

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes April 12, 2022

## Members Present

Allen Rush, Chairman  
Bill Gellner, Vice Chairman  
Patricia Thomas, Supervisor  
Audra Cunningham, Supervisor  
Wayne McKeever, Supervisor

## Others Present

Jon Wilson, Forester  
\* Kim Fisher, WVCA  
\*Lori Cochran, WVCA  
\*Katie Fitzsimmons  
Nick Beaver, NRCS

\*Attended via teleconference

Supervisor training video #2 was viewed by those in attendance.

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order.

## Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS-FSA - Beaver discussed current work in progress in UOCD District. The mask mandate has been lifted in this area. Working on Equip preapprovals. As of March 24, NPCD had a little over \$96000 and UOCD had a little over \$225000 preapproved. LWG will be 26<sup>th</sup>. Fitzsimmons added that high tunnels cost has increased by over 50% compared to last years. FSA sent a report with Fitzsimmons. Deadline for acreage reports is July 15. ELAP (Emergency Assistance for Livestock) is available for anyone experiencing bee losses during the winter. Call the office for more information. As usual, they are trying to keep farm records up-to-date.

WVCA Fisher provided a written report. Conservation Farmer to her by May 31. SB264 passed.

Forestry – Wilson reported on Forestry, fire season has been fairly slow. There has been 481 fires in WV since January. Our region has 10 counties in it and it is #3, right in the middle in the state.

WVU Extension – Mollie and Julie provided written reports.

WVACD – Fisher provided a written report. Conservation Farmer selection due by the end of May.

## Previous Meeting Minutes

**Thomas made the motion to approve the previous meeting minutes. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Financial Report

**Gellner made a motion to file the financial report for audit. McKeever 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** – Installed the door on the shop. The door on the other shop needs attention. Purchased the culvert pipe, cut it and drilled holes. Was able to make 8 spring boxes from one culvert.

**McKeever** – Provided a written report. State Committee passed the Exigency Program and the AgEP Program. Awards program back to same as used to do. Senate Bill 264 passed. Currently working on the rules. Legislative committee will look over and 30- day comment period. Foundation can now accept donations, have to look at by-laws and policies. Quarterly meeting is 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Cacapon followed by Envirothon on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. July meeting will be at Mineral Wells Comfort Suites probably 3 days with 1 1/2 day of training on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Trying to establish a biochar practice. District would like more \$ for AgEP. Elk CD got \$10,000 from County Commissioners for AgEP. Biden's 30by30Land Grab, take 30% of land out and put in conservation. Many questions on this. Needs approved by Congress.

**Thomas** – Contacted Moores, consulted with Lauren about Conservation Farm, IS workshop contacts and promotion, read the correspondence, interview with Jacob Pennell. Talke with Cooperators about AgEP, went WVU water testing workshop. Worked with Bill and Holly on Financial Committee meeting.

**Cunningham** – Reporting precipitation.

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**Rush** – purchased refreshments for IS workshop. Sod Seeder wheels are ordered. Counter is no longer made it is now electronic and cost over \$600. Not sure how it works and what will be involved in installation. May just want to adjust our rates and forego the counter.

**Gellner made a motion to check with LKCD and NPCD on their rental rates and to make our seeder rates about the same. There was no second to the motion.**

*Cunningham joined the meeting.*

### Funding Request

**McKeever made a motion to donate \$1050 to WV DEP. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### Unfinished Business

#### Cooperator Agreements –

**Thomas made a motion to approve the Cooperator agreement of James Cochran, Jr. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed**

#### AgEP –

Administrative Agreement – Jenn reviewed the proposed agreement. Needs a few more changes and will bring back to the next meeting. Change IS to \$500.

Application – Gellner made a motion to approve the AgEP application as presented. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.

#### Grant Needs

Nothing new.

#### Spring Development Supply Update

Spring boxes are at the shop. The culvert was cut into 8 spring boxes.

#### Shop Man Door at Shop

Door is installed. Still needs painted. The door on the other shop building needs attention as well.

#### Education Programs

- Barrel order update – Maybe May.
- Other ideas –
- UOCD promotional video update – nothing new.
- RC & D Grant update – Trees will be in at Wal-Mart in May or June according to the website.
- Poster and Photo Contest to us by June 1.
- First Energy Tree Program.
- Invasive Species Workshop on April 14 at 6pm.
- Scheduled to have the soil tunnel trailer the first two weeks of May.
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#### Local Work Group

Mountain Meadows on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Meats and cheese, drinks and cobblers.

#### New Building

Someone is interested in purchasing the shop property.

#### Area School Grants

**Cunningham made a motion to have the committee review applications to make sure they meet the qualification and approve funds for up to two \$1000 grants in Wetzel County and up to three \$1000 grants in Tyler County. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

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## Land Judging Contest

Tyler County May 26.

## Conservation Farm Contest

J.C. Nuss in Tyler, Timothy Wilson in Pleasants County and possibly Shaun Kuhn in Wetzel County.

## Copier

**McKeever made a motion to rent a new copier from CWS, option 3 from their proposal. Cunningham seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## New Business

### Financial Meeting

Rush appointed Gellner, Thomas and Morgan to the Financial Committee.

### Annual Work Plan

Review copy and review at May meeting. Due in June.

### Long Range Work Plan

Not due until June of next year.

## Correspondence

## Adjournment

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

**The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

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

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Signature of Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date