$105,343.98 CD and depositing it into the General Account at Harrison County Bank. S. Hannah reported on checking interest rates at three different banks. They are as follows:
MVB- .25% interest for 12 month CD
Citizens Bank-.5% interest for 12 month CD
Harrison County Bank-.6% interest for 12 month CD

Foster/ Coffindaffer. Motion carried. To give authority to S. Hannah and Plaughter to move and open a 12 month CD at Harrison County Bank for .6% with \$100,000.00. The remaining \$5,343.98 would stay in the General Fund.

Weed Wiper: In the fall of 2019 the weed wiper got damaged. The amount of damage was not noted until recently a cooperater went to rent the weed wiper. The belt is broken and the arms are bent and need bent back out and welded back together. The weed wiper is currently at Foster's house to be repaired. He hopes to have it fixed within the week and returned to the district.

Correspondence:

WVACD Quarterly Meeting Minutes 7-20-2020

WVDA Letter from the Commissioner Himalayan Blackberry- Foster reported on hearing from the Commissioner pertaining to this issue. The Commissioner recommended to Foster that WFCD should entertain an invasive species program within the district and wondered why the district didn't have one. Osborne feels that the Board should keep the pressure on the WVDA to get the plant ID'd. Osborne will talk to Rasheed to see if anything can get done.

GVCD Bids for No-Til Seeders- Foster has been in contact with GVCD about the seeders. **Foster moved to look at the seeders and put a bid in for up to \$7,000.00 on each seeder with the intent of only buying one. Motion seconded by Osborne. Motion carried. Osborne moved to give authority to Foster on behalf of the full Board to submit a bid up to \$7,000.00. Motion seconded by S. Hannah. Motion carried.** Foster, Osborne, and Coffindaffer will travel to look at the seeders and place a bid.

WVACD by-laws draft- Foster reported a copy is in the packets today for review and supervisors have until September 1 to submit any changes. The changes can be sent to Foster.

Funding Requests: Robin reported on hearing from Martin Christ pertaining to the contribution of \$100.00 the Board gave to the Watershed Celebration Day Committee. They are wondering if they may use the contribution for the FY21 event or use it for awards. **Foster/ Coffindaffer. Motion carried. To let the committee decide how to use the funds.**

Letters of Request: None present today.

SPRP/EWP Project: No new update at this time.

Board Member & Associate Supervisor Reports: Foster reported on Century Farm recipients are welcome to come to the quarterly meeting in October to be recognized and receive an award. The District would have to pay for their awardee's expenses. The Board felt it would be nicer for their own recipients to be recognized locally. There are two Century Farm's in the District this year. PSP farm from Doddridge County and Stutler farm from Harrison County.

Foster reported on a dry hydrant that is in the works of being completed in Doddridge County and would like to talk to Brandon when he is in the office on Monday, August 17th.

Foster questioned FSA and NRCS as to why the front doors to the office have to remain locked when the District pays rent to the landlord for space. Foster strongly feels that if the District has an employee in the office everyday that public access should be granted to the District. Barnosky and Duckworth both responded to Foster respectfully and would talk to their supervisors for clarity. Foster feels the September meeting should be held at the office as well.

Osborne reported on having a forage and grassland zoom meeting at his pavilion tonight and tomorrow night from 7pm- 9pm if anyone is interested in attending or know of anyone that can benefit from the meeting.

NRCS: Duckworth reported on business not being as usual. The money for their programs isn't being spent the way it normally is and this year is looking like a lean year for contracts. They are working on filling open positions and hope to have Zomary's position by October.

FSA: Barnosky reported on the CFAP program that provides funding for livestock sold during the corona virus pandemic. It is available there are plenty of dollars up for grabs, and Barnosky stressed to the Board to get the word out that this money was available. The deadline for the program has been extended to September 11th, 2020.

WVU Extension: no one present to report.

Forestry: no one present to report.

WVCA Report: Jeremy provided a paper report (*See attached*).

Robin reported on the FY20 audit will take place on August 25-27th, 2020. She wondered about the District's roll in the Dry Hydrant process, and how she was to handle the process. Foster said the District furnishes the strainer and head, NRCS does the engineering, and Foster already has the strainer and head. Robin also reported on with the cancelation of the fall banquet for 2020, what did the Board want to do about the location since Doddridge would be missing a turn. The banquet next year 2021 would be in Doddridge County. Robin also reported on the Harrison County Farm Bureau meeting and thought Coffindaffer may be able to shed some light on more information.

Coffindaffer reported on having Romano and Facemeyer in attendance at the Harrison County Farm Bureau meeting and they wondered how they could help the farming community. The response was for funding to aid the WFCD AgEP to help with invasive species and aerial spraying.

WFCD Report: Cheryl asked the Board if they want to send a bill to the Cooperator who damaged the weed wiper. The Board felt that since it had been almost a year that they could not charge the Cooperator. She also reminded the Supervisors that are attending the in-office AgEP Committee meeting on August 17th to wear a mask.

Public Comments: No comments reported.

Conservation Agreements: One agreement is present today.

J. Cain, Gilmer County, Acres NA.

Foster/ Coffindaffer. Motion carried.

Set Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on September 9th, 2020 at the USDA Service Center in Mount Clare, WV at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Cain, Secretary

Randy Plaughter, Chairman

**Minutes Recorded by Robin Ward, District Manager for the West Fork CD
The Board Adjourned at 11:03 a.m.**