

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes July 27, 2021

## Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman  
Bill Gellner, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Thomas, Supervisor  
\*Wayne McKeever, Supervisor  
\*Audra Cunningham, Supervisor  
\*Holly Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer

## Others Present

Nick Beaver, NRCS  
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD Administrative Specialist  
\*Jennifer Kile, WVCA  
\* Kim Fisher, WVCA  
\*Julia Bolin, WVU Extension

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order.

## Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS-FSA - Beaver reported the current workload between NPCD and UOCD is 70 active contracts 47 eligible applications. The state has stopped releasing money for the year, so working with what we currently have. Have eleven new contracts, four in NPCD and seven in UOCD. David, Jenn and Logan worked on the bluebird box and compost barrel videos. They are being edited prior to release. Lauren has completed the article on spring developments and water facilities. LWG meeting in Brooke County yesterday. About 25 participants. Interest expressed was more toward backyard and smaller scale farming. LWG meeting in Marshall County this evening. Farm tours on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Earlier this month Lee Haggerty from Moorefield came up and did five field visits within NPCD and UOCD. Lee is the grazing specialist for the North Area.

WVCA – Fisher reported we need to be scheduling our Audit for the close of the FY. WVCA operations at the agency are scheduled to return to the offices September 7. There is an exception out for those who wish to telework. Those proposals have been submitted; so far no approvals have been issued pending District discussion. State Fair sign-ups, Clyde is still in need of volunteers, so if you are able get with Lori and get your name on the list. Farm tour in UOCD is Thursday morning. We will be on the farm for only one hour. The judges want to hear from the farmer, so we want to get as much information as we can in that one-hour time frame. No food for the judges, please.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – Extension is getting ready for the fair, children will have their projects at the log building and at the livestock barn. An ATV Safety class is being planned for October 9. It is a rider course and is capped at 8 members. Depending on the success of that I may offer it again. Other than that, we have been fielding lots of questions on dying trees, questions on tomatoes, so if you know anyone with canning questions make sure they know we can answer them.

## Previous Meeting Minutes

**Thomas made the motion to approve the June 15 and June 24, 2021 meeting minutes. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Financial Report

**Gellner made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**Gellner made a motion that UOCD bills be paid as funds permit and coordinated by office staff. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Funding Request

**None**

## Supervisor Reports

**Gellner** – Extension and WV Agriculture Department are teaming up to give instruction to farmers in certain areas. That is in the works but have not seen any planning for it so far.

**Cunningham** – called in on the AgEP meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Listened in on the State Fair meeting on the 16 and communications call on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Missed the Grazing Lands Steering meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>. I attended the quarterly meeting. Went to the tours and dinner. Toured the salt mill outside of Charleston. Capitol really out done themselves. Talked to a couple farmer concerning weeds, told them to check on the weed wiper. Was on the communications call this morning.

**McKeever** - With the Envirothon Team right now. They have completed their test and oral presentations a little bit ago. Just waiting for the results in the morning. If they are in the top 3 they will need to give their presentation again tomorrow. As far as meeting go, I attended two Communications meetings, had a partnership call, State Committee and Sub-Committee, Program Sub-Committee, Finance Sub-Committee meetings, meetings concerning conservation code, attended the Area Meeting, met at Roy Henriksen's for the farm tour preparation, Awards Council, State Conservation Committee Meeting, State Fair Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, and now at the Envirothon. Results of which Quarterly

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Meeting, a few things to bring up Capitol Conservation District did a tremendous job hosting the meeting there. And we thank them for that for sure. Conservation Farmer low participation by Districts for Conservation Farmer so need to see what we can do to bring it back. So we are going to have an information type campaign to see what we can do to bring that back. If not, we have a committee set up for alternate suggestions. Working on the Executive Director interviews Aug. 3 and hopefully we will have someone in that position in a couple weeks or sooner. Photo and Poster contest due the first day at the quarterly meeting in July next year. Area Meeting went well for the first meeting. Training modules should be coming out soon. October meeting we are going to have training on Conservation Planning conducted by NRCS and hopefully NACD. Conservation planning carries up to the National level and so future planning is very important. The last NACD meeting that is what they were concentrating on and the local level effort, meaning us. It is going to take a great deal on part of all the Supervisors to get this done. We definitely need workers at the State Fair. Ag Day was planned last day of January with finger food type event in the evening and then go forward with Ag Day the following day. This may change that based on information received today. We will keep you updated. Our Legislative Committee is doing a really good job, I hope they keep it up and keep going forward. As far as Conservation Code goes, we are still working on that, I have a draft I tried to send it but it must have been too much to email. This is not a final copy, it is just an initial copy that we have been working on to start with. So any ideas, comments, suggestions or whatever are appreciated. A lot more work is going into it and we have another meeting next Monday. Brian and John have been really helpful in helping with great suggestions. We have a lot to look forward to in the future, it is just a matter of keeping things going.

