

Monongahela Conservation District
Monthly Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2020

I. Call to order

Chairman Rick Abel called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:34 a.m.** on, **August 6, 2020**, at the Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center in Morgantown, WV via teleconference.

II. Roll call

Chairman Rick Abel introduced those present and passed around a sign-in sheet. The following persons were present: Supervisors: Rick Abel, Jean Conley, Ed Utterback, Mark Myers, Chuck Cienawski, Jim McDonald, and Art Mouser. Others present were: Jeremy Salyer (WVCA), Amy Cosco (WVCA), Sigrid Teets (WVCA), Gene Saurborn (WVCA), Ed Martin (WVCA), Hilary Bright (The Bright Law Firm), Bill Shockey (WVU Extension), H.R. Scott (WVU Extension) Dennis Thorne (NRCS).

III. Approval of July Meeting Minutes

Myers moved to approve July. Cienawski Seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of financial statements (March, April, May, June, and July)

a) **Credit Card Receipts and Statements-** *McDonald moved to approve the credit card receipts and statement for July 2020. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

b) **General/CDO financial statements-** *McDonald moved to approve General/CDO financial statements for March, April, May, June, and July 2020. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements- *McDonald moved to approve Co-Administered Funds financial statements for March, April, May, June, and July 2020. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

V. Visitors Comments - none

Cooperating Agencies

WV Division of Forestry- no report

Watershed Division

Upper Buffalo Watershed- Martin reported Tygarts Valley Conservation District has not sent quotes/work orders for OM&R. He requested the board appoint someone to work with him between meetings to facilitate progress. The board could also put the work out to bid. Discussion was held.

Utterback moved to appoint Jim McDonald the authority to approve quotes from TVCD for OM&R between meetings. Myers seconded. Motion carried.

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

Communication has been quiet so far. Saurborn stated a letter had been signed yesterday in response to Tritons requests. Bright stated it has been quiet on her end as well and she expects to hear something soon to schedule a meeting for negotiations.

Martin reported TVCD has not sent quotes/work orders for OM&R. Discussion was held.

Utterback moved to appoint Art Mouser the authority to approve quotes from TVCD for OM&R between meetings. Myers seconded. Motion carried.

Myers moved to approve payment of The Bright Law Firm Invoice in the amount of \$3,030.00. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

Utterback moved to approve the RFO and mail it out for the federal audit. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

EWP and SSRP- no report.

Conservation Technician-

Teets reported last October approved an Exigency Drought Program. She stated as of the last map published July 30th most of the District is in the D1 status. Myers stated he would like to implement a water tank program for the District. Teets reported last year the District approved a program with payments of 50% up to \$400.00. They also approved retroactive payments with dates. AgEP Committee will work with Sigrid on limits and dates for the program.

Myers moved to send the LOR in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the Exigency Drought Program. Seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.

Myers moved to make retroactive payments. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

AgEP Approvals

Teets reported she's just not quite ready yet. She will have everything ready for a committee meeting this month.

Cooperator Agreements

Debbie Abel- Monongalia County
Tyler Brown- Marion County
Ronnie Metheny- Preston County
Scott Metheny- Preston County
David and Linda Bonnette- Preston

Mouser moved to approve to approve the above listed cooperator agreements. McDonald seconded. Motion carried.

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WVU Extension

H.R. Scott- reported they had their zoom meeting with President Ghee. They are operating even under more strict rules than what the Governor has put in place. They're working on the calf pools, participants will pull in to have their cattle unloaded and drive off, some are through stock yards and information will be sent electronically or through the USPS. Mon County farmer's markets must barricade and control the number of people in and out.

Abel asked about meat processing and if new plants are being encouraged to open. Scott reported it takes 2-3 years to get a new location inspected and approved to open on top of 3 million dollars to open. He also said there are about 100 head that should have been slaughtered a month ago.

Bill Shockey- report provided.

Shockey added a mobile unit for meat processing has been discussed but isn't looking promising. Preston High has all slots full.

