

**GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
January 28, 2014**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Trader at 10:10 a.m. in the Mezzanine Conference Room, 19 South Washington Street, Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. Chairman Eisiminger arrived at 10:20 a.m. Those in attendance were as follows:

Greene County Conservation District Directors and Associate Directors

Bradley Eisiminger-Chairman; Archie Trader-Vice Chairman/Commissioner Representative; Tom Headlee-Treasurer; Jim Cowell-Secretary; Greg Hopkins-Director; Gay Thistle-Associate Director; and Bill Wentzel-Associate Director.

Guests and Cooperating Agencies

Ken Dufalla-President, Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA) ,Harry Enstrom Chapter; Chuck Hunnell-Member, IWLA, Harry Enstrom Chapter; Greg Niverth-Member, IWLA, Harry Enstrom Chapter; Frank O'Leary, Invited Guest; and Kim Moninger, NRCS.

Staff

Lisa Snider-District Manager; Laurel Rush-Ag Technician; Lindsay Kozlowski-Resource Specialist; Warren Dickerson-Resource Specialist; Zack Basinger-Resource Specialist; Jared Zinn, Watershed Specialist; Becky Salosky-Fiscal Officer; and Robbie Matesic-Department of Economic Development.

Mr. Basinger, Mr. Dickerson, Ms. Kozlowski, and Mr. Zinn attended a portion of the meeting.

Ms. Snider introduced Ken Dufalla, Chuck Hunnell, Greg Niverth, Frank O'Leary, and Kim Moninger.

II. OATH OF OFFICE

Commissioner Trader administered the Oath of Office to re-appointed Directors, Tom Headlee (Public Director) and Greg Hopkins (Farmer Director). Both gentlemen were appointed to a 4 year term (January 1, 2014

to December 31, 2017) by the Greene County Commissioners at their meeting held on November 14, 2013.

III. REORGANIZATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS-CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, TREASURER, SECRETARY—LISA SNIDER

For reference, the 2013 slate of officers were as follows:

1. Bradley Eisiminger-Chairman
2. Archie Trader-Vice-Chairman
3. Tom Headlee-Treasurer
4. Jim Cowell-Secretary

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to retain the 2013 slate of officers for 2014. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed).

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2013 meeting. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to approve the treasurer's report. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

In case signatures are needed, Ms. Salosky requested that Directors designated to sign checks, who are not readily available; (Mr. Eisiminger, Mr. Headlee, and Mr. Kenney), please notify the office when they are in Waynesburg.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

a. State Ethics Forms

The State Ethics Forms were distributed at the meeting for Directors to complete by April 30, 2014.

b. Thank You Note – Tom Headlee

A thank you note was received from Mr. Tom Headlee, who recently retired after serving 38 years as Greene County's Register and Recorder. He thanked the GCCD Board and staff for their retirement gift.

c. Southwest Regional No Till Conference

The Southwest Regional No Till Conference will be held on January 29, 2014 in Latrobe, PA.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were mailed with the meeting packets. Additional comments follow.

Laurel Rush – An ad, regarding the upcoming Manure Management Workshop, scheduled to be held the evening of February 26, 2014 at the Greene County Office Building, appeared in the latest Greene Saver publication. Ms. Rush will be working with Liz Menhart, Greene County Communications Director, to publicize the event in the local newspapers as well.

Information was distributed regarding the Northwest Grazing Conference to be held March 13th, 2014, Clarion, PA. A matter briefly discussed at a previous GCCD meeting, was the effort of the Keystone Beef Marketing Network to complete an informational meeting on backgrounding cattle on forages. Several meetings are planned for the region, with the nearest meeting for our area, scheduled to be held the evening of February 10th, 2014 in Belle Vernon, PA.

Mr. Cowell and she recently attended a Project Grass Executive Committee meeting with the main topic of discussion being the acquisition of funding through private sources. To assess the program, which began in 1996, and to determine its future, information is being collected regarding projects that received funding through the Project Grass Program(14 Greene County Projects). Plans are to contact past program recipients to determine the current ownership, if the system is still in operation, and if further assistance is needed. The next Project Grass meeting will be February 13th, 2014 in Somerset, PA.

