

Monongahela Conservation District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
February 6, 2020

**I. Call to order**

**Chairman Jim McDonald** called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:30 a.m.** on, **February 6, 2020**, at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV. **Ed Utterback** led in the pledge of allegiance.

**II. Roll call**

**Chairman Jim McDonald** introduced those present and passed around a sign-in sheet. The following persons were present: Supervisors: Jim McDonald, Jean Conley, Art Mouser, Mark Myers, and Ed Utterback. Others present were: Amy Cosco (DM), Jeremy Salyer (WVCA), Dustin Adkins (NRCS), Mary Jouver (FSA), Roger Poling (FSA), Rudy Williams (WVDoF), Mike Scherpenberg Gene Saurborn (WVCA), and Andy Diekert (NRCS). **Excused:**

**III. Approval of January Meeting Minutes**

*Abel moved to approve the January 9, 2019 board meeting minutes. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.*

**IV. Approval of financial statements**

a) **Credit Card Receipts and Statements-** *Myers moved to approve the January 2019 credit card statement and receipts. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

b) **General/CDO financial statements-** *Utterback moved to approve the General/CDO financial statements for the months of January of 2019. Seconded by Conley. Motion carried.*

c) **Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements-** *Utterback moved to approve the January 2019 Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

**V. Visitors Comments - none**

**Cooperating Agencies**

**WV Division of Forestry-** Williams reported the State Nursery is going to try a container tree sale this year. There are vacancies that haven't been filled since the layoff, they do have the money, and he has been told they are going to be filled. The Tucker area will be absorbed by Mike who also covers Preston County. He asked the board to write a letter to support

*Abel moved to write a letter to the Director of Forestry in support of filling the vacancies of the state forester positions and have it done expeditiously. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

**Watershed Division-**

**Upper Buffalo Watershed-** TVCD Invoices Site #22- Site #4 CTL- LOR 3,000.00

Saurborn reported CTL did do the dye test on site 4 and the results are not back yet. They collected the receptors about a week after the dye test and sent those off as well.

Scherpenberg reviewed the TVCD Invoice in the amount of \$12,200.00.

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Myers moved to approve the TVCD Invoices in the amount of \$12,200.00 pending Ed Martin's approval. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Myers moved to send LOR in the amount of \$3,000.00 for match to Preston County funds. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

Salyer reported it is time to set up meetings with the County Commissions to discuss funds for OM&R. Discussion was held.

**Upper Deckers Watershed- Upper Deckers 1 Rehab Contract and Project- Upper Deckers Creek Site 1- Tree Clearing Invoice \$99,500.00**

Saurborn reported he and Diekart reviewed the email Cosco received about the flyer that was published about the UDC1 project. He reviewed the email with the board. Diekart reported the PSD1 had a meeting and Wendy Madden asked if Rebecca Haddix would put together a question and answer to publish. Discussion was held.

Myers moved to Saurborn and Diekart prepare responses to the email and Mouser is to sign. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Saurborn reported there is some backfill in place for the RCC. Mouser reported the contractor is outside of their limits of disturbance for the backfill.

Sherbenburg reviewed the invoice from Jennings.

Myers moved to approve the Jennings Invoice in the amount of \$99,500.00. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

**EWP and SSRP-** no report.

**Conservation Technician- AgEP- Workshop/Field Day**

Smith reported the original date was set for February 8<sup>th</sup> but it is now set for February 22<sup>nd</sup>. AgEP has slowed down over the last two months. He would like to set up an AgEP committee meeting for this month. The committee will meet on Wednesday, February 19, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.

**WVU Extension**

-**Bill Shockey-** report provided.

-**H.R. Scott-** no report.

**NRCS-** Adkins reported they will be doing training next week for two days at the state office.

**FSA-** Poling provided a report. Jouver reported there are a lot of bee losses. They are wrapping up livestock losses from last year.

**Solid Waste Authority**

**Monongalia County SWA-** no report.

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**Marion County SWA-** McDonald reported prices are still down. 4 different organizations have approached them and made offers for aluminums and tin.

**Preston County SWA-** no report.

**District Manager Update-** Cosco reported it's time to review the District Plan of Work. The board will meet after the AgEP Committee meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Cosco presented the District Personnel Plan.

Abel moved to accept and send the District Personnel Plan once the review is complete. Seconded Myers. Motion carried.

Cosco brought up the State Poster Contest. Discussion was held.

Myers moved to participate in the poster contest including purchasing the poster board, a \$50 prize for first place in each county, and a \$50 stipend to the winner's teacher, with the contest ending July 1<sup>st</sup>. Seconded by Abel. Motion carried.

**WVCA Area Director-** report provided.

Abel would like representatives for OM&R work and Monitor Training placed on the March agenda.

**VI. Invoices**

Bookwise Business Service January 2019 - \$300.00

Myers moved to approve the invoice for Bookwise Business Service's accounting services in the amount of \$300.00. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

**VII. Approval of Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Claims**

Art Mouser-\$833.12 Jean Conley- \$233.67-Dec \$469.63 Jan Richard Abel- \$173.26

Ed Utterback-\$182.56 Jim McDonald- \$269.48 Mark Myers- \$256.46-Nov \$272.58-Dec \$1,590.20-Jan

Myers moved to pay the above listed travel and per diem claims. Seconded by Conley. Motion carried.

**VIII. New Business**

WVACD Scholarship- Abel reported flyers have been distributed to area schools and councilors.

Name Tags- Cosco reported the District must purchase their own name tags.

WVU Soils Team 2020 Collegiate Soils Contest Support- Cosco presented the letter. Discussion was held.

Myers moved to support in the amount of \$1,000.00. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Preston County Farmland Preservation Committee Appointee- Mouser reported he would like to change the representative and submit a letter to the Preston County Commission with the decision.

Myers moved to appoint Ed Utterback as the new representative and Art Mouser as the alternate. Seconded by Abel. Motion carried.

Century Farm Application- Francis R. (Pete) Haught- Cosco provided the packet submitted.

Myers moved to approve the application. Seconded by Abel. Motion carried.

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**XVI. Committee Reports:**

Finance- no report.

Education- previously discussed.

Legislation/Policy- Myers reported Ag Day turned out well.

Grasslands- Utterback attended the state meeting, there was good attendance.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds- no report.

Ag Enhancement- previously discussed.

Myers moved to go into recess at 11:44 a.m.

Jim McDonald called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Abel moved to go into executive session at 12:02. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

Conley moved to go out of executive session at 12:41 p.m.

**Correspondence-** None.

**XVII. Public Comment-** None.

**XVIII. Supervisor Reports**

- **Mark Myers** – no report.

- **Ed Utterback** – attended the Envirothon meeting at Camp Dawson. They are in the middle of their calving season and just about done with lambing. The sap has started running from the maple trees and they've tapped the trees. They've collected over 6,000 gallons already.

- **Art Mouser** – has spent a lot of time on the UDC1 project with Gene. He attended the Quarterly Meeting in Flatwoods. Calving season starts next week for them and he's still feeding in the mud.

- **Jim McDonald** – will start seeing calves in March. They have 7 calves already, but they were fall bred cows. He attended Ag Day at the Capital with Rick.

- **Jean Conley** – attended the forestry subcommittee meeting, spoke with David Lee about possibly joining the board in the future, and spoke with the employment service about the part-time person position.

- **Richard Abel** – no report.

- **Adjournment**

**Mouser moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:04 p.m.**

**The next scheduled meeting is March 5, 2019 at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV.**

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jim McDonald, Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date