



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES May 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. James A. Cowell, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at Greene County Fairgrounds Building 10, 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA.

Those in attendance were as follows:

GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS

James A. Cowell, Jr.-Chairman; Greg Hopkins-Vice Chairman; Dan Bazzoli-Treasurer; Glodenna Halstead-Secretary; Jared Edgreen-Commissioner Representative, Dave Shipman-Director and Rebecca Trigger-Director. Associate Directors: Dominick Barbetta, Ryan Wise, Lewis Crouse and George Scull.

STAFF

Lisa Snider-District Director; Lindsay Kozlowski-District Office Manager; Tiffany Stewart-Watershed Specialist; Theresa Prochaska-Agricultural Conservation Specialist.

GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES

Ryan Furrer-Regional District Rep Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP); Michal Roup-Washington County Farm Service Agency; Jeff Sholtis-Morgan Township Supervisor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve April 30, 2024 meeting minutes. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Yorke left a note stating that she had voided two checks since the packets had been mailed out, to Metheny GRACE & Cardmember Services check. Additionally, GRACE checks totaling \$3,200.00 had been written from First Federal General Fund; Jackson Township check for \$6,231.35 written from the Low Volume Road Fund; Jim Willis check for \$17,500.00 written from the ACAP account.

ACH payment of Cardmembers Services was paid on May 15th. There was an additional check written to Richhill Township for a final payment in the amount of \$32,776.48 from the Dirt and Gravel Road Fund.

An updated Treasurer's Report was printed to be distributed.

A motion was made by Glodenna Halstead to approve the Treasurer's Report. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

No requests for additional agenda items.

CORRESPONDENCES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

PACD/SCC Joint Annual Conference-July 17-18 which you should have received an email from PACD.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

Lindsay Kozlowski – Ms. Kozlowski stated that tomorrow is the State Envirothon Competition in which Carmichaels will be competing.

Ms. Kozlowski and Ms. Snider have been busy visiting, assessing and preparing the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road projects which will be covered in New Business.

Zack Basinger – Ms. Snider stated that tire cleanup was last week, we got 700+ tires, but a third of the people who registered did not show up which left us with an empty dumpster. We had to turn people away due to the registration being full, Jefferson Township filled the third dumpster which gave us around 1,200 tires collected. Ms. Snider has spoken to IT to find out a way that we can register and accept prepayment for the tires that are being brought to the Tire Recycling event in the future to avoid such issues.

Our summer interns have started in the last couple of weeks- Madlyn Simpson of Waynesburg will be working primarily with Ms. Prochaska this summer and Mason McNett of Mather will be working with Mr. Basinger on West Nile Virus Tic Collections.

Tiffany Stewart – Ms. Stewart stated that the Willis ACAP Project has been officially completed and a final inspection walk through will hopefully be scheduled next week.

Jefferson Bridge project has hit another snag, Ms. Stewart is working to determine a date that the new owners will be in Pa to get the necessary documents signed.

Ms. Stewart is working on the 2024 Growing Greener Grant Application to present to the board at next month's meeting.

Tess Prochaska—Ms. Prochaska stated that she had nothing to add to her written report. Ms. Prochaska let the board know that she had GRACE Applications with her if anyone needed one.

Heather Yorko – Ms. Yorko was on vacation.

Lisa Snider- Ms. Snider had nothing to add.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Snider stated that Mr. Gall is still around and that she has a phone call on Thursday to determine more regarding his farm.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistance

Kirkview Acres owned by Cheryl Lawrence 36 acres has four horses, a miniature pony & donkey and is growing corn and hay in Cumberland Township.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve Kirkview Acres request for assistance. Dan Bazzoli seconded. (Motion Passed)

Dirt, Gravel, Low Volume Road Funding Projects

Ms. Snider apologized that the DGLVR information was not sent out prior to the meeting. Many townships have small slides that need addressed before they become an even bigger problem impacting streams if they aren't already so the decision was made to do another DGLVR round. Townships already had their cost estimates due to preparing the PEMA application to the state and federal funding programs. Ms. Kozlowski & Ms. Snider just had the townships complete applications for smaller projects that would utilize our funds available in DGLVR and visited all of the sites for review.

Ms. Kozlowski explained that the total for the three Dirt and Gravel Road Projects is \$175,191.54, we have \$91,388.61 that we need to spend to receive our next allocation in July. There are three Low Volume Road Projects which include Crow, Walker and Pettit Roads totaling \$95,736.24, we have \$60,322.75 to spend and we are typically allocated \$130,000.00 in July if we meet our spending requirements.

Mr. Hopkins stated that we would exceed our current funds but the difference will be allocated in the funds for the next year. Ms. Snider called the State Conservation Commission staff to confirm that our funding will be the same as in years past and maybe even receive a little extra funding due to other counties not meeting their spending requirements.

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the three Dirt and Gravel Road projects Durbin, Bevans and Moninger. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the two Richhill Townships Low Volume Road projects. Rebecca Trigger seconded. (Motion Passed)

A motion was made by Rebecca Trigger to approve Washington Township Low Volume Road projects. Glodenna Halstead seconded. (Motion Passed)

Dave Shipman abstained from voting due to living in Washington Township.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

Ms. Stewart is working on the summer newsletter

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES

Michal Roup, Director of the Farm Service Agency, stated that if anyone is interested in reporting acreage which includes hay, corn, beans, oats, etc., spring seeded small grains need to be reported by June 17th and corn, beans and hay needs to be reported by July 15th.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement is ongoing until September 30th for the current farm bill.

Ryan Furrer, Regional District Rep PADEP, stated that the Growing Greener Grant opened on April 22nd and closes on June 21st.

There is a visual Conservation District PA Agency Ag Meeting July 25th & July 31st via TEAMS please attend both dates.

ACAP Conservation Conference is June 4th- 6th at State College-Ms. Prochaska will be attending. Budget Staff Salary Spreadsheet update training, Ms. Snider has completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session needed.

Mr. Cowell mentioned that he had a fire on his property, someone had set two hay bales outside of his hay barn on fire, Mr. Cowell wanted to make everyone aware that they should keep an eye out.

Mr. Hopkins mentioned an article that he had read regarding Lithium that is used in our battery-operated vehicles and other electric devices is mined in Chile. That same Lithium can be found in the fracking being done in our area by Marcellus Shale. This is something that local landowners should remember when negotiating mineral rights in our area.

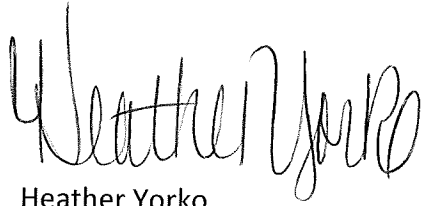
NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be June 18, 2024 at 10:00am.

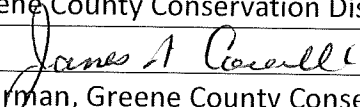
ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 am. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Yorko
Fiscal Officer

<u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u>
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on <u>June 18</u> , 2024.
 Chairman, Greene County Conservation District
Secretary, Greene County Conservation District 