Ms. Rush will be attending a Nutrient Management Workshop on February 25th, 2014 in Cambria County.

Jared Zinn – At the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, it was noted that work was underway to compile information detailing Greene County's stormwater management issues to be included in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Monongahela River Assessment. This task has since been completed and is currently under review. Mr. Zinn distributed a copy of the submission.

At the December 17th, 2013 GCCD meeting, approval was granted to proceed with the CATTFISH Project in conjunction with the Washington County Conservation District. Since then, six Greene County participants have volunteered to participate in the groundwater monitoring program. The recruitment of participants continues with several calls being placed to Township Supervisors to determine beneficial areas to be included in the project.

Warren Dickerson – Erosion and Sedimentation (E&S) control plans have been reviewed and several site inspections were made with Mr. Wentzel and Mr. Basinger. In December, a complaint was received regarding the sedimentation of a pond, possibly caused by a slip in a work area of Rice Drilling. During an inspection of the site, photographs were taken and submitted to the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).

Ms. Snider noted that through GCCD, a dry hydrant was placed in this pond where the problem is occurring. Since Dominion Transmission was connecting a line in this area, Rice Energy referred the complaint to them. Currently, the landowner is working with PA DEP and Dominion Transmission to resolve this issue.

Ms. Snider, Eric Davis, WCO, PA Fish and Boat Commission, Kevin Paul, NRCS, and he recently visited sites in Dunkard and Greene Townships where projects were completed under the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program. Ms. Snider will report further on this matter later in the meeting.

Zack Basinger – He accompanied Mr. Wentzel and Mr. Dickerson on several inspections of construction sites. Training continues for administrative tasks (completion of inspection reports, administrative review, logging of E&S plans received, the remittance of the necessary paper work to PA DEP, etc.)

Lindsay Kozlowski – She was happy to return to work following maternity leave. She thanked Ms. Snider, Mr. Dickerson, and Mr. Basinger for their assistance in her absence.

A total of \$184,812.50 was received in 2013 for E&S review fees under the Chapter 102/105 programs. Of that amount, approximately \$83,000, was for Chapter 105 review fees which were instituted by PA DEP last year.

Bill Wentzel – Adverse weather conditions has affected the number of inspections made. Inspection of the Franklin Township Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrade, the Southwestern PA Water Authority's Treatment Plant on Tin Can Hollow Road in Cumberland Township, and the Greene County Airport Project in Franklin Township were all found to be adequate. As reported at the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, deficiencies were found at PennDOT's Morrisville Corridor project and work with the

contractors is ongoing. Ms. Snider has scheduled a meeting with GCCD staff, PennDOT and contractors for Tuesday, February 4th, 2014. The type of permit required for the project does not require co-permittee designations for the subcontractors and this could be a factor in the deficiencies. Current work at the site is the relocation of the utilities.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. Farmland Preservation

The GCFLP Board presented a parcel of land owned by Charles Harry, Morgan Township at the State Agricultural Land Preservation (ALP) board meeting on Dec, 12, 2013. It was accepted. The closing will be set once the checks are received from the PA Department of Treasury.

The GCFLP board held a meeting on January 15, 2014 to discuss pursuing the high ranking farm owned by the James F. Willis and Pearl Willis Living Trust. Farm #3 is the second ranking farm in the 2013 round. Attorney Greg Hook has completed the title search and found an issue with the surface coal. (The high ranking farm cannot provide clear title at this time.) The GCFLP Board agreed to notify Mr. Willis of these findings, and in accordance with the GCFLP By-Laws, pursue the next ranked farm; that of Mr. Richard Phillips in Cumberland Township.

The James F. Willis and Pearl Willis Living Trust parcel of 53 acres (the high ranked parcel) also had issues regarding the surface coal ownership as well as a boundary dispute. However; recently, the boundary dispute has been resolved, which will allow the pursuit of a Quiet Title or Quick Claim Deed, as resolution to the surface coal rights.

b. Agricultural Security Area Program

Franklin Township – Laurel met with Corbly Orndorff and reviewed the timeline for creating an ASA. (Corbly Orndorff, Richard Patterson and Bruce Rohrer are the property owners who have submitted applications to date).

