



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES May 15, 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; Bill Wentzel-Director; Dominick Barbetta-Associate Director; Greg Hopkins-Associate Director; Glodena Halstead- Associate Director; and Jim Jones-Director.

Staff

Lisa Snider-District Manager; Lindsay Kozlowski-Assistant Manager/Environmental Program Specialist; Zack Basinger-Environmental Program Specialist; Jared Zinn-Watershed Specialist; Karlie Wright-Agricultural Technician; and Lauren Weaver Fiscal Officer

Guests and Cooperating Agencies

Phil Evans-NRCS; Mike Hamilton-NRCS; and Michal Roup-FSA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to approve the minutes of the April 17th, 2018 meeting. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

2019 Appalachian Grazing Conference March 7-9, 2019

Save the date card was sent out as a reminder that the conference is March 7-9, 2019. The conference is held in Morgantown at the waterfront hotel.

Pennsylvania Envirothon Director Nominations

PA Director Nominations is for anyone who would be interested in being an Envirothon Director. The meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of every month in Centre or Mifflin County. The responses need to be sent in no later than July 31, 2018.

2018-2019 Dirt & Gravel Low Volume Funding

Dirt & Gravel \$398,445.00 Low Volume \$102,837.00

This is a decrease of about \$15,000.00-\$20,000.00 from last year (2017). It should be noted that other Conservation Districts were eligible for funding and the formulary was changed this year, this could be why the decrease in funding for our conservation.

STAFF REPORTS

Lindsay Kozlowski – Ms. Kozlowski stated that we have a lot of permits coming in. The Conservation District had about 7-8 permits in 3 days that was sent in. Ms. Kozlowski said that they are staying busy and trying to stay on top of the permits.

Zack Basinger – Mr. Basinger started surveillance for the West Nile Virus program year until an intern is hired.

Jared Zinn - Mr. Zinn has received feedback on the Growing Greener Grant from DEP they would like some clarification on a few of the budget items. Mr. Zinn will be working on the Grant budget items and resubmission of those items.

Karlie Wright- Ms. Wright would like to give thanks to the conservation board for dealing with her schedule while she was in school, she currently finished. Ms. Wright is currently working on ASA applications for Whitely Township and working on Farmland Preservation.

Lisa Snider – Mr. Wentzel asked if the Montanari-218 property if anything had been done. Ms. Snider said that they had met with DEP. With the storms that we have had it has been an issue again. DEP is to send a violation letter to the property owner requesting that a permit be obtained and/or the crossing removed.

OLD BUSINESS

Burwell Cemetery – Bald Hill Church Road

Burwell Cemetery ownership has changed to the Pennsylvania Game Commission. The PA Game Commission is open to having the project completed because it could possibly be a safety risk for them. The stream improvement funding from the state will not be this fiscal year, they have already spent the budget. In the next fiscal year budget there are some projects that are higher on the list than Burwell Cemetery. Ms. Snider said that one of the biggest cost is going to be for stone. The owner of the cemetery and the PA Game Commission will hopefully be on the same page of getting it fixed. The Burwell Cemetery is a family owned cemetery.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistance

Ken Headlee is requesting assistance for his 135 acres on Garner Run Road in Washington Township. Mr. Headlee has also applied for GRACE. Mr. Headlee did a mini grant with the Conservation District a few years past. Mr. Headlee has a beef, grass and hay operation.

*A motion was made by Jim Cowell to accept Mr. Headlee to get assistance. Bill Wentzel seconded.
(Motion Passed)*

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

Morgan township contacted Ms. Snider about potentially changing the scope of work on Beagle Club Road. The contract was to utilize Ultra bond on the road, but since the contract was signed the road has experienced

a slide and now needs repaired. Ms. Snider spoke with the QAB and they had no problem with changing the scope of work.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to change the scope of work to fix the slide on Beagle Club Road. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

Ms. Snider also wanted to let the QAB know that Berdine Road in New Freeport and Powel Lane in Wayne Township have been completed.

