

Monongahela Conservation District
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2020

I. Call to order

Chairman Rick Abel called to order the regular meeting of the **Monongahela Conservation District** at **9:33 a.m.** on, **September 3, 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, and Art Mouser. Others present were: Amy Cosco (WVCA), Sigrid Teets (WVCA), Gene Saurborn (WVCA), Mike Scherpenberg (WVCA), Hilary Bright (The Bright Law Firm), Bill Shockey (WVU Extension), Dustin Atkins (NRCS).

MCD Board moved to go into executive session at 9:36 a.m.

MCD Board adjourned executive session at 9:54 a.m.

III. Approval of August Meeting Minutes

Myers moved to approve the August 6, 2020 minutes. Utterback Seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of financial statements

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

b) **General/CDO financial statements-** *Myers moved to approve General/CDO financial statements for August 2020. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.*

c) **Co-Administered Funds Financial Statements-** *Myers moved to approve Co-Administered Funds financial statements for August 2020. Seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.*

V. Visitors Comments - none

Cooperating Agencies

WV Division of Forestry- no report

Watershed Division

Upper Buffalo Watershed- mowing estimates from TVCD

Saurborn reported Upper Buffalo 4 design should come from CTL around the middle of September.

Scherpenberg reported he worked with Dan from TVCD on the quotes and reviewed them.

Inspections October 13 and 14

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Myers moved to approve all quotes from TVCD for OM&R on Upper Buffalo and Upper Decker's structures. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Upper Deckers Watershed- mowing quotes from TVCD, Upper Deckers 1 Rehab Contract and Project- Upper Deckers Creek Site 1, UDC 1 Audit Proposal

Saurborn reported the pool isn't back to normal level, it's about 3 feet low due to the drought.

Inspections October 19 and 20.

EWP and SSRP- no report.

Conservation Technician- Teets reported she has completed all the ranking and the committee met to make approvals.

AgEP- LOR \$10,000.00

Cosco reported.

Myers moved to sign and send the LOR in the amount of \$10,000.00 for AgEP. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

AgEP Approvals

Josh White HUAP 2,500 sq ft \$3,375.00

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

Exigency Tank Program Approvals

Josh White- retroactive- \$155.14

Kitty Wolfe- \$400.00

Myers moved to approve retroactive payment to Josh White for the Exigency Tank Program and Kitty Wolfe's application. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

Cooperator Agreements- none

WVU Extension

Shockey reported he is still working from home and doing a few farm visits. The Kingwood Farmers Market is doing well this year. Preston Co Livestock Association is planning a youth livestock sale at the Terra Alta Stockyards. They will follow COVID guidelines. Sales will be by the head not by the pound and it will be at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, this will be online. 40 steers, 100 goats and lambs, around 130-140 hogs. The Master Gardner program is doing well.

Scott reported they did their sale virtual and it went very well. They have a major meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. on the Asian Long horned Tick. Today and tomorrow they are grading calf pool calves and the sale will be virtual following COVID policy. The livestock round up board is handling the event this year, WVU Extension is not participating.

NRCS- Atkins reported they are trying to expend as much funding as they can. Most of the EQIP and CSP funding has been obligated. They were able to request more funding for AMA and RMA. MCD has several applications.

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FSA- no report.

Solid Waste Authority

Monongalia County SWA- no report.

Marion County SWA- no report.

Preston County SWA- Utterback reported he did attend the meeting and there is someone assigned to report to the board. They have an extensive program going on.

District Manager Update- no report.

WVCA Area Director- report provided.

VI. Invoices

Bookwise Business Service August 2020 - \$300.00

Utterback 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-\$237.08-June \$305.30-July Chuck Cienawski- \$266.10-July \$249.71

Richard Abel- \$453.75 Ed Utterback-\$286.42 Jim McDonald- \$151.94-June \$333.20-July Mark Myers- \$

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

VIII. New Business

State AgEP Committee Representatives

Cosco reported she didn't know if associates could be on the state committee. Conley doesn't mind attending but would prefer the board to select another member to attend as well. Myers volunteered to attend.

AgEP LOR \$59,000.00

Cosco reported

Myers moved to approve the AgEP LOR in the amount of \$59,000.00 and send it to Charleston. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

High touch area cleaning quotes

Cosco reviewed previous information. Utterback reported the Building and Grounds Committee discussed the issues and reported their discussion.

Myers moved to allow the Building and Grounds Committee authority to approve one of the quotes. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

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Transfer of funds from Huntington Accounts

Abel reported he and Cienawski got information from First United and First Exchange Bank on rates. Both banks provide a better rate than Huntington Bank. Summit and Clear Mountain banks never returned phone calls. He would like for the board to consider moving the money from Huntington to another bank. Abel also called BRIM asking about fraud protection and they said the District is covered.

Utterback moved to allow Abel and McDonald to remove the funds from Huntington and move them to a different bank. Seconded by Mouser. Motion carried.

Landscaping Quotes

Cosco reported she called Koval to ask who did their landscaping and they do their own. She called The Grounds Guys in Morgantown and they didn't call back. She also called Premier and while they did come out to look over the job, they did not provide a quote. She will keep making calls.

XVI. Committee Reports:

Finance- McDonald- previously covered.

Education- Myers – would like to give the WVACD ladies auxiliary support and add it to the October agenda.

Legislation/Policy- Myers – not much going on now.

Grasslands- Ed Utterback- he has not attended a meeting recently.

Safety/Buildings and Grounds-Ed Utterback- previously discussed. Discussion was held on the WVCA lease.

Myers moved to ask for a 3-year lease instead of a 5-year lease with the WVCA. Seconded by Utterback. Motion carried.

Ag Enhancement- Ed Utterback- previously discussed. Teets requested a committee meeting be set up. Tentative meeting set up for September 17, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

Correspondence- None.

XVII. Public Comment- None.

XVIII. Supervisor Reports

- **Mark Myers**– no report.

- **Ed Utterback** – the grass is greening up after the much-needed rain. A bald eagle landed in their field and killed a chicken.

- **Art Mouser** – Anna had her hip replacement and is getting along really good.

- **Jim McDonald**– no report.

- **Chuck Cienawski** – trying to do more second cutting hay.

- **Richard Abel** – no report.

- **Jean Conley** – has been spending her time sewing and canning.

- **Adjournment**

Utterback moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

