

Monongahela Conservation District  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2020

**I. Call to order**

**Chairman Jim McDonald** called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:31 a.m.** on, **March 5, 2020**, at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV. 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-video), Dustin Adkins (NRCS), Mary Jouver (FSA), Rudy Williams (WVDoF), Levi Cyphers (WVCA), Caleb Smith (WVCA), Gene Saurborn (WVCA), Jim Nestor (TVCD), Dan Elliott (TVCD), and Ashley Knight (Huntington Bank). **Excused:**

**III. Approval of February Meeting Minutes**

*Abel moved to approve the February 6, 2020 board meeting minutes. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

*Mouser moved to approve the February 28, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried*

**IV. Approval of financial statements**

a) **Credit Card Receipts and Statements-** *Conley moved to approve the February 2020 credit card statement and receipts. Seconded by Abel. Motion carried.*

b) **General/CDO financial statements-** *Utterback moved to approve the General/CDO financial statements for the months of February of 2020. Seconded by Conley. Motion carried.*

c) **Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements-** *Utterback moved to approve the February 2020 Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

**V. Visitors Comments** – Ms. Ashley Knight from Huntington Bank introduced herself and passed out her presentation. Abel asked for the business security suite with Huntington Bank be placed on the April agenda.

Jim Nestor and Dan Elliott reported they do the OMR work on the dams in both watersheds. Elliott reported they have a 90-inch slope mower and it helps them to be more efficient. There were areas before they had to weed eat that now they can mow. They are trying to work together with the other Districts as well as the WVCA. They are working on doing the work at the most efficient prices. Labor rates should be coming down this year.

**Cooperating Agencies**

**WV Division of Forestry-** Williams reported he appreciated the letter to their Director. Jonathan P. has accepted a position and they hope to have him on by the end of March.

**Watershed Division-**

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Martin reported getting monitor training scheduled is important. He is going to make sure the technicians meet with the monitors to make sure they understand their duties and they have the most recent EAP. It is important to also have a meeting with all monitors as well.

**Upper Buffalo Watershed-**

Cyphers reported CTL is working on Upper Buffalo 4. They poured dye to track a seep but both pours have come back negative. They are going to drill in to see if they can figure out where the seep is.

*Abel moved to give Jim McDonald authority to sign any financial paperwork for drilling on Site 4. Seconded by Conley. Motion carried.*

Martin reported he and McDonald met with the Marion County Commission and felt that went well. Two out of the three stayed and listened to the presentation.

**Upper Deckers Watershed- Upper Deckers 1 Rehab Contract and Project- Upper Deckers Creek Site 1-**

Saurborn reported Ms. Bright has produced the letter requested from the special meeting. He asked the board to review the letter and return any comments. The PSD lawyer contacted Gene and they are working on paying Mr. Mulkeen and WVU. The payment to WVU is dependent upon the easements and they are in discussion. He requested the gate be closed as much as the mitigation that has been paid and the District feels this answer is a no. Saurborn reported Triton has requested a meeting punch list of items remaining, variance in quantity on the ASW, and the closing efforts. Discussion was held and the meeting will be held Friday, March 20, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

*Abel moved to pay the invoices to The Bright Law Firm in the amounts of \$330.00 and \$255.00. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

Martin reported he met with the Preston County Commission and they went over the work that's been done in the watershed. He feels they will continue with their contribution. The commission also said they've spoke with the Mon County Commission and they feel speaking with them would be beneficial.

**EWP and SSRP-** no report.

**Conservation Technician- AgEP forms- Workshop Invoices**

Smith reported the workshop had a good turnout.

*Myers moved to approve the presenter invoices in the amount of \$418.60. Seconded by Abel. Motion carried.*

*Abel moved to pay Debbie Nolan for Lime in the amount of 382.73 for her AgEP completion. Seconded by Conley. Motion carried.*

*Smith reported on the AgEP committee meeting. Discussion was held. Signups will start May 4<sup>th</sup> and end June 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*Abel moved to approve the AgEP forms as changed for FY21. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

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**WVU Extension**

-**Bill Shockey**- report provided.

-**H.R. Scott**- reported the last winter dinner meeting will be next week. They are in the process of filling a position in the office with hopes of having that person in place by April. The board of directors made a change in the bull test, it will be a night sale. The mineral orders are out, and they will load out on April 1<sup>st</sup> at the new Extension Complex.

**NRCS**- Adkins reported the sign-up deadline for CSP renewals is March 15, 2020. The deadline for the 14,15,16 years is March 20, 2020. Regular CSP sign-ups will end June 5, 2020. EQIP sign up deadline will end March 25, 2020. Lacey has 3 presentations coming up she is working on. Adkins would like to set up the local workgroup meetings. Place local workgroup meeting on the April agenda.

**FSA**- Poling provided a report. Jouver reported NAP deadline is March 16, 2020. The livestock loss is still active.

**Solid Waste Authority**

**Monongalia County SWA**- no report.

**Marion County SWA**- McDonald reported there isn't a lot going on at the facility. 9 Dragon hasn't come forward about a place to store materials yet.

**Preston County SWA**- no report.

**District Manager Update**- Cosco reported the letter to the Director of the WV Division of Forestry and the Preston County Farmland Preservation letters did go out. The Agency has a new records retention schedule up for approval at the next SCC meeting in April. The District tree and plant sale is going well. Next year the board would like to add sugar maples and if possible, the Dunston Chestnut.

**WVCA Area Director**- report provided. Put CDO budget on the April agenda.

**VI. Invoices**

Bookwise Business Service February 2020 - \$300.00

*Abel moved to approve the invoice for Bookwise Business Service's accounting services in the amount of \$300.00. Seconded by Utterback. 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**

Thornton Mowing Contract- Cosco presented the contract, no increase in price this year.

*Abel moved to sign the mowing contract for the summer of 2020. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried*

Century Farm Application- Cosco presented the application packet.

*Abel moved to accept the application. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

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Envirothon

Amy presented the request from Mr. Postlewait for support of the Marion County Team. Discussion was held.  
Abel moved to approve the \$736 or less if appropriate. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

Abel moved to approve payment for a second team up to the \$736 including the registration fee. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

**XVI. Committee Reports:**

Finance- no report. March 23, 2020 9:30 a.m.

Education- scholarship applications had to be in to the WVACD office by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Legislation/Policy- no report.

Grasslands- no report.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds- previously discussed.

Ag Enhancement- previously discussed.

**Correspondence-** None.

**XVII. Public Comment-** None.

**XVIII. Supervisor Reports**

- **Mark Myers**– had a good trip to Vegas for the National WVACD Conference.

- **Ed Utterback** – they are waiting on 6 more calves and a few more ewes to lamb. The chickens are doing well.

- **Art Mouser** – reported he hasn't had to be at UDC1 as much lately. They had 3 bulls at the bull sale. They bought a new herd bull out of Kansas. Ms. Anna must have a hip replacement. They've had 9 calves so far.

- **Jim McDonald**– has been to the doctor a lot.

- **Jean Conley** – enjoys being able to look at the cattle and not have to feed them.

- **Richard Abel** – is waiting for it to dry up. They are battling stink bugs, lady beetles, and cluster flies.

- **Adjournment**

Mouser moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:34 p.m.

**The next scheduled meeting is April 2, 2020 at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV.**

Minutes submitted by: Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

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

**Jim McDonald, Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date