

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes August 17, 2021

## Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman  
Bill Gellner, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Thomas, Supervisor  
Wayne McKeever, Supervisor  
\*Audra Cunningham, Supervisor  
\*Holly Morgan, Secretary/Treasurer

## Others Present

\*Nick Beaver, NRCS  
Lori Cochran, WVCA/UOCD Administrative Specialist  
\*Jennifer Kile, WVCA  
\* Kim Fisher, WVCA  
\*Katie Fitzsimmons, NRCS  
\*Logan Marino

Vice-Chairman Gellner called the meeting to order.  
Rush joined the meeting.

## Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS-FSA - Beaver and Marino reviewed their written reports. Beaver reported they are still utilizing telework when possible. They have held LWG Meetings, two in NPCD and one in UOCD. Staff have been gone to trainings when possible. There have been several online trainings and a few in person trainings. Attended and helped with the Area Farm Tour. Currently working on Equip and CSP contracting. Received five new Equip preapprovals last week and have been working on getting paperwork completed and signed. Received CSP approvals on the later part of last week are working on paperwork to prepare those for signatures. Marino reported he attended the Area Farm Tour as well. He attended the Pollinator Specialist Meeting and has been on 16 farm visits which comprised of spring developments, high tunnels and fencing, soil tested on 8 farms between the two Districts. Assisted Nick on a hay testing for my first time and found it to be interesting. Nick will be off on September 20 and 21 as well as September 27 and 28.

WVCA – Fisher reviewed the written report. CDO Expenditure Report for FY21 is due September 1 to Guthrie. Also, the time of the year to start filing for the Audit. Original date of September 7 as a return-to-work date has been pushed back due to covid. That will be readdressed as more information becomes available. There has been a bit of change on the State Conservation Farm Tour. It will be virtual this year. This will be the first time it has been tried by video. Quarterly Meeting dates coming up October 18, 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> at Flatwoods. If you want to attend the banquet, registration is due to Belinda by September 24.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – Cochran briefly reviewed the written report presented by Bolin.

## Previous Meeting Minutes

**Thomas made the motion to approve the July 27, 2021 meeting minutes. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Financial Report

**McKeever made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**Gellner made a motion that UOCD bills be paid as funds permit and coordinated by office staff. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Supervisor Reports

**Gellner** – Discussed with Jennifer the difficulties of getting ranking completed in both Districts and trying to find a solution to the problem. Also discussed the situation with Cindy Shreves. Understanding is that Jennifer is supposed to work in each District certain days a week and that UOCD needs to change the format on how we approve AgEP applications. Right now, our approval is based on practice priority and one application is approved in each practice before it returns to the highest priority and works its way down again. Solution might be to approve all the highest priority practices and work down the list from there, so rankings would not have to be completed for all applications at the time of approval of applications. We will discuss more at the next meeting with this placed on the agenda.

**Cunningham** – Spoke to a couple producers about the quality of hay and shortage of pasture they have. Looks like things have turned around with some rain recently. Continue to report precipitation.

**McKeever** – Hired Heather Duncan to the Executive Director position for WVACD. She will be starting next week with a flexible schedule. She will be working full time, doing a lot of traveling. She will be visiting the Districts in the

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state probably within six months, depending on COVID. Participated in the Conservation Farm Tour in July. Had a call on Conservation Committee, August 3<sup>rd</sup> we had the interviews for the Executive Director. Hoping to have an in person Envirothon at Cacapon State Park if everything goes well. Had a Partnership call on Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>, worked Tyler County Fair on Friday. Been working on the Quarterly Meeting in October. Trying to get some Conservation training scheduled which would involve NRCS and NACD. May set it up at the Technical Center above the Sutton Hotel for better training space, but training will have to be held on Tuesday instead of Wednesday. Might have training for new Supervisors too. Newsletter should be sent out today.

**Thomas** - I met with the Conservation Farm Tour team in Sistersville and escorted them to Roy's farm and provided drinks there for the day. Worked at the Tyler County Fair booth and packed up the booth and brought it back to the office. Drew out for the rain barrel winner and delivered it to Roy Haught. We had really good attendance during the fair. I spoke to a lot of teenagers and encouraged them to speak to our Envirothon advisors at Tyler Consolidated and promoted that as much as I could. Handed out the temporary tattoos to kids and people were excited about the pollinator packets. Those are both appreciated. We had some interest in high tunnels and I handed out the flyer for that and I am going to give his contact information to David Clough because I think David will have good working experience to share. Someone from the Presbyterian Church talked extensively with Nick and I about AgEP. They have some raised beds there but are interested in collecting and utilizing the runoff from the spouting from the church. A small rain barrel is not going to be enough so Nick and Lauren are going to work with them to see what can be done to help them out. They have raised beds and some gardening. Had an enquiry from someone have problems with bugs, so I will be sharing from the Market Bulletin, [BugBusters@wvda.us](mailto:BugBusters@wvda.us). It was in the last months Bulletin, if you have a potential invasive pest, to contact them. Had some interest from Ohio, so I showed them what we have and told them to search the internet for an equivalent in Ohio. We are out of barrels, so we need to get others for the fairs.

