

MINUTES OF GARRETT SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING

June 15, 2021

Teleconference Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Smokey Stanton. The Meeting was conducted via phone-in conference call. Other supervisors present on the call were Kris Enlow, Bill Buckel and Cameron Crawford. Chad Bucklew, Jessica Klotz, Butch Helbig and Roger Kitzmiller were also present via telephone.

Minutes for the May 18, 2021 Board Meeting were approved as submitted – Cameron/Kris (motion/second), vote: unanimous.

The following report of state funds was presented and approved:

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| Balance – May 1, 2020 | \$12,291.89 |
| Receipts – May 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020..... | <u>0.00</u> |
| | \$ 12,291.89 |
| Expenditures – May 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020..... | <u>346.92</u> |
| Balance – May 31, 2020 | \$11,944.97 |

A detailed Treasurers Report of balances and expenditures for all accounts, for the period of May 18, 2021 through June 15, 2021, was distributed. The Treasurers Report was approved as distributed – Bill/Kris (motion/second), vote: unanimous.

Information presented to the Board:

- Office Update: COVID-19. MDA Employees continue to telework with weekly office visits; Chad, Carrie, Will and Roger are working a combination of teleworking and office visits. Teleworking for MDA employees will end on July 1st and all MDA employees will return to/work from the office (with certain exceptions). A written up-date was emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. In summary: MDA is essentially open for business with a recommendation that anyone who has not been vaccinated wear a mask and maintain social distancing. NRCS is open by appointment only with a requirement that anyone who has not been vaccinated wear a mask and maintain social distancing. NRCS also restricts the number of office staff present to 50% of the total employees (6). The stricter of the guidelines are followed by all staff.
- The registration deadline (June 25th) for attending the Summer MASCD Meeting was announced.
- Roger is continuing to correspond with consultants, developers, engineers, MDE, the county permits office, etc. concerning the development of the E&S Control Plan for the Backbone Mountain solar site.
- Announced: Cover Crop Enrollment will be July 1st thru July 16th.
- Announced: The District Newsletter will go out by June 25th. Submit articles to Carrie.

Chad updated the board on the recent staff changes with NRCS. Beth Goering, the RC&D Grazing Specialist, has taken a full time permanent position with NRCS in Petersburg, WV. It is uncertain as to whether the Grazing Specialist position will be backfilled. Jacob Metcalf will start as a NRCS Soil Conservationist on July 6th. Dylan Kesner will start as the NRCS Forester in Cumberland on July 6th, as well. His position will primarily cover Garrett, Allegany, and Washington Counties. He will assume several of the duties previously performed by Shannon Farrell. Dakota Hamilton will start as the NRCS Soil Conservation Technician in Cumberland on June 21st. He will primarily be working on projects in Allegany, but he could still work on Garrett projects as needed. Chad stated that there are seven Farm Bill contracts that are now approved for Garrett. Five more contracts are under review and expected to be finalized soon. A recent statewide reallocation of program funds was done, but no additional Garrett projects were approved.

- The FY22 General Fund MOU (MDA Budget) was submitted consistent with prior years.
- The FY22 CBTF Agreement (CBTF Budget) submission included a 2% COLA and a Step increase for the District employee (these items have been offered and accepted in some prior years, not offered in other years). A 31% fringe benefit allowance was included as in prior years. This submission makes the money available in the agreement; the Board can still decide how to allocate the money toward the employee's compensation package (with certain limitations within categories).
- Roger will meet with a former county plan reviewer to develop a job description and dollar amount to help with E&S Control Plan review (subject to Board approval) – Kris/Cameron (motion/second), vote: unanimous. This information may be used to develop a District Fee Schedule to be implemented by the District (with county approval).
- A bid package will be advertised to solicit bids to mow the District operated dams - Bill/Kris (motion/second), vote: unanimous
- A bid package to solicit bids to cut trees at the dams will be advertised after additional information is received from the recent dam inspections.

Based on current trends regarding COVID 19, the July Board Meeting will be held in-person at the office.

A call for further business brought no response and the meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.