Greene Township- The Township has begun the process of adding the Wilber Colvin property to their ASA.

Cumberland Township – The Greene County Register and Records Office has received the paperwork to add 19 acres of the Richard Phillips farm to the ASA.

c. Ruff Creek/Pumpkin Run Stream Rehabilitation GG Grant

This matter will be discussed under New Business.

d. USACE Monongahela River Watershed Assessment

USACE reported that two sections of the watershed assessment are completed and will soon be submitted to GCCD for review. This follows their submission of the Regional Management Section, which is currently being reviewed.

GCCD has completed a paragraph detailing stormwater related issues within Greene County that will ultimately be included in the Stormwater Management/Sanitary Sewer Section of the assessment. This is currently being reviewed by Ms. Matesic.

Ms. Snider and Mr. Zinn recently attended a meeting at the USACE office where Paul Ziemkiewicz, West Virginia Water Research Institute (WVWRI) and his associates presented a spreadsheet-based tool to aid industry in managing Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) levels in the Monongahela River. This tool provides guidance for setting discharge rates based on flow conditions on the river. Proper synchronization of mine water discharge and river flow may help avoid repeat of the 2009 fish kill in Dunkard Creek. Following the review of this tool by USACE, it will be forwarded to GCCD for our review. It is projected that the WVWRI's final report will be completed in March.

Ms. Snider noted that some mining companies are using this information to help determine when their mine water should be discharged at a different rate.

e. CATTFISH Project – Washington County Conservation District (WCCD)

WCCD has made 14 CATTFISH units available to GCCD and is providing technical assistance in implementing the project. Initial steps include participant recruitment and selection. This project could be under way as early as mid- to late-February.

In addition to the CATTFISH units, which monitor groundwater sources entering homes through wells and springs; we will be obtaining Solinst Levellogger units to monitor stream water quality across the study area.

Ms. Snider and Mr. Zinn recently met with the WCCD and the Colcom Foundation to discuss funding for the purchase of materials to participate in the project for a two year period. GCCD is requesting an additional 25 CATTFISH units at an approximate cost of \$250 per unit and 14 Solinst

Levellogger Monitors to be placed in areas that are not being monitored by the WVWRI and the Greene County Watershed Alliance. Also, plans are to enlist the assistance of Waynesburg University students for the stream water monitoring.

Mr. Dufalla offered his assistance with the project, by locating the stream water monitors installed by the IWLA.

f. Dirt & Gravel Roads Program

Ms. Snider and Mr. Dickerson, along with Quality Assurance Board (QAB) of the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program, Eric Davis, PA Fish and Boat Commission and Kevin Paul, NRCS, visited the Glade Run project in Dunkard Township and the Roberts Run project in Greene Township.

The Glade Run project was completed, as contracted, and payment has been made in full. Dunkard Township is in the process of submitting plans for Phase II of the project.

The visit to the Roberts Run project, found that additional work was needed including; the installation of another culvert pipe, grading, and the placement of additional base material. A meeting, to discuss these deficiencies, was held with Greene Township. Upon completion, the QAB will visit the site again.

Upon the receipt of our funding allocation, a letter will be mailed to the Townships requesting applications for the program.

g. Annual Awards Program

Since the Greene County Career and Technology Center is not available to hold our Annual Awards Luncheon in February or March, suggestions were requested for another location.

In addition to the awards approved at the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, Ms. Rush presented Ms. Jenna Henry for the Conservation Speaker Award.

After a brief discussion, it was the decision of the Board to present the awards following a regular GCCD Meeting with lunch to follow. The meeting and luncheon will be held on the first and second floor of the County Office building in the 2 conference rooms.

Since it appears that the schedule of the Greene County Career and Technology Center is very full, Ms. Matesic suggested that the October 2014 event, be scheduled as soon as possible. Ms. Rush will check into this matter.

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. Request for Assistance

There were no Requests for Assistance to bring before the Board.

b. Ruff Creek/Pumpkin Run Stream Rehabilitation GG Grant - James Cole

As noted at previous GCCD meetings, additional funding (approximately \$21,000) is available for construction through this grant. Ms. Rush presented information for the installation of streambank fencing and an agricultural crossing on the James Cole property for consideration.

