

**Monongahela Conservation District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
April 3rd, 2025  
Steve Lebnick Agricultural Center  
Morgantown, WV  
9:30 am**

**Attendance:**

Supervisors: Mark Myers, Brandon Linton, Chuck Cienawski, HR Scott, Bob Spaid, Andy Price, Jean Conley (associate)

NRCS: Christopher Toothman

FSA: Robin Ward (virtual), Mikayla Gruetter (virtual)

WVACD: Heather Duncan (virtual), Vanta Coda (virtual)

WVCA: Don Whetzel, Kaitlyn Jones, Adrienne Hoalcraft

WVU Extension: Josh Malencia

The meeting started at 9:30 am.

Chairman Teets was unable to attend the meeting. **Spaid moved to make Myers acting chairman for the meeting, seconded by Linton. Motion carried.**

Conley led the Pledge of Allegiance. Spaid led the prayer.

**Cienawski moved to approve March 6, 2025, meeting minutes, seconded by Linton. Motion carried.**

Cooperating Agency Reports

- Toothman provided a written report. He provided 4 options for the District Conservation Farm. The local work group meeting was scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Ward provided a written report. She spoke about the drought monitor. She reminded the board that FSA can't help with weather damage to high tunnels. She noted FSA is trying to move all producers to direct deposit. Cienawski asked about a storm in Marion County in March that had high winds. Ward said a storm report was done, and she would send it to the board to use towards their exigency program. Whetzel will look into the process more.
- Malencia spoke about the upcoming Farm Safety Day on April 26<sup>th</sup>. He also highlighted a seed swap and soil sample event taking place on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. He told the board he would be attending the master gardener contest, and the extension office had hired a new office manager.

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- Whetzel provided a written report and highlighted the conservation farm tour, the annual work plan, and reminded the board to reach out to WVCA Communications specialist Davin White to help with press releases and media contact especially with programs involving WVCA or their staff.

Solid Waste Reports

- Scott reported the Monongalia County Solid Waste Authority is working on their 5-year plan and working on 2 grant opportunities. They are also working with the county commission.
- No reports were provided from Marion County or Preston County.
- Spaid reported there was some confusion on changes to the recycling pickup in Preston County.

Financial Statements

- **Spaid moved to approve the GF and CDO financial statements (First United) and file them for audit, seconded by Price. Motion carried.**
- Hoalcraft reported WVCA's fiscal department had found a discrepancy in the Co Admin statement. She will work with the treasurer to contact the bank to fix the discrepancy.
- Cienawski asked about the LOR amount for the WVDA drought program and the check amounts. Hoalcraft verified the LOR covered all checks.

Hoalcraft updated the board on a correction to the WVDA Pasture Renovation #2 LOR. The LOR amount is \$2,755.20.

**Linton moved to approve the invoice for \$112.63 for Mark Myers for food trays for a funeral, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**

Unfinished Business

- **Scott moved to not allow for boundary fence or the use of forbs/plugs to establish a pollinator plot in the AgEP program, seconded by Cienawski. Motion carried.**

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Committee Reports

- Myers reported no new bills can be introduced in the legislature.
- Scott reported on replacing the belts in the 5-ton spreader. Having spare belts on hand was discussed.
- Hoalcraft provided the supervisors will a list of NRCS abandoned items. The door damage will be added to the final walkthrough. The soil dryer being removed was discussed. Cienawski stressed the need to make a visual disconnect.
- The supervisors voiced their frustration over the siphon needed for Upper Deckers 5 still being with state purchasing.
- Cienawski reported bids from the Mannington Channel cleanup ranged from \$75,000 to \$1,000,000. He will attend a meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup> with the low bidder. The Marion County Commission will meet on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Cienawski stressed the need for preventative maintenance on dams and channels in the future.
- Cienawski reported that the WV Beekeepers event held in Marion County had over 225 people in attendance.
- Myers reported he will be a judge at the upcoming Beef Expo.
- **Scott moved to cover the Envirothon registration fee for the Morgantown team, seconded by Spaid. Motion carried.**

Cienawski moved to enter executive session for contract discussions at 11:46 am.

Scott moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:26 pm.

  
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Mark Teets, Chairman

  
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Date