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



Greene County Farmland Preservation
Board Meeting Minutes
Farm Inspections 10:00 AM
Began at 257 Crees Road
Carmichaels, PA 15320
November 20, 2019 12:00 PM
Hartley Inn Restaurant
102 South Market Street
Carmichaels, PA 15320

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The meeting was called to order by William Cree at 12:01 PM at the Hartley Inn Restaurant.

Greene County Farmland Preservation Board (GCFLP) Members

Members Present—William Cree-Chairman; David Shipman-Vice Chairman; Richard Thistlethwaite-Treasurer; James Willis; Chris Eisiminger

Staff and Guests

Lisa Snider, District Manager, GCCD; Ben Schweiger, Conservation Technician, GCCD; Sara Hlatky, Conservation Technician, GCCD

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by James Willis to approve October 30, 2019 meeting minutes. David Shipman seconded. (Motion passed)

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Jim Willis to approve the treasurer's report. Chris Eisiminger seconded. (Motion passed)

V. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Schweiger explained how the following documents are completed and/or received for the Cree encumberment: title search, W-9, percent ownership, appraisal release form, Good Faith payment, plot, appraisal and conservation plan. The bound copies of

the appraisal report have not yet been received and the check for the appraisal will be sent out to Jim Kelly.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Farm Inspections

Farm Inspections for Cree 1 and 2, Bell, and Harry were performed prior to the meeting. Richard Thistlethwaite, James Willis and Chris Eisiminger formed the committee for inspections. Lisa Snider, Ben Schweiger and Sara Hlatky were also present. Ms. Snider explained the results of the inspection reports. The Cree farm will need to have their conservation plan updated to include practices they have added to the operation. The Bell and Harry operations have continued to operate according to their conservation plans, no changes have been made to their operations.

A motion was made by David Shipman to send out a letter to the landowners who need to make updates to their conservation plans to reflect the current operation. Richard Thistlethwaite seconded. (motion passed)

Barbetta Update

Ms. Snider explained how she received notification from Greg Hook stating title operations would not respond to the validity of the quiet title action. She has sent this information to Douglas Wolfgang the director at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for guidance. A response has not yet been received from Mr. Schweiger

2020 Budget

Ms. Snider explained the attached proposed 2020 budget.

A motion was made by David Shipman to accept the 2020 budget. Richard Thistlethwaite seconded. (motion passed)

2020 Farmland Preservation Meeting Dates

Mr. Schweiger explained the list of dates and times for the meetings in 2020.

February 19, 2020 at 1:00 PM March 18, 2020 at 1:00 PM April 15, 2020 at 1:00 PM May 20, 2020 at 8:30 AM June 17, 2020 at 8:30 AM July 15, 2020 at 8:30 AM August 19, 2020 at 8:30 AM

September 16, 2020 at 1:00 PM

October 21, 2020 at 10:00 AM-Farm Inspections; 1:00 PM meeting at GCCD Conference Room November 18, 2020 at 1:00 PM

December 16, 2020 at 5:30 PM-Location TBD

A motion was made by Richard Thistlethwaite to accept the 2020 meeting dates and times. Chris Eisiminger seconded. (motion passed)

VIII. OUTREACH

IX. STAFF REPORTS

Lisa Snider

Ms. Snider had nothing to add to her staff report. She reminded the present board members of the upcoming annual banquet. An intern has completed some reassessing and mapped out dirt and gravel roads. With this information she will be uploading worksites to the online database. She also wants to reach out to farmers in the area who have not been involved in the GRACE program who may not be hearing about the program. Radio ads and newspaper ads have been sent out in the past for advertising, going door to door may be a new option to try.

Ben Schweiger

Mr. Schweiger mentioned he had nothing to add to his staff report. He has been working through the GRACE program and submitting documents for the Cree farm encumberment.

Sara Hlatky

Ms. Hlatky mentioned she had nothing to add to her staff report. She has sent out the technical review letter for the Washington County Nutrient Management Plan.

- X. **Next Meeting Date:** December 11, 2019 at the Valley View Farm at 4:30 PM.
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by David Shipman to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 PM. Richard Thistlehwaite seconded. (Motion passed)

Respectfully submitted,

MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene
County Farmland Preservation on December 1 2019.
Willette 14
Chairman, Greene County Farmland Preservation
Warie Lausiene
Executive Member, Greene County Farmland Preservation