A motion was made by Commissioner Trader to approve this additional project for completion under the Ruff Creek/Pumpkin Run Stream Rehabilitation Growing Greener Grant. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

c. Gene Saurborn – Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan

At the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, it was noted that the plan, for the property located on Big Shannon Run in Perry and Whiteley Townships, was received and was under technical review.

Since that time, a site visit and technical review were completed and the plan was found to meet the requirements of Act 38.

At the recommendation of Ms. Rush, a motion was made by Jim Cowell to approve the Act 38 Nutrient Management Plan of Gene Saurborn. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

d. Associate Board Members

Reappointments are requested and new associate board members can be considered. For reference, the 2013 Associate Directors were as follows:

1. Glodenna Halstead
2. Sandy Theis
3. Gay Thistle
4. Bill Wentzel

5. Jeanne Williams

At the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, approval was granted to invite Ralph Adamson, Phil Cowen, William Cree, Sr., Jerry Day, Linda Harry, Martha Hoy, and Frank O'Leary to serve as Associate Directors.

Mr. Cowen, Ms. Harry, and Ms. Hoy declined the appointment. Mr. Adamson and Mr. Day are uncertain as to whether they wish to serve. Mr. O'Leary, who is present at today's meeting, is interested in serving as is Mr. Cree.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Trader to approve the appointment of the 2013 slate of Associate Directors, as well new appointees, Frank O'Leary and Bill Cree, Sr. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

e. 2014 Committee Appointments

Committees require a reappointment by the Chairman annually. A copy of the 2013 committees was included with the meeting packets for Board review.

With the exception of the Dirt and Gravel Roads Committee, Jared Zinn will replace Sean Dougherty on the committees he served. Warren Dickerson will replace Mr. Dougherty on the Dirt and Gravel Roads Committee.

To allow time for the newly appointed Associate Directors to review the Committees, this matter was tabled until the next meeting.

f. Travel Reimbursement Rate Change

Greene County's travel reimbursement rate has changed from \$.565 per mile to \$.56 per mile effective January 1, 2014.

A motion was made by Tom Headlee to accept the travel reimbursement rate of Greene County (\$.56 per mile). Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

g. Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA), Harry Enstrom Chapter correspondence concerning radioactive constituents in Greene County mine pools.

At the last GCCD meeting on December 17th, 2013, approval was granted to draft a letter to PA DEP requesting that testing be done to determine whether radioactivity is present in mine pool discharges.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Snider drafted a letter (included in the meeting packets), that will require the signature of Chairman Eisiminger, for Board review.

A motion was made by Commissioner Trader to approve the remittance of this letter to PA DEP. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

Ms. Snider noted that the letter to GCCD from the Izaak Walton League of America, Harry Enstrom Chapter will also be included in this remittance.

At the request of Mr. Dufalla, a copy of this letter will be submitted to their group.

As an update on this matter, Mr. Dufalla noted the following. After several attempts to discuss this matter with PA DEP failed, the letter written by the IWLA, voicing their concerns and requesting that testing be completed for radioactivity, was delivered to the Chairman of the Environmental Committee of the State House of Representatives; a response was received from PA DEP.

Their response included results of radiation testing completed on the South Fork of Ten Mile, but did not include a date or a scale for the findings. Additionally, the results included a reference to Picocuries, which is thought to be a measurement of radiation. These test results indicate the presence of radiation; however, the level is below the allowable limit.

Also referenced in these test results is PCI/KG, another measurement, of which Mr. Dufalla is unfamiliar, but he is further investigating.

Mr. Dufalla expressed his concern of our water quality and the health of the coal miners exposed to the mine water discharges.

Currently, Mr. Dufalla is requesting that mine water discharges be tested by the PA DEP. He hopes to meet with PA DEP officials to further discuss this issue. Any additional information regarding this matter will be forwarded to GCCD.

h. PA DEP Environmental Quality Board

Information regarding the proposed Regulation to strengthen the environmental protection standards associated with oil and gas activities was included in the meeting packets.

At the recent public hearing, Ms. Snider found that the deadline for comments has been extended to March 14th, 2014.

Since this information was received a short time ago; and did not allow sufficient time for review, Ms. Snider requested additional time to draft comments regarding the proposal.

