



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 16, 2018

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Vice Chairman Mr. Cowell 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

Jim Cowell-Vice Chairman; Archie Trader-Commissioner Representative; Mike Belding-Secretary; Bill Wentzel-Public Director; Tom Headlee-Treasurer; Jerry Day-Associate Director; Gay Thistle-Associate Director; Greg Hopkins-Associate Director; Dominick Barbetta-Associate Director; Dave Shipman-Associate Director and Glodenna Halstead- Associate Director.

STAFF

Lisa Snider-District Manager; Lindsay Kozlowski-Assistant Manager/Environmental Program Specialist; Zack Basinger-Environmental Program; Michaela Hildreth-Conservation Technician; Ben Schweiger- Conservation Technician and Lauren Weaver-Fiscal Officer

GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES

Phil Evans-NRCS; Laurel Rush-SCC

PUBLIC COMMENTS- NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bill Wentzel to approve the minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

None

STAFF REPORTS

Lindsay Kozlowski – E-Permitting went live on October 10th, the conservation district can still accept paper copies until further notified. Ms. Kozlowski reported on fees that the conservation district has received this year that may be affected by the e-permitting and Oil and Gas changes coming from DEP, the funds the conservation district have received from fees as follows E&S \$94,800.00, Accelerated reviews \$68,800.00 and chapter 105 permit fees \$85,350.00. Ms. Kozlowski will also be sending sponsor letters ready to ask for donations for the Envirothon if anyone has a company or person in mind.

Zack Basinger – Mr. Basinger attended many trainings, webinars and is in a rush to catch up on permitting for the office. He will be working with the newer employees to get them out in the field and teach them more of the permitting side of things. West Nile is finished, there is just a few traps still out that will be picked up end of this month and the budget has been sent out for West Nile for next year.

Ben Schweiger- Mr. Schweiger has been working with the GRACE applicants to get their contracts signed he is almost two thirds of the way finished with the signing of the contracts. He is hoping once all the contracts are signed, he will be able to get out in the field more with the permitting and inspections.

Michaela Hildreth- Ms. Hildreth has been doing a lot with the Nutrient Management to learn more about the program.

Lisa Snider – Ms. Snider said that there is a lot of changes happening throughout the Conservation District. She had interviews yesterday, working with the Dirt and Gravel projects, and also quarterly reports are just a few to name that she has been working on.

Mr. Hopkins asked about how much we would lose financially if they take away the permitting of Oil and Gas. Ms. Snider said that she is working on the budget and trying to figure the percentage that we would lose.

OLD BUSINESS

Burwell Cemetery – Bald Hill Church Road

None

NEW BUSINESS

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

None

LIME SPREADER PURCHASE

Mr. Cowell provided a quote on a lime spreader for \$17,000 from Bill King. Ms. Snider sent out the specs of the lime spreader to Jeff Novak, Maintenance Director for assistance with the Co-Stars Program. She was hoping to have information for next month's meeting.

WEST GREENE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Karlie Wright from the WG FFA contacted the Conservation District and requested staff or directors that would be interested in being on the board. Mr. Cowell said that he would be interested.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to give Ben Schweiger the duties of the Advisory Board. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

WEST GREENE FFA LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM TRAVEL COSTS

WG FFA is going to the National Convention in Indianapolis for livestock judging, Ms. Wright sent over a budget for the cost of travel. The livestock team has been to Mr. Cowell's and to the Keystone International to practice judging. They need \$3,725.00 to cover the trip for Livestock Judging.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to donate to WG FFA \$3,725.00 to help with travel. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

FAIRGROUNDS NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

Laurel Rush from SCC stated that the fairgrounds wrote two Nutrient Management plans, a 1 Year plan that covers them until the end of September and a plan for crop year 2020 and 2021. It has met all of the requirements of the Nutrient Management Program. Ms. Rush recommended it for approval at today's meeting.

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to approve the Nutrient Management plan for the fairgrounds. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

ANNUAL PLAN OF OPERATIONS

The only thing the Conservation District has to add to the APO is the catfish in the classroom

A motion was made by Mike Belding to approve the APO with the addition of catfish. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

AWARDS BANQUET

Rick Thistlewaite and Corbly Orndoff both have venues that we could hold the Annual Awards Banquet in December. The tentative date is December 12, 2018 at 6:00pm. The GCCD will meet at 5 if there is any business and FLP at 5:30 with the banquet beginning at 6. The staff will be getting the committee together for awards. If there are any suggestions let the staff know.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

The Budget Committee Meeting is set to meet on Tuesday October 23, 2018 at 8:00 am at the Conservation Office.