**Thomas** - Lee Haggerty came to our farm. Gleaned a lot of information and recommend him if you get a chance. Did two NACD Leadership zoom trainings. Attended the Special AgEP meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. I have signed checks twice. Had different meetings regarding Roy Henriksen and getting prepared for the tour. The rain barrel we donated went to Roger Billiter and he bought two rain barrel kits and barrels as well. The door frame at the shop needs to be replaced.

**Morgan** - Signed checks, backhome festival would like to buy 50 barrels. Getting with Davin to make a video.

**Rush** - Went to LK RC&D meeting, called in for the Special AgEP meeting, went to the Area planning meeting which had pretty good turnout, with one from the Wild Turkey Federation and two from the WV DNR and they are interested in coming back. Got a message the RC&D had a \$1000 grant that needed filled. Wayne and I applied for a grant for Chestnut Trees and there is a good chance we will be getting a \$1000 or \$500 grant for Wetzel County. Quarterly meeting still wanting to open code and want to have finalized by October meeting. There is some resistance and some for and I am not really sure how it is going to go. I have been playing phone tag with the Float Valve contact, but if it went through today, I ordered a dozen floats. I have ordered 12 spring box lids from Car Concrete, I can't remember the price of them. I will get hold of DEP about tires at the State Road Building. I have hemp dog bane and we are going to try to get a video going for that. Brian did say the Plan-of-work we send in every year is going to have to change a little bit. It will require more effort and not just change dates on the POW from previous year. Going to take a lot more thought and planning than before.

## Unfinished Business

### AgEP – Extend Ranking Period

**Gellner made a motion to extend the AgEP ranking period to Aug. 17 to allow time for Jenn to complete all of the files as needed. Thomas second the motion; motion passed.**

### Grant Needs

Nothing new.

### Spring Development Supply Update

Covered in Supervisor Reports

### Equipment Rental Update

Lime spreader rented one time

### Pressure washer

Tabled to next meeting

## Equipment Repairs Updates and Needs

### Education Programs

Holly and Davin White are working on something for the page.

- Barrel order update – covered in Supervisor Reports

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- Composting workshop update – Video is being edited and will then be released for posting on FB and web pages.
- Bluebird Box Video – Video is being edited and will then be released for posting on FB and web pages.
- Other ideas  
Aimee Figgatt is working on a program for the schools we may want to participate in. More info coming later.

### Cooperator Agreements –

**Cunningham made a motion to approve the cooperator agreements of Robert Pyles, Chauncey Archer and Timothy McDifitt. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### New Business

#### Carrol Greene Nomination

**Morgan made a motion to nominate Wayne McKeever for the Carrol Greene Award. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.** Holly volunteered to get paperwork to Belinda Withrow.

#### WVACD Honaorary Member At Large

No action

#### WVACD Lifetime Honorary Member

No action

#### WV Code Reorganization

Information will be sent to all.

**Thomas made a motion to pay WVACD dues of \$4000. McKeever second the motion; motion passed**

#### Fair Exhibits

**Thomas made a motion to take an exhibit to the county fairs with a drawing for a rain barrel. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.** Reminder to send the \$100 donations to the livestock clubs.

#### LOR BY22 AgEP Allocation \$38000.00

**Gellner made a motion to submit an LOR in the amount of \$38000 for AgEP funding. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

#### Correspondence

Nothing new

#### Adjournment

**Gellner made a motion to adjourn. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**The next regular meeting will be August 17, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

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Signature of Chairman

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Signature of Secretary

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Date

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Date