**Morgan** -

**Rush** - I ordered 10 spring box lids from Carr Concrete. They are going to call me when they are ready for me to pick up. Contacted Best Float Valve and place an order for 25 floats. Put the display up at Wetzel County Fair. Attendance was down at the fair. Playing phone tag from DEP. Need to do something in the next couple of weeks, or we won't have anything to load them with. Bobbin Pardine is new to Tyler County SWA.

### Funding Request

**Gellner made a motion to pay \$100 to LK RC&D for Sponsorship Dues. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### Unfinished Business

Rush recused himself from the AgEP application approvals.

AgEP –

**Thomas made a motion to approve the following AgEP applications. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

FY21 Remaining Balance	\$ 8116.72
FY22 Funding	\$ 38000.00
Available Funding FY22	\$ 46116.72

Name	Practice	Amount	Cost Share	Ranking
Allen Rush	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft.	\$ 1980.00	84
Robert Pyles	Lime	38.07 Acres/76.14 tons	\$ 1903.50	75
Jon DuMars	Urban Ag	Raised bed, soil, etc.	\$ 1000.00	100
Nathanial Hood	Pasture Division Fence	1563 ft.	\$ 2500.00	109
Allen Rush	Invasive Species	26 acres	\$ 397.12	123
Robert VanCamp	Woodland Exclusion Fence	1563 ft.	\$ 2500.00	57
Shaun Kuhn	Water System	1 system	\$ 1800.00	88
Jon DuMars	Pollination Planting	¼ acre	\$ 200.00	45
Doretta Rush	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft.	\$ 1980.00	83
Jon DuMars	Lime	1 acre/2 tons	\$ 50.00	75

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Kevin VanCamp	Urban Ag	raised bed, soil, straw, etc.	\$ 1000.00	55
Larry Hadley	Pasture Division Fence	1563 ft.	\$ 2500.00	106
Edith Smith	Invasive Species	40 acres	\$ 400.00	110
William Johnson	Water System	1 system	\$ 1950.00	80
Steve Long	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft.	\$ 1980.00	75
John Furlong	Lime	8.17 acres/16.34 tons	\$ 408.50	73
Timothy Wilson	Pasture Division Fence	1300 ft.	\$ 1921.75	91
John Ueltsch	Invasive Species	20 acres	\$ 317.13	110
Kara Garrett	Water System	system	\$ 2200.00	70
John Furlong	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft.	\$ 1980.00	55
Chauncey Archer	Lime	49.8 acres/99.6 tons	\$ 2490.00	70
Doretta Rush	Invasive Species	33 acres	\$ 397.12	100
James Cochran	Water System	1 system	\$ 2100.00	70
Gary Hamilton	Lime	15.25 acres/30.5 tons	\$ 762.50	70
Steve Long	Invasive Species	35 acres	\$ 400.00	95
Richard Thomas	Water System	system	\$ 2200.00	60
Henry Barnhardt	Heavy Use Area	1500 sq. ft.	\$ 1980.00	55
John Ueltsch	Lime	19.59 acres/39.18 tons	\$ 979.50	70
John Furlong	Invasive Species	15 acres	\$ 114.00	93
Everette Anderson	Water System	System	\$ 1900.00	60
Howard Flesher	Lime	12.25 acres/24.5 tons	\$ 612.50	65
Charles Musgrave	Invasive Species	28 acres	\$ 397.10	85
Kevin Thomas	Water System	system	\$ 2090.00	45
Elijah Haught	Lime	27.79 acres/55.58 tons	\$ 1389.50	60
Nancy Seckman	Invasive Species	20 acres	\$ 355.13	65
Timothy McDiffitt	Water System	system	\$ 1980.00	45
Timothy Wilson	Lime	11.95 acres/23.9 tons	\$ 597.50	58.8
Kevin VanCamp	Invasive Species	20 acres	\$ 219.98	65
Joseph Thomas	Lime	15.2 acres/30.4 tons	\$ 760.00	50
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$50,692.83</b>	

**Letters of approval were received from WVCA for Supervisor Rush pending funds availability and ranking guideline eligibility.**

Grant Needs  
Nothing new.

Spring Development Supply Update  
Covered in Supervisor reports

Equipment Rental Update  
Lime spreader rented one time

Pressure washer  
Thomas looked at several pressure washers. Will let maintenance help select one.

Equipment Repairs Updates and Needs

Man Door at Shop  
Need a new door on the large shop building.

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## Education Programs

- Barrel order update – covered in Supervisor Reports
- Composting workshop update – Video is being edited and will then be released for posting on FB and web pages.
- Bluebird Box Video – Video is being edited and will then be released for posting on FB and web pages.
- Other ideas – None.

## Cooperator Agreements – **None**

## New Business

### Soil Tunnel Trailer for Autumn Fest

**Cunningham made a motion to rent the trailer for the weekend of the October Festival in Wetzel County. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### October Meeting – Attendance.

Please try to attend the Quarterly Meeting in October.

### Auction Donation

Please have donation items at the September meeting.

### Banquet

Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> if venue is available.

### Software

Tabled for further information

### Jobs for Shared Employee

Newsletter, outreach programs, continue on the same line as reported.

### Correspondence

Nothing new.

### Adjournment

**Thomas made a motion to adjourn. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**The next regular meeting will be September 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date