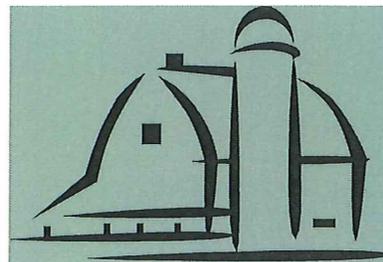


Greene County Farmland Preservation
22 West High Street, Suite 204
Waynesburg, PA 15370
724-852-5278



Greene County Farmland Preservation Minutes

September 21, 2016

22 W. High Street
Suite 204
Waynesburg, PA 15370

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bill Cree, III at 1:00 p.m. in the Greene County Conservation District Conference Room 22 W. High Street, Suite 204, Waynesburg, PA.

Greene County Farmland Preservation Board (GCFLP) Members

Members Present--Bill Cree, III, Chairman; Dave Shipman, Vice Chairman; Rick Thistlethwaite, Treasurer; Jim Willis; Richard Belding; Corbly Orndorff; Charlie Day; Chris Eisiminger; and Archie Trader, County Commissioner.

Staff

Karlie Wright, Agricultural Technician, GCCD; April Brummage, Resource Specialist, GCCD.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Richard Belding to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2016 meeting minutes. David Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Thistlethwaite read the Treasurer's report as follows:

1. FLP Board Fundraising Account - \$12,155.94
2. Easement Funds - \$262,790.00
 - a. Dept. of Agriculture - \$227,790.00
 - b. County of Greene - \$34,704.00
3. Funds requiring year end encumbrment by 12/31/16 - \$85,286.00

Ms. Wright mentioned that on August 26th she received an updated allocation of funds. The state was awarded and additional \$5,000,000.00 that was divided amongst the counties. Greene County was allocated \$19,792.00 in addition to what we were originally awarded for a total of \$142,504.00 that will need to be encumbered by December 31st, 2016.

A motion was made by Charlie Day to accept the treasurer's report as read. Archie Trader seconded. (Motion Passed)

CORRESPONDENCE

Greene County Conservation District is hosting a tree harvesting workshop on October 12th at 7PM at the Greene County Fairgrounds.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

LESA Score Soils Data Update

NRCS Soil Scientists have reviewed and updated LESA tables for each county in the state. We were asked to review the table sent to us and provide any comments on the changes in capability classes and relative values. Ms. Wright mentioned that she went through both the old and new lists to compare them. Many of the land capability classes were upped in value, which is a good thing. However, none of the relative values changed in correspondence with the positive change in land capability class.

The Board asked Ms. Wright to comment on this inconsistency to get an explanation.

Board Member Renewals

Ms. Wright stated that both Corbly Orndorff and Charlie Day's terms ended at the end of December. Both Mr. Orndorff and Mr. Day were interested in continuing on the Board. Ms. Wright stated that with the approval of the Board, she would need to send a letter to the County Commissioners for their approval of Mr. Orndorff's and Mr. Day's reinstatement.

A motion was made by Richard Belding to send a formal letter to the Greene County Commissioners to reinstate Mr. Corbly Orndorff and Mr. Charlie Day both for 3 year terms. David Shipman seconded. (Archie Trader abstained, Motion Passed)

2016 Inspections

Ms. Wright stated that because of the required bi-annual inspection policy four farms, William and Lura Ann Cree, Harley and Janet Gapen, Richard Phillips, and James Willis, are due for inspection this fall. Ms. Wright asked the Board when they would like to do this.

Mr. Bill Cree suggested that the Board meet the morning of the next meeting to complete the inspections. Mr. Trader suggested that we then meet at the Hartley Inn for lunch and the meeting.

A motion was made by Archie Trader to contact the landowners and set up a schedule for the morning of October 19, 2016 for their biannual inspection and send a public notice for this and the meeting location change to the Hartley Inn. David Shipman seconded. (Motion Passed)

December Luncheon – December 14, 2016

Ms. Wright stated that due to probable busy upcoming meetings, it would be a good idea to go ahead and plan for the December Luncheon. It was decided at the beginning of the year that it would be held at Thistlethwaite's Vineyard and Mr. Thistlethwaite stated that he also reserved the room. Ms. Wright stated that the Board would need to decide on a new caterer because the caterer that the Board typically uses is no longer in business. Mr. Thistlethwaite suggested Back Bay catering or a girl that works at the Greene County Country Club. He stated that he would check with the caterers and follow up at the next meetings.

2016 FLP Application Period

1. William and Lura Ann Cree (57.35ac), Cumberland Township – LESA Score: 43.37
2. David K. Bell (92.81ac), Morgan Township – LESA Score: 38.31

Ms. Wright stated that both applicants have clear titles and the appraiser has begun working on the properties' appraisals. Ms. Wright also stated that she has been working on uploading necessary documents to the online Farmland Preservation Application and filling out other sections.

OUTREACH

Ms. Wright stated that Mr. Eisiminger has been talking to several people in Whitely Township about starting an ASA. Mr. Eisiminger stated that he hopes we will be receiving applications soon.

STAFF REPORTS

Karlie Wright discussed her staff report that was submitted to the board members. April Brummage also discussed her staff report and stated that she will soon be taking maternity leave.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 1:00 PM – Hartley Inn, Carmichaels, PA preceded by farm inspections.

ADJOURNMENT

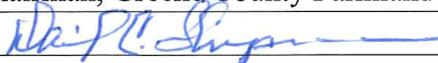
*A motion was made by Richard Belding to adjourn the meeting. Jim Willis seconded.
(Motion Passed)*

Respectfully submitted,



Karlie Wright
Agricultural Technician

<u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u>
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Farmland Preservation on <u>October 29</u> , 2016.

Chairman, Greene County Farmland Preservation

Executive Member, Greene County Farmland Preservation