



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

April 17th, 2018

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Eisiminger called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Greene County Conservation District Conference Room, 22 West High St., Waynesburg, PA. Those in attendance were as follows:

Greene County Conservation District Directors and Associate Directors

Bradley Eisiminger-Chairman; Jim Cowell-Vice Chairman; Archie Trader-Commissioner Representative; Tom Headlee-Treasurer; Mike Belding-Secretary; Bill Wentzel-Director; Dominick Barbetta-Associate Director; Greg Hopkins-Associate Director; Jeff Rode-Associate Director; J. Robert Rice-Director Emeritus; Jerry Day-Associate Director; Dave Shipman-Associate Director; and Glodena Halstead- Associate Director.

Staff

Lisa Snider-District Manager; Lindsay Kozlowski-Assistant Manager/Environmental Program Specialist; Zack Basinger-Environmental Program Specialist; April Brummage-Environmental Program Specialist; Jared Zinn-Watershed Specialist; Becky Salosky-Fiscal Officer; and Lauren Weaver Fiscal Officer

Guests and Cooperating Agencies

Shirley Eisiminger; Phil Evans-NRCS; Mike Hamilton-NRCS; Kim Moninger-NRCS; Chuck Kubasik-PA DEP; and Michal Roup-FSA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to approve the minutes of the March 20th, 2018 meeting. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to accept the treasurer's report. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

State Ethics Forms

The board was reminded to complete and return the State Ethics Forms by April 30, 2018.

Southwest Project Grass Grazing Bus Tour

The Southwest Project Grass Grazing Tour will take place at the West Virginia University Animal Science Farm on April 27th, 2018, Mr. Cowell may attend.

West Greene FFA Banquet

The banquet will be held on May 4th at 6:00pm at the Valley View Farm directors were encouraged to attend. Mr. Eisiminger and Mr. Cowell will be attending.

Ralph Bell Bird Club

The Bench Dedication will take place on Saturday May 19th at the Greene River Trail in Rices Landing at 2:00pm.

The Ralph Bell Bird Club scholarship luncheon will be April 28th at 2:00pm. Bill Wentzel will be attending the scholarship luncheon.

STAFF REPORTS

Lindsay Kozlowski – Ms. Kozlowski reported that she and Mr. Basinger attended the Chapter 102 and 105 Advanced technical training in State College. May 2nd at Hunting Hills is the Envirothon, the directors were encouraged to arrive around 11:30 for awards and lunch. Board members were asked to judge the coloring contest and posters after the meeting that are displayed in the office.

Zack Basinger – Mr. Basinger has responded to complaints of landslides due to the excessive amount of rain fall the area has experienced this spring.

April Brummage- Ms. Brummage has been working with the GRACE program. The weather has made it hard to get projects finished, she is working contractors to get the spring developments in for landowners. The current spending total is \$29,089.05, currently Ms. Brummage working with Jeff Mooney who recently was able to finish a fencing project which will add approximately an additional \$8,000.00 to the current spending. Ms. Brummage touched basis with everyone that applied for the GRACE program of the importance of the deadline set.

April also gave thanks for the opportunity to work for the GCCD as this will be her last meeting. April has accepted a position with a consulting company where she will be inspecting pipelines.

Jared Zinn – Mr. Zinn has applied for two grants with the Education and Outreach program through PACD. The first grant that has been approved is to control storm water through the use of rain barrels. The second one is for Outreach for the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and it has also been approved. The total between both grants is \$5,000.00. The current newsletter has been sent to direct results to be printed.

Lisa Snider – The annual report has been mailed and the state has received all required information needed for funding requirements. Ms. Snider has spent a lot of time with the Dirt and Gravel road program and she is working to get more application.

OLD BUSINESS

Burwell Cemetery – Bald Hill Church Road

Ms. Snider and Mr. Zinn looked into the issue. DEP did have the necessary money to complete this project, but did not have the engineering completed. PA DEP engineer for this project and projects like it is only one person for the whole state, until he is available to design the project it will be on hold.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistance

There were no requests for assistance to bring before the board.

