

MINUTES OF GARRETT SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING

February 19, 2019

District Office

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman George Bishoff. Other supervisors present were Katharine Dubansky and Smokey Stanton. Also in attendance were William Buckel, Carrie Colebank, Chad Bucklew, and Shaun Sanders.

A motion to approve the treasurer's reports of state funds for the months of December 2018 and January 2019 was made by Smokey, seconded by Katharine.

Balance – January 1, 2018	\$4,156.99
Receipts – January 1, 2018 – January 31, 2018.....	4,526.00
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	\$ 8,682.99
Expenditures – January 1, 2018 – January 31, 2018.....	3,291.87
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Balance – January 31, 2018	\$ 5,391.12

Notes of the unofficial meeting on January 15, 2019 were reviewed.

Election of offices for calendar year 2019 was postponed until a full board is appointed and present.

Shaun informed the board that the District had received an application for renewal of an erosion and sediment control plan (GP 2015-019REN2) for the culvert replacement project adjacent to PL-566 Dam # 2. Shaun pointed out this is the 2nd renewal of the original plan approved in 2015 and that the project site is continuing to cause water to cover the outlet pipe of the toe drain. MDE, Dam Safety has noted this issue on their annual inspections reports for the dam. Shaun also commented on the differences between the Districts erosion and sediment control approval authority and the rights and responsibilities associated with the easements that the District has on the property. Shaun suggested it may be wise for the District to engage a lawyer to review the easements and provide the District with updated legal advice concerning this project if the county attorney or states attorney office is unable to. A motion was made by Smokey, seconded by Katharine to withhold approval of the E & S renewal until the plan is amended to provide for a final closure date if the project is not completed by late summer and make it clear that red lined as-builts are required.

The board discussed setting up a new account to transfer funds into from the equipment account. A motion was made by Katharine, seconded by Smokey to transfer \$ 50,000 into a Value Money Market Account at First United Bank & Trust Bank. Carrie will contact the bank to facilitate the transaction.

Shaun presented a draft email for the FY19 county budget request. It was decided to keep this year's general operating request the same level as last year as requested by the county. Also, it was decided to request the county to grant "in-kind" support in the form of rent free office

space for the district employee. This would equate to approximately \$2,373.00 in savings to the district that could be used for other purposes. Shaun informed the board that he had requested a meeting with the county commissioner to review the budget request.

Chad presented the field office activities report for the period of 1/15 through 2/19/2019. He mentioned that the partial government shutdown had ended soon after the last Board meeting, and that NRCS now had funding to operate through the end of September 2019. Chad informed the board that three EQIP applications have been preapproved for funding. Currently, there are 33 applications for the upcoming year, and more preapprovals are expected in later funding rounds. Chad informed the Board that significant additional funds were received last week for the Golden Winged Warbler and Cerulean Warbler projects. The funding for FY19 will exceed \$1 million. Chad provided an update on staffing changes. Daniel Kirby will be starting as the Garrett NRCS Soil Conservation Technician on March 4th. Beth Goering started in Allegany on February 4th as the RC&D agreement Grazing Specialist. Beth will serve in western Maryland, but primarily in Allegany and Garrett counties. Will Gindlesberger starts on February 19th as the RC&D agreement Grazing Team Technician. Will is based in the Cumberland office for the short term, but will likely be moving to the Hagerstown RC&D office soon. Will will be covering western Maryland as well, but will be focused on Washington and Frederick counties. Chad also informed the Board that Amy Albright, the NRCS Soil Conservationist in Allegany, left NRCS on February 4th for a position with the US Forest Service. Chad explained that the vacancy will mean that more of his time will be dedicated to Allegany until the position is filled. Smokey questioned the impacts to Garrett that were resulting from the Allegany vacancy. Chad's response was that there weren't major impacts at this time, other than payment processing being delayed.

George, Smokey, Chad and Shaun reported on various topics from the winter MASCD meeting.

A motion to endorse Cameron Crawford's' appointment as a District supervisor was made by Smokey, seconded by Katharine.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.