

Southern Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes December 8th, 2022
10:00 AM

The Southern Conservation District met for their monthly board meeting on December 8th, 2022 at 10:00 AM. After a prayer and pledge of allegiance the meeting began. Randall Patton welcomed all who have attended the meeting.

Southern Conservation District Operations & Business

Approval of November Board Meeting Minutes SCD/Marty Walker-Owen

Marty Walker-Owen provided a copy of the minutes from the November board meeting to the members of the board prior to the meeting.

Randy Prince moved to approve the minutes as presented, Curtis Murphy seconded, motion carried.

Randall Patton informed the group that Jeremy Salyer had asked him if the conference room options could be discussed at the beginning of the agenda so that IT could travel back to Guthrie.

WVCA IT/SCD Conference Room Audio Options John Brown WVCA IT Director

John Brown presented options to the SCD board as relative to the ongoing audio concerns. A discussion was held between John Brown, Chris Ellison and members of the board pertaining to the audio system solutions he presented. He noted to the board that they went back and looked into the purchase of the system and they have recognized the system is six years old. At this time an upgrade/update is necessary regardless.

He noted to the board that utilizing an outside source for an audio system could present compatibility issues and also interfere with the Microsoft licensing the WVCA provides to the districts. He stated that going with the outside quote to replace a system would prevent his IT staff from being able to access or assist with technical issues. He also commented that the system would need to match up with state systems for Marty to be able to access.

Randall Patton commented that he and Marty had difficulty utilizing the system for the Central Area Meeting with issues connecting. The concern that has been sent by email to IT is the inability to hear when others call in to the meeting.

John Brown provided a printed copy of the options from WVCA to the chairman. He noted that if they didn't feel this corrected the issues they were having the WVCA would purchase this recommendation back because they can use these types of audio equipment elsewhere.

Bill Harris moved to approve up to \$1,000.00 to upgrade the speaker/microphone/communications system, John Farrell seconded, motion carried.

Review/Approval of District Financial Reports

SCD/Marty Walker-Owen

District Operating Accounts (First Community & MCNB)

District Building Account

Supervisor Travel & Per Diem Account

CDO Account

District Reserve Account.

Randy Prince moved to approve the financial reports as presented, Curtis Murphy seconded, motion carried.

Review/Approval of Accounts Receivable/Aging Summary SCD

A discussion was held in reference to past due invoices. Dave Parkulo noted he has sent a notice to a 90 day past due client. Dave Parkulo and Marty Walker-Owen reviewed the WVCA invoices for the aging summary and they will be communicating with the bookkeeper on confirming the aging invoices with the WVCA.

Dave Parkulo reported that he had spoken with Judith Lyons about the invoices for the mowing of the dams while waiting on Brush Creek funds to be available from the account. He anticipates approximately \$30,000.00 will be forthcoming.

Randy Prince moved to approve the aging summary, Curtis Murphy seconded, motion carried.

WVCA/SCD District Administrative Report

Marty Walker-Owen, WVCA

Marty Walker-Owen provided an update on her communication with the Raleigh County Commission bringing up to date the agreements between the district and the commission. She has provided the historical information of past payments, the MOU and the current agreement paperwork needed. She has worked to completion on the documents needed for Raleigh County and is now waiting for them to return those items signed.

- Review/Approval of Co-administered WVCA Financial reports

SCD Conservation Technician Supervisor Report

Dave Parkulo, SCD

District Work Project Updates

Dave Parkulo reported that since last meeting he was able to complete multiple lime order deliveries and pond cleanouts. He has completed the Cranberry Creek drop inlet repair with concrete slab and curb and landscaping. He has completed the last mowing and weed eating at Brush Creek Site 10. He noted he has water systems and fencing to be done in Fayette County with weather permitting extending those under contract to better weather season.

He has a workorder from Judith Lyons for tree removal on Brush Creek Site 6 to work on after rain ceases to minimize damages.

He reported the repairs on equipment currently being addressed in the shop.

He has been in communication with Mercer County Commission, DNR Land and Streams and working on permitting to complete project at Kelly's Tank.

An at length discussion was held about Site 12 drainage pipe, erosion control and other issues surrounding the logging road being put in without proper permission at the dam between Bill Harris and Dave Parkulo. He will continue to communicate with the attorney and NRCS on the situation at Site 12.

WVCA & SCD Office Updates/Approvals

Conservation Day Information

Davin White/Aimee Figgatt

WVCA

Aimee Figgatt presented the upcoming plans for Conservation Day at the capitol that she and Davin White are working on and reviewed questions with the board about items to highlight in the marketing material for the district.

The board, staff and Aimee discussed highlights to share including education workshops and successful projects within the district.

Marty will provide Aimee and Davin with photos as she prepares for the conservation day for work of the crew, conservation services and outreach.

Area Operations Manager Report

Jeremy Salyer, WVCA

Jeremy Salyer gave an overview of his written report which he has provided. He noted that Marty will be working on an administrative ag enhancement review ensuring files are complete. Be sure to review your policy manual, plan of work and district personnel plan and employee plans Marty will be able to provide information on these items. The traditional plan of work will be changing due to the senate bill 264 policy changes. He anticipates information on this to be available after the next quarterly meeting.

