



Greene County Conservation District

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GREENE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT REORGANIZATIONAL AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 20, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

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

Greene County Conservation District Directors and Associate Directors

Bradley Eisiminger-Chairman; Archie Trader-Vice Chairman/Commissioner Representative; Jim Cowell-Secretary; Greg Hopkins-Director; Bill Wentzel, Director/Environmental Program Associate; Bill Cree, Jr.-Associate Director; Glodenna Halstead-Associate Director; Sandy Theis-Associate Director; and Gay Thistle-Associate Director.

Guests and Cooperating Agencies

Mike Belding-Invited Guest; Ken Dufalla-President, Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA), Harry Enstrom Chapter; Chuck Kubasik-Field Representative, PA DEP; Rick Patton-Invited Guest; Dave Shipman-Invited Guest; Dennis Thorne-NRCS, and Jim Willis-Invited Guest.

Staff

Lisa Snider-District Manager; 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, and Ms. Kozlowski, attended a portion of the meeting.

II. OATH OF OFFICE

Commissioner Trader administered the Oath of Office to re-appointed Director, Jim Cowell (Farmer Director). He was appointed to a 4 year term (January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2018) by the Greene County Commissioners at their meeting held on November 13, 2014.

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

For reference, the 2014 slate of officers were as follows:

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

Ms. Snider opened the floor for the nomination of Chairman.

Commissioner Trader nominated Bradley Eisiminger. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

Bradley Eisiminger continued the meeting as newly appointed chairman, nominations were as follows:

Vice Chairman

Jim Cowell nominated Commissioner Trader. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

Treasurer

Greg Hopkins nominated Tom Headlee. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

Secretary

Commissioner Trader nominated Jim Cowell. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bill Wentzel to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2014 meeting. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

a. State Ethics Forms

The State Ethics Forms were mailed with the meeting packets for GCCD Directors to complete and return by April 30, 2015.

b. Conservation District Staff Conference – February 25-26, 2015 – State College, PA

Ms. Snider noted that, depending on the topics of discussion, it may be beneficial for some GCCD staff members to attend this conference. Particularly if a new person is hired to replace former Agricultural Technician. Upon receipt of an agenda, a determination which staff, if any, would benefit from this conference.

This matter may be discussed later in the meeting under New Business.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were mailed with the meeting packets. Additional comments follow in the order they were presented.

Jared Zinn –Mr. Zinn noted that 24 individuals, representing, the majority of the watersheds in Greene County, are participating in the CATTFish (an acronym for Conductivity and Temperature in your Toilet) Program. This easy to use system, for those with well or spring water, monitors the conductivity and temperature to determine if their water contains any Total Dissolved Solids (TDS).

GCCD has approximately 64 CATTFish units available, so additional participates are needed. Anyone who may know someone who may be interested in participating should contact Mr. Zinn at the office.

Zack Basinger – Additional Erosion and Sedimentation (E&S) Control Plans have been received since his report was mailed with the meeting packets.

Mr. Basinger has worked to create a spreadsheet to track the deadlines for the completion of the administrative and technical review of E&S plans.

Administrative tasks; the organization of notices from the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), GCCD project files, and the archiving of older files are being completed.

Inspections of project sites have been conducted.

Warren Dickerson – Mr. Dickerson has assisted Ms. Kozlowski and Mr. Basinger in the review of E&S Control Plans. Site inspections have been limited, due to the holidays.

Lindsay Kozlowski – For the year ending 2014, approximately 100 Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 plans, with fees of approximately \$113,793.00, were received and reviewed by GCCD staff. This was an increase in the number of plans received in 2013, but a decrease in the amount of fees received.

Ms. Snider, Ms. Basinger and she have been working with Shelly Brown of Direct Results, to develop a poster, outlining the regulations of the Chapter 102 and 105 programs, to be distributed to all municipalities.

In conjunction with PA DEP officials, GCCD is planning a workshop, most likely in March or April, for consultants regarding the Chapter 102 Program. A survey of consultants indicated that they are most interested in information regarding storm water management.

Bill Wentzel – The inspections he completed since the last GCCD meeting, were included in Ms. Kozlowski's report. Additionally, he has been investigating a complaint regarding a timber harvesting project in Aleppo Township.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

a. Farmland Preservation – the next meeting will be January 21st, at 1:00 p.m at GCCD Conference Room.

James F. and Pearl Willis Living Trust Farm #1, 53 acres – Cumberland Township - Farm # 1 the high ranking farm in 2013 is pursuing approved avenues to clear a surface coal issue on this parcel/title.

