



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES October 18, 2022

Lindsay Kozlowski led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Mr. James A. Cowell, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. at Greene County Fair Grounds Building 10, 107 Fairgrounds Road, Waynesburg, PA.

Those in attendance were as follows:

GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT DIRECTORS

James A. Cowell, Jr.-Chairman; Commissioner Belding-Vice Chairman; William Wentzel-Secretary; Greg Hopkins-Treasurer; Dave Shipman and Glodenna Halstead. Associate Directors: George Scull; Dan Bazzoli; Jim Willis; Doug Willis and Jerry Day.

STAFF

Lisa Snider-District Director; Lindsay Kozlowski-District Office Manager; Jared Zinn – Watershed Specialist; Zack Basinger – Environmental Permitting Manager

GUESTS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES

Phil Evans - NRCS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to approve the September 20, 2022 minutes.
William Wentzel seconded; motion passed*

TREASURER'S REPORT

The September reconciliation statements were made available to the board for review along with the Community Bank CD Maturity Renewal Notice. The board was provided with an updated treasurer's report that included several bank transfers.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve the treasurer's report. Mike Belding seconded; motion passed

REQUEST OF ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Belding requested to add a discussion of Kovalcheck Road ag operation complaint received by their office.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mike Belding to add the Kovalcheck Ag Complaint to the agenda. William Wentzel seconded; motion passed

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

The Carmichaels Area High School team placed 2nd at the Statewide Grassland Evaluation Contest. Kevin Willis, team coach provided an email to thank the board for their support and results of the competition.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports were included in the meeting packets.

Lindsay Kozlowski- Ms. Kozlowski stated that the date is set for the Envirothon and will be held on April 26th at Hunting Hills and she has talked to EQT about being a sponsor for the event. The awards banquet will be held on December 14 at Valley View Farm.

Zack Basinger- Mr. Basinger mentioned that the WNV program is now over for the season and the county was in line with the national average on positive cases.

Jared Zinn- Mr. Zinn had nothing additional to add.

Lisa Snider- Ms. Snider stated that the WNV application for funding was received by the state and she received the final bills for Springhill Township Coon Run project.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Assistance

No request for assistance

Certificate of Deposit Maturity

Ms. Snider had discussions with Community Bank and First National Bank about the interest rates of CD's. The district budget committee was consulted and it was decided that the best option for the maturing funds would be to transferred into the Community Bank Money Market checking account until the rates on CDs stabilize.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to transfer the CD on the maturity date to the General Fund Money Market checking account at Community Bank. Dave Shipman seconded;

2023 Conservation District Budget

Ms. Snider reviewed the proposed budget that was provided in the meeting packets and that was reviewed at the budget committee meeting. Mr. Hopkins requested that in the future there also be a visual representation of the funds.

Mike Belding made the motion to approve the budget as presented. Glodenna Halstead seconded; motion passed.

DGLVR Updated Ranking and Policy Documents

A committee meeting was held to review the changes and documents were sent in the meeting packets. The policy statement included items concerning the updated stream crossing policy approved by the State Conservation Commission along with items that are required of the applicants. The ranking form was also updated to be more user friendly.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to approve the changes to the policies, procedures & ranking documents as presented & recommended by the QAB. Dave Shipman seconded; motion passed.

ACAP Delegation Agreement Review and Discussion

Mr. Cowell and Mr. Scull discussed information they received about the program from the meeting that was held on September 28. There are concerns about the requirements and lack of specifics and details about the requirements of the staff. It was noted that the district currently only has 4 employees and the fear of moving forward with the program in house would not allow staff to focus on their current programs fully.

It was discussed that even if the district does not go into the delegation agreement with the State Conservation Commission funds will still be available for Greene County farmers through the State Conservation Commission. If the program shows begins to show signs of farmer interest the board may choose to request a delegation agreement with the state. The board is concerned that there is no guarantee that funding will be available after the 3-year state legislated deadline for spending.

Mike Belding made a motion to table a decision on the delegation until the final delegation agreement is available. Greg Hopkins seconded; motion passed.

Kovalcheck Road Agricultural Operation

Discussion took place regarding numerous ongoing complaints on the farm and violations to the Clean Streams Law. Both the district and commissioner's office has received complaints concerning animal health and potential Clean Streams Law violations.

A motion was made by Mike Belding to contact DEP for assistance with compliance. Bill Wentzel seconded; motion passed.

CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

Greene County Commissioners Facebook Podcast

Ms. Snider stated that she and Mr. Basinger participated in the podcast about the district and it will air in early November. Staff will also be attending the township convention on Thursday.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES

Phil Evans-NRCS-there will be a local workgroup meeting before the end of the year and it will discuss the ACAP program and how everything fits together.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session not needed.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

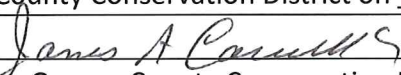
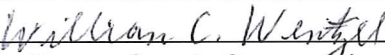
The next regular meeting will be November 15, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dave Shipman to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Greg Hopkins seconded; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Snider
District Director

<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 _____, 2022.

Chairman, Greene County Conservation District

Secretary, Greene County Conservation District