

Southern Conservation District

Committee Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2026
10:00 AM

The Southern Conservation District Board of Supervisors met on Thursday, April 30, 2026, at 10:00 AM in the conference room of the district office located at **263 Ragland Rd. Beckley, WV 25801**

Those in Attendance:

Supervisors:

Randall Patton, Chair

Bill Harris, Vice-Chair

Edgar Hendrick, Secretary (Teleconference)

Randy Prince

Rachel Prince (Teleconference)

Steven Johnston

Bill Cook

Curtis Murphy

Ron Testerman (Teleconference)

Others:

Jesus Nandi Roman, WVCA

Dave Parkulo, SCD

John Wooton, SCD Attorney

Open & Welcome:

Randall Patton

Committee Meeting Items of Business:**Equipment:**

Randall Patton

Dave Parkulo reported that all Cranberry Creek channels have been cut and sprayed, with Little Whitestick and Soak Creek work completed. His crew is currently finishing work at Dave's Fork, Christian Fork in Princeton, with plans to begin mowing immediately afterward. Parkulo stated that a \$54,000 estimate for sediment removal on Little Whitestick has been submitted, and invoices for Little Whitestick and Soak Creek have already been sent up for funding. Additional work is expected to be added to current contracts to complete as much work as possible before the June 12 deadline. Parkulo also informed the Board that despite submitting estimates for all districts in February, he has not yet received corresponding state work orders. Parkulo emphasized that he is proceeding with Southern Conservation District projects under Board authority rather than waiting on state action, noting that delays would jeopardize project completion timelines. The Board discussed upcoming CD maturities and possible options for reallocating funds to cover ongoing project costs, including an estimated immediate need of approximately \$100,000 to support current operations and maintenance expenses while preserving project-designated funds as needed.

Building:

Bill Harris

Bill Harris informed the Board that he is coordinating with Dave Parkulo to obtain pricing estimates for the fire escape exit project. Additional updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Finance/AgEP:

Curtis Murphy

Curtis Murphy reported that the Agricultural Enhancement Program sign-up period will be available for reviewed eligible practices, including lime, pond cleanout, water systems, exclusion fencing, heavy-use area protection, nutrient management, cross-seeding, winter grazing, and invasive species control. Murphy emphasized that pond cleanout applications must meet agricultural eligibility requirements, noting that recreational ponds without livestock use would not qualify. Murphy stated that program participation appears strong and that several contracts had recently been reviewed and approved. He also provided a financial update, noting the renewal of a Certificate of Deposit at a 3.54% rate for five months.

The Board discussed the importance of accurately tracking Agricultural Enhancement Program expenditures to ensure full use of available state and supplemental funding. Members emphasized the need to monitor database entries and financial balances closely to maximize program allocations. Additional discussion addressed prioritization of eligible agricultural pond projects and whether non-agricultural requests should be considered only if eligible participation is low. The Board also discussed the upcoming Appalachian Grazing Conference, including reimbursement procedures for supervisors and participating farmers, event logistics, and the

Southern Conservation District's outreach presence through informational materials and promotional efforts. Plans were noted for promoting the District's Agricultural Enhancement Program sign-up period and the upcoming September field day. Equipment financing was briefly reviewed, with the Board noting that current payment structures remain manageable and that future adjustments may be considered if circumstances change.

Meeting Adjournment:

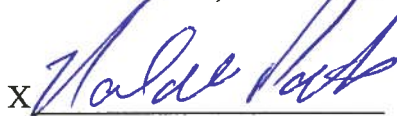
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Vice-Chair

Dates To Remember:

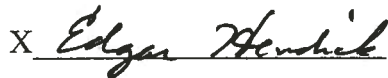
SCD Board Meeting: May 14, 2026, at 10:00 AM @ 463 Ragland Rd, Beckley, WV, 25801

Respectfully Submitted:

Randall Patton, SCD Chairman

X 

Edgar Hendrick, SCD Secretary

X 

RH/EH/as

Recorded By: Jesus Nandi Roman, Administrative Specialist