James F. Willis and Pearl Willis Living Trust farm #3, 30 acres - Cumberland Township - Farm #3 is the second ranking farm in the 2013 round. Mr. Willis is pursuing the approved avenues to clear the surface coal issue on this parcel/title.

Richard A. Phillips 108 acres - Cumberland Township - This farm has been encumbered for the 2014 year. Currently, the PA Bureau of Farmland Preservation (PA BFLP) needs to speak with Scott York of York Realty concerning his small parcel appraisals prior to meeting the agenda for 2015. This farm is to be on the state board meeting agenda this year. Mr. York was given the contact information for the PA BFLP and indicated that he would contact them to discuss this matter.

Ms. Snider contacted the PA BFLP and requested that they notify GCCD after they speak to Mr. York. Commissioner Trader advised the staff to follow up with the PA BFLP to ensure this matter is not delayed.

b. Agricultural Security Area (ASA) Program

Franklin Township – Laurel met with Corbly Orndorff, Township Supervisor and the Franklin Township Secretary, Carol Kraft on Nov 24th, 2014 at 9 a.m. to move forward with the ASA creation. Additional landowners have requested soils inventories for their farms to be included in the ASA. (Richard Patterson and Bruce Rohrer are the property owners who had previously submitted applications).

Recently, Ms. Snider spoke to Steve Coss, Franklin Township Building Code Officer, regarding the ASA. The matter will be discussed at the Franklin Township's next Planning Commission meeting.

c. Ruff Creek/Pumpkin Run/Whiteley Creek Stream Rehabilitation GG Grant

A copy of the final report for this project was included in the meeting packet for review. The grant has expired and all final documentation has been generated and will be submitted once a press release is obtained. All funding has been spent on this grant. Of the \$182,033.00 awarded, \$174,827.52 were dollars put "on the ground" in project funds. The last 2 projects, Big Sky Land and Cattle LLC and The County of Greene manure stacking facilities, have been completed for payment and viewed by the grants coordinator.

GCCD has made the final payment to Big Sky Land and Cattle LLC. The County of Greene's payment is pending.

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

At the request of Chairman Eisiminger, for those unfamiliar with the project, Ms. Snider gave a brief summary of the project.

The project began on October 21, 2014. Suzy Petery and Chuck Shrump with NRCS, and up until the time of her departure, Laurel Rush, Agricultural Technician, GCCD, have been inspecting the site daily. Since Ms. Petery is no longer in this position with NRCS, Mr. Shrump continues the inspections and he will notify Ms. Snider when the project is completed, so that she can

be present when Eric Roberts, PACD Engineer, certifies the completion of the project.

A bill has been submitted for the Growing Greener portion of the project and \$47,790.05 was the final reimbursement amount for the 2 manure stacking facilities from Growing Greener.

Ms. Snider recently visited the fairgrounds and found that the concrete floor at the Hoop Structure has also been completed. Regarding the manure storage structures, the metal on the smaller structure has been placed.

Since the floor at the Hoop Building has been completed, Mr. Cowell will contact Ralph's Garage Doors to work on the door.

e. USACE Monongahela River Watershed Assessment

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers continues their review process. USACE will inform GCCD when the process is complete.

f. Greene County Water Monitoring Project

- The first activity and expense report have been submitted to the Washington County Conservation District for the COLCOM Foundation Grant.
- Data is being collected through the CATTFish devices that have been dispersed.
- GCCD continues to seek new participants from across Greene County.

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. Request for Assistance

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

b. Associate Board Members

Reappointments are requested and new associate board members can be considered. The 2014 Associate Directors recommended at the GCCD meeting held on December 16th, 2014 meeting were as follows:

1. Bill Cree, Jr.
2. Jerry Day
3. Glodenna Halstead
4. Sandy Theis
5. Gay Thistle

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Trader to reappoint the aforementioned Associate Directors (the same as those who served in 2014) to serve in 2015. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

The Proposed Associate Directors are as follows:

1. Ralph Adamson
2. Mike Belding
3. Lynn Hoover
4. Rick Patton
5. Dave Shipman
6. Jim Willis

With the exception of Ralph Adamson and Lynn Hoover, all these individuals were present at today's meeting.

Due to her busy schedule, Ms. Hoover declined the opportunity to serve. Ms. Snider has not talked to Mr. Adamson and was uncertain as to his decision. She will contact him.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Bill Wentzel to accept Mike Belding, Rick Patton, Dave Shipman, and Jim Willis as Associate Directors for 2015. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed).

