

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes May 17, 2022

## Members Present

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

## Others Present

\*Heather Duncan, WVACD  
\* Kim Fisher, WVCA  
Lauren Hobbs, NRCS

\*Attended via teleconference

Vice-Chairman Gellner called the meeting to order.

## Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS-FSA - Hobbs updated on current NRCS events. The mask mandate has been lifted in this area. Back to 100% staff in the office. Two applications were preapproved this week and working on getting those contracts written. Currently NPCD has allocated a little over \$116000 and UOCD has allocated \$240000 so far and these approvals will be an additional \$277000. Friday is the last day for Dustin to be our acting AC. New person starts Monday, and his name is Rafael Mendez and he comes to us from Iowa. Katie is out for the rest of the week. DNR save the date from Wayne. Planning to send out a draft of their plan in a week or so and will be forwarded on when received.

WVCA - First on report was the conservation law change. Open meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>, information should have been sent you to join that call. Should be very interesting, call if you can. AgEP coming to the end of the fiscal year; need to be wrapping things up. Conservation Farm Tour is on the agenda.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – Julie dropped of flyers for the chicken, high tunnel, and canning workshops. Please help get the word out.

WVACD- Heather

*Rush joined the meeting.*

## Previous Meeting Minutes

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

## Supervisor Reports

**Gellner** – Went to the RC&D Meeting. Had a UOCD budget meeting. Attended the Invasive Species Field Day.

**Morgan** – Soil trailer planning, financial meeting, LWG preparations and attended the meeting, worked the soil trailer, communications call, FB page 1700 people last month.

**McKeever** – RC&D mini grant review on the 14<sup>th</sup>, Quarterly Meeting, Envirothon meetings, LWG meeting, Rules meeting, Executive Director Monthly Call, Partnership call and Biochar Meeting. Biochar meeting next week in person at Sutton and also available for call in. Envirothon placements were: Ravenswood 1, Moorefield 2, Doddridge 3, Moorefield 2 came in 4 and Mineral Co. came in 5. Ravenswood also won the Grasslands contest. Thursday will be in Morgantown. Public comment will be May 16 to June 16. The Foundation adopted the by-laws needs a representative from each District. Conservation Day at the Capital. Same as last year for this year. Need to ask for additional funding for resource needs we might need. Needs some data behind it.

**Thomas** – Went to the IS workshop we held, the financial committee meeting and the LWG meeting. Read correspondence worked the Soil Trailer and helped get that set up. Went to the two farm tours. Awarded the scholarships at the award ceremony at TCHS.

**Cunningham** – Reporting precipitation data daily, went to LWG, attended the Tyler Co. Farm Bureau dinner, no speaker, Farm Tour in Tyler, and Pleasants Counties. Re-elected as Supervisor.

## Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes May 17, 2022

**Rush** – Lime spreader flat tire, so we bought a new tube, tube had a defect, and had to get a replacement. Need new tires for that spreader. Rubbing hard on drive shaft on the new spreader. Danny will check out to see what is happening. Barrels after June. Waiting till we can pick them up during the week. Native seed company, wanting to hold a field day, discounted seeds to districts. Conference in early to late fall. Spreader off track. Spinners was locked up, but he called back to say it was working.

WVACD – Conservation Day each district will have a full table. Sent out a small community grant available. Meet with Dept. of Ag Monday. Ag Action Groups, informal meetings on different topics, urban ag, farmers market, everyone to getting together to talk about current issues. Looking at expanding those groups to other parts of the state. If interested, please send her an email.

### Funding Request

**Morgan made a motion to donate \$1380 to WV State Conservation Camp. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

**Cunningham made a motion to donate \$100 to the Ravenswood FFA. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### Unfinished Business

#### Cooperator Agreements –

**Thomas made a motion to approve the Cooperator agreements for Hattie Massey, Wetzel County, Shelly Brown, Wetzel County, John Ueltschy, Wetzel County. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed**

#### AgEP –

#### FY23 Exigency Program

Supervisors approved the Exigency Program.

**Gellner made a motion to approve the AgEP payment to John Ueltschy for Lime, \$979.50. McKeever seconded the motion; motion passed.**

Kile noted that we had received 92 applications for the sign-up period.

Exigency Handbook approved by the state was presented to the Board. Program ready to implement upon declaration of emergency, the district can immediately go into the process of getting the needed help out to the landowners. The handbook details the programs that fall into the Exigency Program. These include revegetation of winter-feeding areas, cover crop establishment, irrigation water supply, livestock water, temporary fence, and high tunnel and greenhouse repairs. A consistent format throughout the State with certain decisions to be decided in each District. Pages 7, 8 and 9 are completed. Addendum to that document is necessary. What applications periods would be, allow retroactive payments. Application must be within 30 days of the declaration.

Morgan made a motion to approve the exigency policy as presented in the example from Mon District. Gellner seconded the motion; motion passed.

#### Grant Needs

Nothing new.

#### Shop Man Door at Shop

Door is done.

#### Education Programs

- Barrel order update – Covered in Supervisor Rush report.
- Other ideas – Soil Trailer was a success. Already requesting for next year.
- UOCD promotional video update – nothing new.
- RC & D Grant update – Trees are supposed to be coming in at Wal-Mart.

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes May 17, 2022

- Poster and Photo Contest to us by June 1.
- Urban Ag Funding

## Local Work Group

### New Building

Nothing new.

### Land Judging Contest

Tyler County May 26. Kenny Mason's. 24<sup>th</sup> digging pits.

### Conservation Farm Contest

McKeever made a motion to select J.C. Nuss as the District Conservation winner to be entered in the state level competition. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

### New Business

#### Annual Work Plan

Special meeting June 7, 2022. Add extra funding concerns.

#### Resource Concerns

#### LOR

Quarterly LOR postponed to next regular meeting.

#### Election of Officers and WVACF Delegates

#### Correspondence

#### Adjournment

**Cunningham made a motion to adjourn. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.  
The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, June 21 at 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date