Conference Room

Its going to cost about \$2,000.00 to \$2,500.00 to remove the section of the office connected to the conference room. This amount includes removing the room walls, electrical work, installation of pergo flooring, changing light fixtures and adding window treatments and painting.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to remove the wall. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

GRACE Discussion

The board discussed how to handle applicants that had been awarded GRACE funds in previous years and have failed to obtain the required NRCS conservation plans and how is the Conservation District going to handle it being that we are short staffed. The district has hired new employees have not been trained to write the necessary plans. Phil Evans from NRCS said he is willing to help out with the plans. Applicants who already have applied in previous years will go to the bottom of the list and they have to be listed with NRCS as waiting for an updated or approved conservation plan. Mr. Cowell suggested that the district still require NRCS Conservation Plans in order to apply for GRACE. The district will also grant extensions until the end of June to finish the 2017 projects that are not complete.

Envirothon Report

The winner of the Envirothon was Carmichaels Team 1 came in first. Carmichaels Team 3 came in Seconded. Carmichaels Team 2 came in third. Carmichaels Team 1 will be presenting their public presentation at the Carmichaels High School on Friday May 18, 2018 all are invited.

Gypsy Moth Coordinator

The district was asked to participate in the 2018 Gypsy Moth meeting. In the past, Bill Wentzel attended the trainings as the Gypsy Moth Coordinator. Mr. Wentzel was asked if he would still like to continue as the board coordinator for the program. Mr. Wentzel mentioned that this may be one of the last meetings that they do.

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to make Mr. Wentzel as the Gypsy Moth Coordinator. Archie Trader seconded. (Motion Passed)

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

Sheep and Fiber Fest

The Conservation District will not participate in the Sheep and Fiber Fest on May 19 & 20, 2018.

Jacktown Fair

The Conservation District is going to participate at the Jacktown Fair for 2018 Fair Season.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to go into Executive Session at 10:40. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

*A motion was made by Archie Trader to come out of Executive Session at 10:55. Jim Cowell seconded.
(Motion Passed)*

Environmental Resource/Agriculture Technician

Ms. Snider requested that the Conservation Board make a recommendation to the County Commissioners to hire three individuals to fill the positions as conservations technicians to assist with mainly permitting and agricultural programs and to learn and assist with other district programs. Funding for the positions will be 100% paid for by GCCD.

*A motion was made by Tom Headlee to send the
recommendation to the County Commissioners. Jim Jones seconded. (Motion Passed)
Archie Trader was excused from voting.*

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS

Phil Evans-NRCS – Mr. Evans mentioned that the second round of sign ups for CSP is coming up. Mr. Evans will be more than willing to help us with the plans. CSP is going to merge with Equip if the bill is passed. Mr. Evans mentioned of starting workshops for nutrient training.

Michal Roup-FSA – Acreage Reporting for small grains is to be done by June 15th, Soy Beans & Corn by July 16th, and Hay by November 15th. Ms. Roup gave thanks and appreciation to the Conservation Staff for their wonderful job at the Envirothon.

Waynesburg University

Waynesburg University is asking for a donation of \$1,000.00 for electro shock back pack. The University will be studying trout in the Clarksville area to come up with a survey for possible state trout stocking for the stream. They will do multiple studies of the stream to see what kind of fish are in there. They are also working in Dunkard Creek and the Conservation District will provide them with some information we have from years past.

*A motion was made by Archie Trader to give Waynesburg University \$1,000.00. Jim Cowell seconded.
(Motion Passed)*

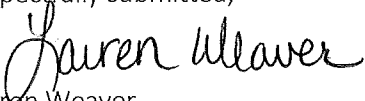
NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on June 19th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

*With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Tom Headlee to adjourn the
meeting at 11:05 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 June 19, 2018.

Bradley Eisinger, Chairman
Chairman, Greene County Conservation District

Michael H. Boldy
Secretary, Greene County Conservation District