She will work with Ms. Gay Thistle, and anyone who wishes to do so, to draft comments for presentation at the next GCCD meeting on February 18th, 2014. GCCD Board members were asked to review the information and submit their comments to Ms. Snider.

i. Act 13 UGWF Funds – Special Project - Manure Storage Facility – Greene County Fairgrounds

This matter has been discussed at several GCCD meetings. Since our last meeting on December 17th, 2013, meetings to discuss this matter have been held with Jeff Marshall, Greene County Chief Clerk, Bruce Smith, GrowMark, LLC, and NRCS.

Prior to today's meeting, an approximate cost summary for construction of the facilities was e-mailed to all Board members which Ms. Rush reviewed as follows.

- Site #1 (the priority site) – the area with two weeks of storage - \$13,000.50
- Site #2 – the area with three months of storage - \$36,549.60

Ms. Snider noted that these estimates include materials as well as labor. Greene County has agreed to provide the labor, which should result in a reduction of the costs.

It is estimated that a surplus of approximately \$20,000 remains from the Act 13 Unconventional Gas Well Funding (UGWF) that must be spent by June 30, 2014. This amount could possibly be more, since two GCCD employees declined health insurance.

After speaking to State Conservation Commission (SCC) officials, Ms. Snider learned that materials must be purchased prior to the June 30th, 2014 deadline; however, construction of the facilities could begin

thereafter. The next step would be to draft a contract between GCCD and the SCC.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the receipt of technical assistance for the design and inspection from NRCS and the completion of the labor by Greene County's Maintenance Department.

A motion was made by Jim Cowell to approve the expenditure of the UGWF available to GCCD to begin the process to construct two manure storage facilities at the Greene County Fairgrounds. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed with One Abstention - Commissioner Trader)

XI. CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

Ms. Snider noted that work has begun on the 2013 Annual Report. Also, an article for the "Conservation Corner", that appears in the Observer Reporter, is planned to publicize the CATTFISH project.

Additional ads are planned to be published in the Greene Saver throughout 2014.

XII. REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS

Kim Moninger – Projects are currently being ranked to obligate funds for Farm Bill Programs. Jarred Taracido safely returned from a deployment in Afghanistan. Soil health will be the topic for outreach this year and will be promoted at Agricultural Days at Washington Crown Center Mall.

Robbie Matesic – GCCD and the Greene County Planning Commission (GCPC) continue to work closely on development projects, which has proved very beneficial.

Plans for the Texas Eastern Pipeline Stabilization Project involving Emerald Mine have been reviewed by GCCD staff and comments were made. Ms. Snider noted that she was informed that Emerald has changed their plans, and have chosen to mine a different panel, adjacent to the one for which the original plans were submitted. Emerald now must decide whether they want to submit new plans or revise the existing plans to include a major modification.

Additionally, plans are expected for the Texas Eastern Pipeline Stabilization Project involving Bailey Mine.

Ms. Matesic gave an update on the Act 13, the Natural Gas Impact Fee. Late in 2013, the PA Supreme Court remanded the decision to the lower Courts.

And PA DEP and the Governor's Office have asked the PA Supreme Court to reconsider this matter. This action has the Township Association very concerned, fearing the loss of the impact fees.

For the promotion of natural gas utilization, the Greene County Economic Development and Penn State University is working to organize the Tri-County Oil and Gas Expo. As part of the event, a Workforce Forum for Natural Gas Utilization will be held on May 6th and 7th, 2014.

In another matter, several requests have been received, and funding is being pursued to improve Greene County's water supply and the addition sewage lines.

In an effort to identify ways to advance the "Buy Local" Campaign, Fay Penn, the Fayette County Economic Development Council, has requested that Greene County enter into an engagement letter, outlining what each county will do to promote the program. Additional information may be available for the next GCCD meeting.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Trader to enter into Executive Session at 11:50 a.m. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

XIV. RECONVENMENT

Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by Commissioner Trader to reconvene the meeting at 12:20 p.m. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

XV. The next regular meeting will be February 18th, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 p.m. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)

<u>MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION</u>
We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on _____, 2014.
Chairman, Greene County Conservation District
Secretary, Greene County Conservation District

