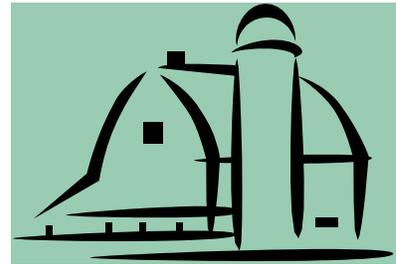


Greene County Farmland Preservation  
Fort Jackson Building, Mezzanine  
19 South Washington Street  
Waynesburg, PA 15370  
724-852-5278



**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order January 26, 2009 at 7:10 P.M at Fort Jackson Bldg Mezzanine Conference Room, Waynesburg, PA. Directors present: William Cree III, Chairman; David Shipman, Vice Chairman; Richard Thistlethwaite, Treasurer; and James Willis.  
Staff: Laurel Rush, Agricultural Manager.

**Public Comments**

**Reports from Cooperating Agencies and Guests:**

**Discussion of Staff Reports:**

Nothing Additional

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of the previous meeting approved as presented

**Motion**        **Dave**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**                **Rick**

**Approved**

**Treasurer's Report**

|                 |            |                                       |
|-----------------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| Opening Balance | \$655.00   |                                       |
| Deposits        | \$2,255.00 | State reimbursement for closing costs |
| Withdrawls      | \$0.00     |                                       |
| Closing Balance | \$2,910.00 |                                       |

**Motion**        **Jim**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**                **Dave**

**Approved**

Motion to refund \$1,500.00 appraisal fee to William A & Lura Ann Cree's at the closing

**Motion**        **Dave**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**                **Jim**

**Correspondence:**

A draft of the guidelines for the Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program part of the Farm Bill were sent via email. Comments are being accepted until March 17, 2009. This is the federal program that is available to us to help fund easement purchases. This is a fund matching program.

**Old Business:**

The Cree Farm Status: January 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM I will meet with the Cree's at Hook's Law office to complete the closing paperwork. The press will be contacted to highlight this historic event.

Washington Township ASA: Laurel was contacted by Jon Corbett , township supervisor, who has been appointed to the Ag committee since Bryant Dean's resignation. Laurel has also been in touch with Rita Martin, one of the landowners on the most recent application. Stephanie Zimmerman's information was

Board of Directors: William Cree III, Chairman; David Shipman, Vice-Chairman; Richard Thistlethwaite, Treasurer; Charles Day, Secretary; Carl Biddle; James Willis; Leroy McGlone

given to Rita as a resource. John Spaulding has also contacted her to update the status of his complaints with the handling of his ASA application.

Robbie Matesic, Executive Director of Planning has been notified of the issues  
The board would like to have Archie Trader attend the next board meeting.

Petery Farm: The Petery's have expressed their intention to proceed with their application. They sent a letter to the board requesting the remainder of their appraisal fee be refunded if due to ownership of the coal rights they are unable to proceed. The board tabled this to the next meeting so that more information can be gathered.

SE Greene Comprehensive Plan: Jim Willis attended the public meeting held by Cumberland Township. They did accept the comments that Laurel had made about agriculture.

### **New Business**

2009 Funding Administrative (CDFAP): Laurel reported that the state required a mid-year review. She had to anticipate what would be needed to cover the next two quarters. Approximately \$1,200 was unencumbered by the conservation district board for the administration of the program.

2009 Easement purchase fund availability: Laurel received notification that the state had contacted the Commissioners for the 2009 county allocation. She will follow up with the Controller's office to make sure the paper work will be filled out by the January 31 deadline. The board has approximately \$51,300 to use toward agricultural easement purchases (county and state funds). This is before the 2009 allocation.

Chairman reappointment: Laurel will contact Gene Lee to let him know that Bill Cree is willing to serve as chairman again, and will ask for the Commissioners to re-appoint him at their next meeting.

**Next meeting: February 23, 2009 @ 7 P.M @ Fort Jackson Building, Mezzanine Conference Room.**

**Adjournment 7:50 PM**

**Motion            Dave**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>**