Dirt & Gravel (D&G) & Low Volume Road (LVR) Program Applications

The new 5-year agreement with the State Conservation Commission and the District board was discussed and reviewed. The agreement has changed from in the past and there will now be quarterly reporting requirements on spending and projects. This will be tracked through the ARCGIS system and the spending requirements will be tracked in real time and this will encourage quarterly spending on projects. This means that it will be easier to track the annual spending requirements and the importance of accurate reporting. Ms. Snider will need to be more aggressive toward townships and getting their projects completed from July 2018 forward.

Ms. Snider discussed the need over contract this year because the possibility that a projects may not be completed in time due to the weather or other circumstances. If projects were not completed that are contracted by June 2019 there is a possibility the district would not receive their annual allocation for that year. Ms. Snider suggested a Breakfast meeting with the people who are certified to go over the requirements that need to be completed and the timely manner that they will need to be completed.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to approve the 5 year contract and an additional \$200,000.00 to be contracted prior to June 2018. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

Dirt & Gravel Road Program- Wayne Township-2016 Contract Amendment

Ms. Snider requested for the board amend their contract to give Wayne Township a 20% increase in their original contract. The need for extra funding for stone.

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to amend the contract of Wayne Township. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

2018-2020 Conservation District Watershed Specialist Grant Application

Watershed specialist grant application submission is different, it will need to be submitted online through DCED's website. When submitting the application online board action is required. The amount for the grant was increased to \$45,250.00 from the \$33,000.00 and will be an annual request to the state same as the CDFAP funding. GCCD will apply for the full amount this year, all the funding will go to Mr. Zinn's salary and benefits.

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to accept the application and submit for the grant. Archie Trader seconded. (Motion Passed)

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

The poster and coloring contest will be judged following today's meeting. The poster theme this year was, Watersheds: Our Home Our Water. The newsletter has been sent out. Ms. Wright has been working on manure management workshops. The press release for the GRACE program should be in papers on April 18th. GCCD plans on sending post cards to send to landowners with more than 20 acres for the GRACE program.

Mr. Cowell and Ms. Snider spoke concerning the no-till drill, which is currently at the farm of Mr. Tom Willis. Ms. Snider asked that we amend the agreements for the no-till drill and the lime spreader to only Greene County property owners. Too many folks are requesting to haul both pieces of equipment on trailers or tow far distances. This will not be good on either piece of equipment in the long run and could damage the equipment.

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to amend the no-till drill and lime spreader contract to only Greene County property owners. Archie Trader seconded. (Motion Passed)

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS

Chuck Kubasik-DEP- DEP will be holding their regional round table meeting on May 18th at the Westmoreland district office. Mr. Kubasik will be sending out an agenda to all the districts. Mr. Kubasik has been busy with all of the county the Envirothon's and the aquatics station. Mr. Kubasik mentioned the passing of Mr. Myers who he had took the position of 30 years ago, he was the field representative with 35 years of service.

Phil Evans-NRCS – Mr. Evans requested that Greene County district employees that use NRCS computers need to update their security training in the system.

Michal Roup-FSA – CREP grassland program is still available. If you need help with anything Ms. Roup would be the one to contact. Washington/Greene County committee has five members, Bill Hildreth and Bill Cree is on the committee from Greene County.

Dominick Barbetta- Mr. Barbetta spoke with Ken Dufalla of the IKES a few days before trout season. Mr. Dufalla was stocking trout in Ten Mile Creek. Mr. Dufalla said that he was trying to get the schools involved in trout stocking through the trout in schools program. The IKES are also looking into trying to build a hatchery.

J. Robert Rice- Mr. Rice said a few words about Ms. Salosky and her hard work and dedication to the GCCD.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

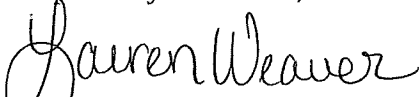
The next regular meeting will be held on May 15th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION--There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Bill Wentzel to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

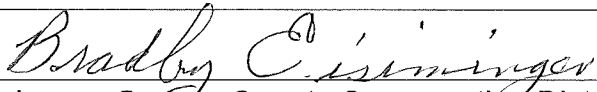
Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Weaver
Fiscal Officer

MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on May 15th, 2018.



Chairman, Greene County Conservation District



Secretary, Greene County Conservation District