

Monongahela Conservation District
Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2020

I. Call to order

Chairman Rick Abel called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:37 a.m.** on, **November 5, 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, Ed Utterback, Mark Myers, Jim McDonald, Chuck Cienawski, and Art Mouser. Others present were: Amy Cosco (WVCA), Sigrid Teets (WVCA), Penny Hott (WVCA), Mike Sherpenberg (WVCA), Annie Brode (Preston SWA), H.R. Scott (WVU Extension), Bill Shockey (WVU Extension), and Dustin Atkins (NRCS).

III. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

Myers moved to approve the October 1, 2020 minutes. Utterback Seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of financial statements

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

b) **General/CDO financial statements-** *Cienawski moved to approve General/CDO financial statements for September 2020 and October 2020. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.*

c) **Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements-** *Cienawski moved to approve Co-Administered Funds financial statements for September 2020 and October 2020. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.*

V. Visitors Comments – Annie Brode introduced herself.

Cooperating Agencies

WV Division of Forestry- no report

Watershed Division- Mowing and OM&R for 2021

Upper Buffalo Watershed- Sherpenberg reported that #22, #33, and #39 are mowed. TVCD finished #16 on Monday and have started on #37.

Upper Deckers Watershed- Upper Deckers 1 Rehab Contract and Project- TVCD Invoice 1264 \$2,000.00

Sherpenberg reported the work for Invoice 1264 from TVCD is complete.

Myers moved to pay Invoice 1264 in the amount of \$2,000.00. Seconded by McDonald. Motion carried.

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EWP and SSRP- no report.

Conservation Technician- Teets reported the exigency program is technically closed but the District still has the majority of the counties in drought status. Discussion was held.

AgEP- Exigency Drought Program Extension

Cienawski moved to extend the Emergency Drought Program until the end of year. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

AgEP Approvals

Brad Groves Lime 73.71 tons \$2,211.30
Debra Bland Lime 118.32 tons \$3,549.60

Myers moved to approve the above listed AgEP applications. Seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.

AgEP Payments-

James Summers Lime 36 tons \$1,080.00
Adam Reckart Lime 17.85 tons \$535.50
Gary Walls Pipeline and trough \$1,284.17
Debra Abel Urban Agriculture \$355.65

Myers moved to pay the above listed AgEP Payments. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried

Cooperator Agreements-

Darlene Bolyard Preston County
Brad Groves Preston County

Myers moved to approve the above listed Cooperator Agreements. Seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.

WVU Extension

Bill Shockey- report provided.

H.R. Scott- they are under more strict guidelines than WVU. This will continue for an undetermined amount of time. They loaded out the last of the calves from the calf pool.

NRCS- Adkins reported they are working on CSP GCI. November 20th is the deadline for EQIP and AMA. Adkins touched on the Food Desert program and will get with Abel next week to discuss an area within the District.

FSA- no report.

Solid Waste Authority-

Monongalia County SWA- no report.

Marion County SWA- McDonald reported timber will be removed soon for the timber sale. They starting to get some help with illegal dumping from the Deputy Sheriff. Recycling on cardboard is starting to hold its own but plastics are still way down in price.

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Preston County SWA- Brode reported they had an e-recycling event in August and have been awarded a grant to do another one in 2021. They have a 4-wheeler and cart for collecting trash from the rail trails.

Utterback moved to appoint Annie Brode to the Preston County Solid Waste Authority as the Monongahela Conservation District representative. Seconded by Myers. Motion carried.

District Manager Update- Cosco reported she has her federal audit next Tuesday plus provided more paperwork for another smaller internal audit request from Ed Cox. She has the Board of Risk Questionnaire to complete, has been working on various AgEP items, TVCD has said they want all of the chairs from surplus, and she has been working with Rick on bulbs for the beds out front.

WVCA Area Director- report provided. Abel asked Salyer if equipment could be purchased with excess AgEP monies, Salyer said that is not within the guidelines of the program. Abel asked about excess CDO funds and Salyer will ask Farkas just to cover all the bases.

VI. Invoices

Bookwise Business Service October 2020 - \$300.00

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

VII. Approval of Supervisor Travel and Per Diem Claims

Art Mouser-\$214.64 Aug \$487.84 Sept Chuck Cienawski- \$251.40 Sept \$805.80 Oct Richard Abel- \$523.64 Sept \$605.06 Oct

Ed Utterback-\$550.75 Sept Jim McDonald- \$163.03 Sept \$416.08 Aug Mark Myers- \$ Jean Conley-\$

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

VIII. New Business

Extension Winter Dinner Meeting Support- Scott reported they are going back to committee for a decision, but he has been told they will not be dinner meetings due to the COVID-19 situation. He is not going to request funds just yet until they get word from higher up.

XVI. Committee Reports:

Finance- McDonald- no report.

Education- Myers – he attended the education committee at the Quarterly Meeting and there is discussion about holding electronically. The auction for the WVACD scholarship fund went very well. Scholarship applications must be at the Sutton office by March 1, 2021.

Legislation/Policy- Myers –

Grasslands- Ed Utterback- no report.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds-Ed Utterback- the new landscaper has started; the beds are moving right along, and he dropped the lightening tree out back. Scott talked about the no-till seeder calibration with Bill King.

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Committee Meeting December 1, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Ag Enhancement- Committee Meeting December 1, 2020 9:30 a.m.

Correspondence- Welcome letter from First United.

XVII. Public Comment- None.

XVIII. Supervisor Reports

- **Mark Myers**– his cattle are home for the winter, and he had to build a new chute. They had two fall calves last month. They made apple butter.
- **Ed Utterback** – getting ready for winter and they bought another tank for maple syrup. Keeping 16 calves, brought lambs home. Bought 200 more pullets.
- **Art Mouser** – has sold some pure breed calves and heifers. They kept 10 calves for freezer beef. It will be March before they can get all of them to the slaughterhouse. Anna made fudge and hot sauce for the auction.
- **Jim McDonald**– they put 10 calves through slaughter. He’s been working on the slip on his farm.
- **Chuck Cienawski** – haven’t sold their lambs yet.
- **Richard Abel** – the farm is still dry.
- **Jean Conley** – no report.
- **Adjournment**

Mouser moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

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

Minutes approved by: _____
Rick Abel, Chairman

_____ Date