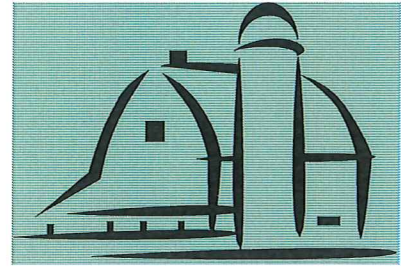


Greene County Farmland Preservation  
22 West High Street, Suite 204  
Waynesburg, PA 15370  
724-852-5278



Greene County Farmland Preservation Minutes  
**October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 12:30 p.m.**  
Lavern's Restaurant  
Jefferson, PA

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman, Dave Shipman at 12:31 p.m. at Lavern's Restaurant near Jefferson, PA. At 12:45 p.m. Chairman Cree arrived and presided over the meeting.

**Greene County Farmland Preservation Board (GCFLP) Members**

Members Present—Bill Cree, III, Chairman; Dave Shipman, Vice Chairman; Rick Thistlethwaite, Treasurer; Archie Trader, Greene County Commissioner; Charlie Day, Director; Corbly Orndorff, Director, Chris Eisiminger, Director and Jim Willis, Director.

**Staff**

Lisa Snider, District Manager, GCCD; April Brummage, Ag and E & S Technician, GCCD

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Corbly Orndorff to approve the minutes of the May 17th, 2017 meeting minutes. Jim Willis seconded. (Motion Passed)*

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Thistlethwaite read the Treasurer's report as follows:

1. FLP Board Fundraising Account - \$13,830.96
2. Easement Funds - \$31,678.10
  - a. Dept. of Agriculture - \$218,814.75
  - b. County of Greene - \$31,678.10
3. Funds requiring year end encumbrment by 12/31/17 - \$0.00

*A motion was made by Charlie Day to accept the treasurer's report as read. Corbly Orndorff seconded. (Motion Passed)*

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to bring before the board.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to bring before the board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Additional Public Notices for FLP Application Period**

At the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 FLP meeting, the board voted to advertise the application period on the radio and in the newspaper. As a result, two applications were received, a few days after it aired on the radio in June. The board was asked to consider if additional advertisements should be done.

*Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Charlie Day to re-advertise the application period on the radio. Corbly Orndorff seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **FLP Application Update**

Since problems occurred regarding the percentage of agricultural use for the Bell easement, the staff felt there was a need to revise the FLP easement application. Step 4 was added to ensure that the property qualifies; with at least 50% of the land being used as agriculture.

*Following discussion, a motion was made by Corbly Orndorff to approve this change to the easement application. Chris Eisiminger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **Ruff Creek Area Act 357 Plan, Washington Township – Request for Comments**

A request was received from the Eads Group to determine if the planned sewage work, in the area, would affect preserved farms. Ms. Wright has drafted a letter and maps to show the agricultural security areas as well as possible FLP growth areas.

*Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Rick Thistlethwaite to send the letter stating that the project should not impact any agricultural easements. Jim Willis seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **Greene County Conservation District (GCCD) – Nominations**

As a nominating organization, a request for nominations for GCCD directors was received from the Greene County Commissioners office. The terms of Tom Headlee and Greg Hopkins, both who are willing to continue their service, will expire on December 31, 2017.

*Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Jim Willis to nominate Tom Headlee and Greg Hopkins. Chris Eisiminger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **November Meeting Cancellation**

*Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Corbly Orndorff to cancel the meeting scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Dave Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **December Meeting Change**

*To coincide with the annual awards banquet, a motion was made by Dave Shipman to change the December meeting date and hold the meeting on December 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at Thistlethwaite Vineyards. Charlie Day seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **December Meeting – Summary**

For the past few years, GCCD and GCFLP have joined together to host the annual awards banquet. Mr. Shipman will give a brief report on Greene County's farmland preservation program at this year's event.

### **2017 Inspections Approval – Harry Farm**

An inspection of the farm was done prior to this meeting and found no changes to the property and no violations.

*A motion was made by Rick Thistlethwaite to send the compliance letter to the PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation. Charlie Day seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **Board Member Renewals**

The terms of William Cree, III, Richard Belding and James Willis will expire at the end of the year and they will need to be reappointed by the Greene County Commissioners.

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to send a letter to the commissioners requesting the reappointment of these directors. Chris Eisiminger seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **Chairman Appointment**

The position of chairman is appointed annually by the Greene County Commissioners.

*A motion was made by Dave Shipman to send a letter to the Greene County Commissioners requesting the reappointment of William Cree, III as chairman. Charlie Day seconded. (Motion Passed)*

### **2017 GCFLP Agricultural Easements**

Dominick Barbetta #1 (79.175 acres)  
Morgan Township, 114 Barbetta Lane, Clarksville

Donald Bruckner #1 (212.76 acres)  
Jefferson Township, 220 Valley View Rd, Jefferson  
There was nothing new to bring to the board.

### **2016 GCFLP Agricultural Easements**

William A. Cree, Jr. and Lura Ann Cree #2 (57.35 acres) – LESA Score: 43.37

The Cree's have accepted the offer. The closing date will be slightly delayed, as two checks were issued by the state; one to Mr. Cree and one to Mrs. Cree. Since the deed shows only Mr. Cree as the property owner, the checks were returned to the state and a new check must be issued. The closing will be scheduled once the new check is received.

David K. Bell #1 (87.78 acres) – LESA Score: 38.81

Mr. Bell has the accepted offer. This easement is scheduled to be discussed at the PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation board meeting on October 12, 2017.

**OUTREACH**

Mr. Bradley Eisiminger has applied for an Agricultural Security Area (ASA) in Whiteley Township. Another property owner may join him in this application. His farm alone, should meet the acreage requirements.

**STAFF REPORTS**

Ms. Snider noted that the Greene County Conservation District is processing applications for lime and fertilizer application, water systems, fencing, etc. under the Greene County's Reinvestment in Agriculture: Conservation Enhancement (GRACE) program. The program is being funded with unconventional gas well fund and GCCD funds.

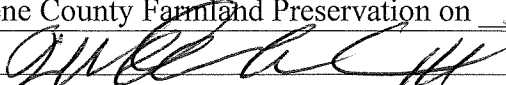
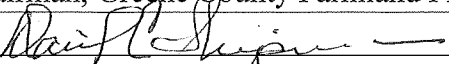
**Next Meeting: December 13, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at Thistlethwaite Vineyards**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by David Shipman to adjourn the meeting. Jim Willis seconded.  
(Motion Passed)*

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca K. Salosky  
Fiscal Officer

<b><u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u></b>	
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Farmland Preservation on <u>January 17</u> , 2018.	
	
Chairman, Greene County Farmland Preservation	
	
Executive Member, Greene County Farmland Preservation	