Chairman Eisiminger and Ms. Snider thanked all of the Associate Directors for their willingness to serve and invited them all to voice their thoughts and ideas at GCCD meetings. Also, an invitation to join in any committees, they may be interested in serving, was also extended.

All new Associate Directors will be asked to complete an information sheet that includes their contact information and mileage to attend GCCD meetings.

c. 2015 Committee Appointments

Committees require a reappointment by the Chairman annually. A copy of the 2014 Committees was included in the meeting packets.

One change needed is the replacement of the former Agricultural Technician Laurel Rush, with her successor.

With the exception of the change noted above, Chairman Eisiminger approved the Committees as presented.

d. Travel Reimbursement Rate Change

Effective January 1, 2015, Greene County's travel reimbursement rate has changed from \$.56/mile to \$.575/mile. It was noted that the Agenda for this meeting contained a typographical error and included an incorrect rate.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Jim Cowell to approve the mileage rate of \$.575/mile, effective January 1, 2015. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

e. Check Signatures and Audit

All GCCD checking accounts require two Director's signatures. Currently, those who can sign checks include: Chairman Bradley Eisiminger, Vice Chairman Archie Trader; Treasurer Tom Headlee, and Director Jim Kenney.

Since GCCD Treasurer, Tom Headlee, no longer visits the office on a regular basis, it has been difficult to get a second signature on checks. Consequently, the Board was asked to consider adding GCCD Director William (Bill) Wentzel to the signature cards.

A motion was made by Greg Hopkins to add William (Bill) Wentzel as an additional signature for GCCD checking accounts. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed).

It was noted that this addition will require that Mr. Wentzel be bonded, and will result in an additional expense.

f. Dirt and Gravel (D&G) Roads Program Update

Recently, a check was received from the state in the amount of \$264,578.00 for the Advanced Payment of Working Capital for the D&G Roads and Low Volume Roads Programs.

The check was deposited in the D&G Roads Account at Community Bank. Since part of the check, \$54,446.50, was for the Low Volume Roads Program, these funds needed to be placed in a separate account, in part so that the interest received could be calculated separately.

Ms. Snider contacted Community Bank and they transferred the \$54,446.50 into a separate account.

The Board was asked to consider taking official action to open a separate checking account for the Low Volume Roads Program.

A motion was made by Bill Wentzel to establish a separate account at Community Bank for this program and acquire the signatures of the Board that are needed. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed).

Ms. Snider noted that several townships are working to complete their applications for the D&G Roads Program. Once these applications are submitted, they will be presented to the program's Quality Assurance Board (QAB) for evaluation and then to the GCCD Board for consideration.

g. Richard Phillips – Conservation Plan – 108 acres

Prior to their departure, this plan, developed by Suzy Petery of NRCS and Laurel Rush, GCCD's Agricultural Technician, is part of the Farmland Preservation Easement purchase package and will need to be approved by GCCD so that it can be recorded along with the easement.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Jim Cowell to accept the Richard Phillips Conservation Plan. Greg Hopkins seconded. (Motion Passed)

h. Act 13 – Unconventional Gas Well (UGWF) 2014-2015 Funds

It appears that we may have funds remaining in the UGWF salaries portion of the Act 13 funding. The Agricultural Technician's position, that was just recently vacated, paid approximately twice the salary of a new hire. The district may need to take another look at the budget for Act 13 funds.

Once a new person is hired and their salary and medical insurance rates are determined, the amount of funding available can be calculated.

Ms. Snider has informed the State Conservation Commission (SCC) of the situation and she was informed that a Special Project request can be made to utilize these funds.

XI. CONSERVATION DISTRICT OUTREACH

The next edition of GCCD's newsletter should be published soon. Mr. Zinn invited GCCD Directors to suggest topics for publication in future newsletters. Newly appointed Associate Directors will be added to the newsletter mailing list.

Ms. Snider noted that work has begun on the 2014 Annual Report.

Ms. Thistle suggested that the manure storage structures, currently being installed at the Greene County Fairgrounds, be used as an educational tool with the use of signs, etc.

Ms. Thistle also suggested that signs indicating that you are "Entering Greene County Conservation District" be installed at Greene County boundaries.

Ms. Snider noted that the installation of these signs has been included in GCCD's Annual Plan of Operations (APO) for a number of years. One obstacle we have faced in completing this task is the requirements of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). Ms. Snider will further investigate this matter.

