

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes January 16, 2024

## Members Present

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

## Others Present

Nick Beaver, NRCS DC  
\* Rafael Mendez, Assistant State Conservationist, NRCS  
\*Kim Fisher, WVCA  
\*Jennifer Kile, WVCA  
Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

\*\*\*Not Present

\*Attended via teleconference

Chairman Rush called the meeting to order.

## Cooperating Agency Reports

USDA-NRCS-FSA – Beaver reviewed the written report. I have been waiting for feedback from the area office on a schedule of practices and how they recommend laying those out. I have received some feedback and just need to spend time putting those together. There are two applications in Tyler and one in Wetzel to work on. Currently working on 36 applications for period one. This all needs to be assessed and ranked by Feb. 2. Making a push on round two applications getting planning visits and a little outreach whenever possible. Coming up are the Urban Ag meetings and the Forestry Wildlife program. Hopefully those will generate some outreach and applications. Visited Howard and J.P. Flesher within the last couple of weeks. Both look good for grazing plans. Spoke with a landowner in Pleasants County about a current EQIP contract and he signed up for CSP. The time frame needed for round one batching period. The rest are examples of my cost estimator tool with common practices we typically use with EQIP. I thought this would be good for you all to have available, so you are able to throw some dollar figures out there when talking to landowners. **Rafael** added that the forestry position was turned down by the first candidate selected and now has been offered to Nicholas Gregory from Oregon. Still working on getting a Soil Conservation Technician for the Middlebourne office. There are several different locations available in the state. There are a total of 12 applicants. In December we obligated 55 CSP Renewal Contracts statewide for 1.57 million. There are around 130 DSP applications in the system. Would like to have around 400 for the budget we receive. Would like to see the Middlebourne office have more applications. Nick should receive a bi-monthly report from the state conservationist, and he should share that report with you on the programs and projects that the state is working on. We also have a weather station that needs installation and are looking for voluntary participants for this project. This is a project FSA and NRCS are working on together with NRCS taking the lead. Allen and possibly Nick have volunteered for the weather stations.

WVCA– Fisher reviewed the written report. February 7 is the QM at WV State University at the same facility as last year. It will be hosted by the Capitol Conservation District. The next day, February 8 is the Ag Day at the capitol and the legislative meet and greet. Heather put together an awesome packet of information on that. Ag Day displays will be a table display and the supervisors are responsible for that. There will be agency staff on the floor to help set those up. The district supervisor will have to take the table down and return it to the district office. The roll up banners will be displayed in the Capitol as well. At 2:00 they will be taken down by agency staff and arrangements will be made to return them to your office. District Personnel Plan is due in March. Make sure to have that on your next agenda. It is election time, for those of you who are up for reelection, I have Bill Gellner, Allen Rush, and Patricia Thomas. The filing period is January 8 – 27. So, you need to get to your county clerk's office and make sure you get yourself filed.

Forestry – None

WVU Extension – Julie says the high tunnel is up behind the office and everyone is welcome to come look it over when it warms up.

SWA – None

WVACD –

## Previous Meeting Minutes

**Gellner made a motion to approve the December 19 meeting minutes as amended by changing inflammatory to inflation. Thomas seconded the motion; motion passed.**

## Financial Report

**Gellner made a motion to file the financial report for audit. Thomas 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.**

Funding Request – None

Unfinished Business

Cooperator Agreements –

None

# Upper Ohio CD Meeting Minutes January 16, 2024

AgEP – Kile requested a planning meeting. The meeting was scheduled for February 12 at 9:00 a.m.

## Grant Updates

Purchase charged bio char bags from Amazon. Around 25 for door prizes, etc.

Education Programs – continue to look into an inflatable soil tunnel.

## **New Business**

### Practice Envirothon

**Gellner made a motion to hold a practice Envirothon at the Tyler Rod and Gun Club. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.**

### CD Maturity

Gellner made a motion to move funds from BHFCU to LRFCU into a 24-month CD **if** all supervisors do not have to be present to open CD's at LRFCU. If more than two supervisors are required to be present to open CD's at LRFCU, leave funds a Bayer HFCU and invest in 24-month CD there. Morgan seconded the motion; motion passed.

### Supervisor Reports

**Gellner** – None

**Cunningham** – None

**Morgan** – None

**McKeever** – None

**Thomas** – None

**Rush** – None

### Correspondence

### Adjournment

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

**The next regular meeting will be at 6pm February 20, 2024.**

Minutes submitted by: Lori Cochran, Administrative Specialist

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date