NRCS- Thorne reported 4 applicants have been preapproved for EQIP, 26 total. 3 CSP contracts are in the works. They are still conducting field visits with social distancing.

FSA- McDonald reported he spoke with Mary and a number of people have reported cattle struck by lightning.

Solid Waste Authority

Monongalia County SWA- no report

Marion County SWA- did do the timber contract with Huskie Lumber. The county forester is on site to help with the cut.

Preston County SWA- no report.

District Manager Update- Cosco reported the contractor approved back in November did come and clear out the front beds while she was on maternity leave. The building looks great.

WVCA Area Director- report provided.

VI. Invoices

Bookwise Business Service July 2020 - \$300.00

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

VII. Approval of Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Claims

Art Mouser-\$ Jean Conley- \$ Richard Abel- \$

Ed Utterback-\$ Jim McDonald- \$ Mark Myers- \$

Myers moved to approve Supervisor payments as listed above. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

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VIII. New Business

Appoint Solid Waste Authority Representatives

Discussion was held.

Cienawski moved to appoint Jim McDonald to Marion County Solid Waste Authority and Hayward Helmick to Monongalia County Solid Waste Authority, and for Ed Utterback to have the authority to speak with Annie Brode and appoint her to Preston County Solid Waste Authority if he so chooses. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

Add Jim McDonald to Credit Card

Discussion was held.

Cienawski moved to add Jim McDonald as a second card holder on the credit card. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Appoint Jean Conley Associate Supervisor for Marion County

Discussion was held.

McDonald moved to appoint Jean Conley as an Associate Supervisor for Marion County. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried

AgEP LOR \$59,000.00- Cosco stated this was on a previous agenda and needed no action.

Republic Services Customer Service Agreement

Discussion was held. Utterback or Myers will be in to review and sign.

High touch area cleaning quotes

Cosco presented the quotes from Orkin and Panhandle Cleaning. Discussion was held. Ed will review and decide as head of Buildings and Grounds.

WVACD Annual Dues \$4,000.00

Mouser moved to pay the WVACD annual dues in the amount of \$4,000.00. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

WVACD Member at Large- Discussion was held.

Myers moved to nominate Bill Shockey. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

WVACD Honorary Member- Discussion was held. Nomination of Art Mouser (Myers) and Jean Conley (Utterback). The board took an individual vote. Mouser abstained.

Art-1 Jean-3

Utterback moved to nominate Jean Conley. Seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.

Carroll Green Award- Discussion was held.

McDonald moved to nominate Art Mouser. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried

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District Banquet and Awards- Discussion was held.

Utterback moved to postpone until January and to discuss again in November. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

Luther Britton Award
Frank Glover Award
Outstanding Service to the District Award
Public Service Award
Solid Waste Authority Award

XVI. Committee Reports:

Finance- McDonald- update on banks- committee will meet August 12, 2020 10:00 am
Education- Myers – update on WVACD scholarship selections and education committee.
Legislation/Policy- Myers – no report. Add Area Directors to September meeting.
Grasslands- Ed Utterback- no report.
Safety/Buildings and Grounds-Ed Utterback- front shrubbery has been removed.
Ag Enhancement- Ed Utterback- will be talking to Sigrid for a committee meeting.

Correspondence- None.

XVII. Public Comment- None.

XVIII. Supervisor Reports

- **Mark Myers**– WVACD Quarterly Meeting will be January 18th and 19th 2021. His farm is also very dry.
- **Ed Utterback** – lost his Great Pyrenees that guarded the chickens.
- **Art Mouser** – Ms. Anna will have a hip replacement on Monday. They had their 11th great-grandchild last month.
- **Jim McDonald**– his farm is dry as well and pastures are getting low on grass.
- **Chuck Cienawski** – his farm is kind of dry.
- **Richard Abel** – no report
- **Jean Conley** – her grass is doing well and one more field needs to be clipped.
- **Adjournment**

Mouser moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting is September 3, 2020 – Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center
Minutes submitted by Amy Cosco, ASA3/District Manager

Minutes approved by: _____
Jim McDonald, Chairman _____
Date