The Appalachian Grazing Conference, scheduled to be held in Morgantown, WV in March of 2015, the Small Farms Conference, and the No-Till Conference were briefly discussed. Additional information will be obtained on the Small Farms Conference and distributed to GCCD Directors.

Ms. Thistle noted that at Small Private Landowners Conference will be held on March 20th and 21st, 2015 in Altoona, PA.

XII. REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS

Dennis Thorne – The deadline to apply for the position of Supervisory District Conservationist, recently vacated by Suzy Petery, was last week.

Applications are currently being accepted for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Since Greene County has the lowest application rate in the three county area, (Fayette, Greene and Washington Counties), his goal is to increase the number of applications received. Program applications and brochures describing the program were distributed.

Chuck Kubasik – Mr. Kubasik commended GCCD for expanding the District Program, noting that several years ago, when he served as the District Manager of GCCD, the staff was limited to include a District Manager and an Administrative Assistant. And at that time, there were no Associate Directors. He noted that it is important to keep Associate Directors involved in District programs.

PA Governor, Tom Wolf, appointed John Quigley to serve as the Secretary of PA DEP. Formerly, Mr. Quigley served as Secretary of the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) under the Rendell administration.

Upcoming meetings include:

- PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD) - Regional Directors Meeting - March 11, 2015 - Westmoreland County Conservation District
- Ag Technician Boot Camp – March 30th – April 3rd, 2015 – Fort Indiantown Gap

Robbie Matesic – Work continues at the entrance and the internal road at the Greene County Airport. It is hoped that all permits will soon be obtained to complete the project.

Work recently began on the Jackson Run Stormwater/Flood Control Project on High Street, Waynesburg, PA. A portion of the funding for this project was provided by the Greene County Commissioners, through Growing Greener II Funds.

Work also continues on Greene County's infrastructure and transportation, with the county being responsible for the submission of a transportation program. Soon, Ms. Snider and Jeremy Kelley, Department of Economic Development, will meet with municipalities to discuss this matter. Approximately 9 municipalities have the majority of structurally deficient bridges in Greene County. Areas of concern (bridges, intersections, slide prone roadways) can be reported to Ms. Snider.

The coordination, regarding development projects, continues with the Greene County Planning Commission, GCCD and the municipalities. It is hoped that municipalities can provide more oversight regarding development.

Work continues to revise the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO). Workshops will be held, in the near future, to discuss these changes with the municipalities (zoning hearing boards and planning commissions).

Newly appointed GCCD Associate Director Mike Belding, also serves as a member of the Greene County Industrial Development Authority. The Authority is currently working to identify Brownfield Areas.

Ms. Matesic briefly discussed an initiative to develop policy regarding energy development and the rural landscape.

Greene County's economic growth has been primarily in energy transportation and construction. Since the expansion of the Marcellus Shale Industry in Greene County, personal incomes have increased greater than 40%. Personal income (rent, royalties, etc.) are near 1000%.

Ken Dufalla – For approximately 4 years, the IWLA, Harry Enstrom Chapter, has been conducting water monitoring in Greene County streams. A large concern of Mr. Dufalla's has been the possible presence of Radium 226 and 228 in our waterways.

Water test results he received from PA DEP were shared and he reviewed information on specific streams and mine discharges. Mr. Hopkins requested a map showing the location of these mine discharges.

Also, he reviewed the allowable limits in relation to the drinking water standards.

As reported at the December 16, 2014 GCCD meeting, the IWL has proposed a resolution to mandate water quality testing, prior to drilling, during drilling, and following drilling of gas wells and the use of markers to identify the frack water used in the process.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Trader to enter into Executive Session at 11:35 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

XIV. RECONVENMENT

Following the Executive Session, a motion was made by Commissioner Trader to reconvene the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

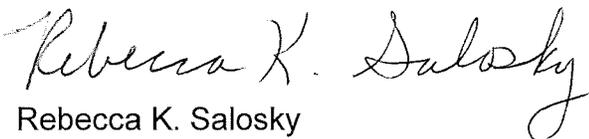
A motion was made by Jim Cowell to make a recommendation to the Greene County Commissioners to hire of Karlie Wright as GCCD's Agricultural Technician. Bill Wentzel seconded. (Motion Passed)

XV. The next regular meeting will be February 18th, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Greg Hopkins to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca K. Salosky
Fiscal Officer

MEETING MINUTES CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, agree that the minutes taken above were approved in their entirety by the Greene County Conservation District on Feb. 24, 2015.

Bradley Criminger

Chairman, Greene County Conservation District

James A. Powell

Secretary, Greene County Conservation District