

MINUTES OF GARRETT SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT SUPERVISORS' MEETING

October 17, 2017
District Office

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Chairman George Bishoff. Other supervisors in attendance were Smokey Stanton, Kris Enlow, and Katharine Dubansky. Also in attendance were Carrie Colebank, Chad Bucklew, and Shaun Sanders.

Shaun presented revised minutes for review. A motion to approve the revised minutes as presented was made by Katharine, seconded by Smokey.

The following report of state funds for the month of September 2017 was presented and approved:

Balance – September 1, 2017	\$ 4,242.50
Receipts – September 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017	4,226.00
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	\$ 8,468.50
Expenditures – September 1, 2017 – September 30, 2017	149.61
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Balance – September 30, 2017	\$ 8,318.89

The detailed report of expenditures for all accounts for the period of September 19, 2017 thru October 17, 2017 and the Income Versus Expenditures report for the period of July 1, 2017 thru October 17, 2017 were distributed.

Scott Boylan from MDE started a discussion about the COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE STANDARD EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN FOR FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS and MDE enforcement activities in general. Scott pointed out that under Maryland law, a landowner is ultimately responsible for preventing sediment pollution from occurring on their land including sediment from logging operations. Board members expressed a desire to change the wording on the compliance agreement to make it clearer that the operator/contractor is assuming some responsibility for ensuring compliance with an approved erosion and sediment control plan. Shaun will prepare a revised Compliance Agreement for the board to review.

Also the following changes to the Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations that became effective on October 1, 2017 were discussed:

1. Providing flexibility on the 20-acre grading unit limitation.
2. Extending approval periods for erosion and sediment control plans from 2 yrs to 3 yrs.
3. Removal of the requirement that MDE inspect construction sites an average of once 2 weeks for compliance with an approved erosion and sediment control plan.

The board affirmed their position that they felt it best for all concerned to keep the Districts approval period consistent with county storm water and grading permit approval of 2 years.

Shaun reported that plans for the manure injection demonstration days were moving forward. Final selection of farms and schedule is being determined by Nutrient Management personnel. A motion to donate \$100.00 towards the cost of refreshment and/or the luncheon was made by Kris, seconded by Smokey. George will contact United Dairy for a possible donation of milk for the event.

Shaun presented an inquiry from Allegany SCD about the possibility of co-cost sharing with them and Washington SCD on a post pounder. Shaun pointed out that Adam Heavner made it clear that it would be available for use in Garrett County whether we participated with them or not. Several questions arose about how it would be managed including:

- a. Would Garrett be included under their liability insurance or do we have to get our own?
- b. How would rental income or profits be shared?
- c. Would we still be expected to share in maintenance cost if it was used very little or not at all in Garrett County?
- d. Would there be a difference in rental rate for being part owner?
- e. How would scheduling/transporting be managed, etc?

Shaun will follow up with Adam for additional information.

Chad presented the Field Office Activities Report for the period of 9/20/17 through 10/17/17. Chad stated that all of the FY 2017 Farm Bill contracts were successfully obligated before the end of the Fiscal Year, and that the total contract values were over \$1.05 Million. He stated that the Local Work Group summary had been submitted in advance of the deadline, and that no feedback had been received to date. Chad also spoke about some points that were made during the recent Partnership meeting held at Keedysville. Chad briefly discussed the Oregon model for conservation delivery, and how Maryland may be interested in incorporating some of its principles in future years. Chad also discussed that updates in CAD software may require the agencies to purchase newer survey data collectors. He also mentioned that NRCS will be accepting applications for most programs, including EQIP, until December 15, 2017. Any applications received after this date will be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 2019.

A lengthy discussion took place concerning the district secretary position versus an administrative type position and the needs of the district. Due to the time it was decided to have a special meeting at 10:00 am on November 1, 2017 to discuss the issue in more detail.

Meeting adjourned 10:20 p.m.