DIRT AND GRAVEL ROAD

Cumberland Township has asked Ms. Snider to request a 10% increase in their contract if needed. They are anticipating more stone than expected.

A motion was made by Mike Belding to give Cumberland Township a 10% increase for Carter Road as needed. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

Greene Township has requested an amendment of \$8,500.00 that their contractor had went over on Randolph hill. The engineer is only charging what was contracted.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to pay Greene Township \$8,500.00. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

Center Township has been working closely with Lisa on Grinnage Run. Ms. Snider Stated that they would like to change the scope of work for the contract so they can still do at least a portion of the project.

Ms. Snider is trying to get the QAB site visits and rankings set up for the week of November 4th to 9th.

SOUTHWEST PROJECT GRASS GRASSLAND CONTEST

Mr. Willis and the State Envirothon team attended the Grassland Contest for the first time and the team placed 8th. Mr. Willis put a budget together for the travel to attend the Grassland Contest and the cost of transportation exceeded what was budgeted by \$450.00.

A motion was made by Mike Belding to pay \$450 for transportation costs to the Carmichaels Team who competed at the grassland contest. Archie Trader seconded. (Motion Passed)

GRACE CONTRACTS

Mr. Schweiger was signing contracts and while doing so he realized that he had missed one of Jim Sheil's fields, this field is 11.15 acres which requires 22.3 Ton of lime the cost of that is \$490.60. Mr. Schweiger asked the board if they could approve Mr. Sheil to get funding through GRACE for this field.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to approve payment to Jim Sheil for the additional field. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

GRAZING STICKS

Mr. Schweiger received an email from Southwest Project Grass to take a survey on grazing sticks. The grazing sticks cost \$8.00 each. Ms. Snider said that she may be eligible for a PACD mini grant to help cover the cost of about 250 sticks which would total about \$2,000.00. Ms. Snider almost mentioned about having a workshop with other counties.

A motion was made by Mike Belding to pay the remainder of the 250 sticks. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

CALL FOR CONTRACTORS

The Conservation District is having a hard time finding fencing contractors, and people to do spring developments. Ms. Snider asked if she could do a request for services for contractors in an ad in the paper or in the Greene saver that reaches each house in Greene County.

A motion was made by Mike Belding to spend no more than \$500.00 on advertisement. Tom Headlee Seconded. (Motion Passed)

STREAM ECOLOGY AND RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER WORKSHOP

Mr. Zinn would like to attend this workshop on October 30, 2018. Ms. Rush said it is a great organization and she heard speakers from this organization.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to pay for the cost to attend this workshop. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

LOGO

Ms. Snider showed the board different logo designs, the district decided to do an oval with the lettering inside along with Greene County Conservation District around it.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

Phil Evans NRCS- Mr. Evans said that there is going to be a sign up for the old farm bill money, all applications have to be in by October 19th, 2018. Mr. Evans said that they have been out to many farm visits, a lot more in Greene County then they have ever been this year, he is so glad that they are able to work together with the Conservation District.

Laurel Rush SCC- District should have received all the nutrient management manual books; they are open for public comments until November 16th and they need to be submitted to Frank Snyder. Ms. Rush also said that if the land owners that the conservation district work with through the grace program. that there is also a program called REEP that can also help with cost that GRACE does not cover.

Mr. Hopkins mentioned about Mr. Cowell applying for the Leopold award. Mr. Cowell applied for this award and is currently in the top four in Pennsylvania. Ms. Snider has been interviewed because of this award a couple times. Mr. Cowell should be notified by the end of October about this award and if he got it.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to go into executive session at 11:18 a.m. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

A motion was made by Archie Trader to come out of executive session at 11:34. Mike Belding seconded. (Motion Passed)

CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN JOB POSITIONS

A motion was made by Mike Belding to send Sara Hlatky and David Whitacre applications to the commissioners. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed) Archie Trader abstained

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on November 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mike Belding to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Weaver
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 _____, 2018.
Chairman, Greene County Conservation District
Secretary, Greene County Conservation District