

Southern Conservation District

Committee Meeting Approved Minutes

March 25, 2025

10:00 AM

The Southern Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at 10:00 am in the conference room of the district office located at **463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV 25801.**

Those in attendance:

Supervisors

Randall Patton, Chairman

Bill Harris

John Farell

Steven Johnson

Ron Testerman

Ed Hendrick

Bill Cook

Curtis Murphy

Others

Dave Parkulo, SCD

Katy McBride, NRCS (Teleconference)

Morgan Dial, WVCA

Jesus Nandi Roman, WVCA

Open & Welcome

SCD Chair, Randall Patton

- Chairman Randall Patton called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Committee Meeting Items of Business:

1. Electronic Sign

- a. Updates were provided regarding the electronic sign.
 - i. Will be discussed during the April 10 2025 board meeting.

2. Updates on Excavator/High Tunnel

- a. Updates were provided on the excavator. *(Continued below)*
- b. Updates were provided on high tunnel improvements and replacement of key aspects.

3. Updates on flooding programs in Wyoming County.

- a. Bill Harris discussed updates/concerns on programs available to those affected by floods in a negative way in Wyoming County.

Committees - Updates

1. Equipment / Chair - Randall Patton

- a. *Dave Parkulo provided updates on the excavator, quoted a price tag of \$64,000 for the repair of the machine. D. Parkulo also discussed Fence updates, as well as appropriate timelines for expected project finish dates.*

2. Building / Chair - Bill Harris

- a. *Bill Harris provided building updates, such as leasing agreements and/or possible lease extensions, negotiations through FY26.*
 - i. *Bill Harris requested that this topic be continued for April's board meeting agenda.*

3. Finance / Chair - Curtis Murphy

- a. *Randall Patton mentioned/discussed deadlines for CD. (April; May)*

4. Ag Enhancement/ Chair - Curtis Murphy / Morgan Dial WVCA

- a. *Morgan Dial provided updates on AgEP. Discussed budgets, exigencies, labor rates (\$25.00), and dates to remember. Below is an attached overview of what was discussed.*

5. **Education & Marketing/ Chair - Ron Testerman**

- a. *Ron Testerman provided updates on Visits to the Board of Education in Summers County as well as marketing updates.*
 - i. *Bill Harris informed the group on collaboration within the WVCA grazing outreach field day, to keep costs down, suggested inviting a North Carolina based speaker to save money.*

Committee Meeting Adjournment


Randall Patton adjourned the committee meeting at 11:53 am on 03/25/2025.

Dates to Remember:

SCD, Regular Board Meeting: April 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM at 463 Ragland Road, Beckley, WV 25801

Respectfully submitted:

Randall Patton, SCD Chairman

X 

Ed Hendrick, SCD Secretary

X 

RH/EH/as

Recorded by: Jesus Nandi Roman, Administrative Specialist

Addendum #1

Conservation District Program Administration

1. Conservation Districts shall establish:

Application period(s): FY 26 Rolling Sign-up:

June 2 nd -13 th 2025 1 st sign-up
January 5 th -16 th 2026 2 nd sign-up

Ranking period(s)

June 16 th -July 7 th 2025 1 st sign-up
January 16 th -26 th 2026 2 nd sign-up

Completion deadline(s)

1 st sign-up: December 12 th 2025
2 nd sign-up (Frost Seeding): March 27 th 2026
2 nd sign-up (Nutrient Management): May 22 nd 2026
<i>*Extensions within FY to be considered as needed*</i>

2. Conservation Districts shall establish financial assistance rates and caps/maximums and cooperator cap.

Maximum Program Payout per Cooperator	\$2,500.00
Maximum Number of Practices per Cooperator	1

Practice	Payment Rate	Cap	Cooperator Cap
Lime	50%	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Pond Cleanout	50%	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
HUAP	\$1.00/sq. ft.	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Watering System	50%	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Woodland/Water Exclusion Fence	\$2.00/ft.	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Pasture Division Fence	\$2.00/ft.	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Nutrient Management	50%	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Frost Seeding	50%	\$500.00	\$500.00
High Tunnel Soil Health	50%	\$500.00	\$500.00

Addendum #1 - Conservation District Program Administration

3. Conservation Districts shall establish:

Tiebreaker

Tiebreaker #1: If one of the cooperator's holding tie is a first-time applicant, that cooperator wins.
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Tiebreaker #2: Cooperator with the lowest maximum cost share amount wins.

Tiebreaker #3: Name drawn from hat by SCD board member of all eligible cooperator contract names holding the tie.

4. Conservation Districts may delegate authority:

Authority is delegated to:	What authority is delegated:	Date
AgEP Committee Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Practice completion arrangementsPayment approvalsDeadline approvalsCancellation approvals	FY 26
SCD Board of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Application approvalsRanking outcomes	FY 26

5. Add any additional decisions of the Conservation District:

- **\$25.00 per hour labor rate** applies to all practices that involve labor.

Note: Labor costs are not included in the cost-share amount, except for cooperators using the district's contractor for fertilizer, where the spreading fee is included in the amount of applied fertilizer.

- **Eligible fertilizers** include only DAP 18-46-00 (or MAP) and Potash 0-0-60.

Note: MAP will be accepted as an alternative if DAP is unavailable. While the Conservation District recommends DAP, MAP will be reimbursed if the supplier cannot provide DAP during the application period.

- **Soil test requirement:** The cooperator must provide a soil test report from within the last 3 years for practices that require one at the time of application. If the cooperator applied for the same practice or field in the previous fiscal year and received approval, the soil test report must be updated from the previous application date.

Addendum #2 –

AgEP Exigency Program - Conservation District Administration

1. Conservation Districts shall establish:

Application period. The application period must be held within 30 days of exigency declaration.

Applications may be accepted beginning on the date of the district decision to offer the practice. The application period will be situationally dependent and may be chosen on the date the practices are offered.

Allow for retroactive payments? **No**

If yes, establish date:

A retroactive date may not precede the exigency declaration date.

Allow for purchase of used materials? **No**

Time limits for completion of exigent best management practices?

Situationally dependent

2. SCC established financial assistance rates and practice caps on an annual basis.

Practice	Payment Rate	Cooperator Cap
Exigent Revegetation of Feeding Areas	50%	\$500
Exigent Cover Crop Establishment	50%	\$500
Exigent Irrigation Water Supply	50%	\$500
Exigent Livestock Water Supply	50%	\$500
Exigent Temporary Fence	50%	\$500
Exigent High Tunnel and Greenhouse Repair	50%	\$500

3. Conservation District must provide link(s) to or attach copies of technical standards for practice(s) offered.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/resources/guides-and-instructions/field-office-technical-guides>

4. Conservation Districts shall establish:

Tiebreaker

Name drawn from hat by SCD board member of all eligible cooperator contract names holding the tie.
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5. Conservation Districts may delegate authority:

Authority is delegated to:	What authority is delegated:	Date
SCD Board of Supervisors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contract approvals• Payment approvals	FY 26
AgEP Committee Chairman	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval and signature authority on verification form	FY 26

6. Additional decisions of the Conservation District:

- Cooperators must provide a copy of current soil test reports for practices requiring soil test results at the time of the application. Soil test reports are not expected to be kept on file as responsibility of the SCD of WVCA staff to maintain their expiration dates.