Jeremy Salyer reported on the upcoming modifications to the 7-1-3U agreements, OMR funding agreements and EWP agreements. He noted that those items are being discussed currently and he will provide updates as they become available.

Conservation Specialist Report

Kenny Maiolo, WVCA

AgEP Updates

Kenny Maiolo noted he has completed soil sampling for cooperators and reported that there are a total of 18 contracts remaining to be completed at this time totaling around \$36,997.08. He shared that he has been in contact with those left to be completed.

He stated he is currently updating the mailing list reviewing the files with ag enhancement to match to confirm addresses are current. He has contacted the remaining cooperators to check in with the completion of their AgEP practices.

A discussion was held between Kenny Maiolo, Dave Parkulo and Bill Harris about partially completed projects, deadline extensions and district requests of service.

Bill Harris noted with emphasis that anyone who has not submitted receipts or contacted for completion inspection would be canceled after the deadline if an extension was granted.

Dave Parkulo noted a recommendation to make a field visit to note the actual progress of the projects.

Kenny Maiolo noted a suggestion for the remaining contracts until January to continue working with them until completion. A discussion was held between Marty Walker-Owen, Bill Harris and Kenny Maiolo about the outstanding contracts.

A special board meeting was set for Tuesday December 20th at 10:00 AM after the deadline of December 16th has passed.

319 Project Updates

Kenny noted he has still been working with the sanitarian on the list of individuals within Pipestem Creek watershed. He reported on the following septic pumping contracts ready to be signed and approved.

Randall Patton inquired about the amount for the contracts. Kenny commented they are \$300.00 for each pumping contract.

Franklin Butler Septic Pumping Contract

Shelton Trail Septic Pumping Contract

Randy Prince moved to approve the septic pumping contracts as listed, Bill Harris seconded, motion carried.

- Extension of feed pad/water projects Ron Testerman until April 30th 2023

Bill Harris moved to approve the extension of the feed pad and water system projects as discussed within committee, Randy Prince seconded, motion carried.

- Approval of Ron Testerman to be signatory on Pipestem Creek Contracts

Tom Wood moved to approve Ron Testerman to be signatory on Pipestem Creek Contracts, Randy Prince seconded, motion carried.

- Approval of Randall Patton to attend AgEP Meeting Flatwoods

December 12th

Curtis Murphy and Randall Patton will now be attending via teleconference and travel is not necessary to be approved.

- Approval of Ron Testerman to be WVACD Representative

A discussion was held about designation of proxy as needed and or appointing someone for WVACD.

Randy Prince moved to approve Ron Testerman as the current WVACD representative along with Bill Harris, Bill Harris seconded, motion carried.

Visiting Agency Reports

NRCS District Conservationist Report

Katy McBride, NRCS

Katy McBride provided an overview of her written report that was provided to the board. She noted they are taking applications for a variety of projects that are listed within her report. Katy reported that they have not received their budget as of yet.

She noted that a new pollinator specialist has been hired and will begin in January and provided an update on the Jason Tarte farm projects.

NRCS Elkhorn Creek

Katy McBride noted that Donny Dodd was in a training so he could not attend to provide an update on Elkhorn Creek but she commented that public meetings have been held and so far six applications have been received. The application deadline is January 31st.

Supervisor Reports & Updates

WV Association of Conservation Districts Update

Bill Harris, SCD

Bill Harris provided an update and overview of the current happenings with the WVACD. He noted that all of the supervisors on boards across the state are invited and encouraged to attend conservation day at the legislature. He commented that an appointment ahead of time is needed so that you may meet with legislators to address concerns about the budgeting for WVCA as well as rehab projects. He reminded members of the board about the letter to the governor for budgeting increases.

Randy Prince presented an item of concern under supervisor reports and updates.

He stated that in 2020 on a temporary basis the board agreed to combine all committees into one day to better assist Mr. Bailey's schedule, the chairman at that time. He noted that committees were combined on a temporary basis and now that three years have passed he would like the board to research and think about going back to how committees were handled in the years past when the Chair of each committee called a meeting as needed. Randy commented that small committees of interest would bring people together better, be more educational and be shorter.

Randy Prince reported that he would like to add the committee procedure on the January agenda to be placed for a vote.

A discussion was held between members of the board, Jeremy Salyer, Dave Parkulo and Marty Walker-Owen in reference to committee procedure in reference to Robert's Rules of Order.

Site 12 toe drain/lines repair

Bill Harris, SCD

Bill Harris reported that animal guards had to be removed from Site 12 for camera inspection. Randall recommended Dave Parkulo look at them and replace the animal guards at the earliest convenience.

Randy Prince moved to adjourn, Ron Testerman seconded, motion carried.

Closing Remarks & Meeting Reminders:

Next Regular Board Meeting January 12th 10:00 AM

Special Board Meeting for AgEP to be held December 20th 10:00 AM

DRAFT