

## MINUTES

Regular Meeting

September 16, 2008

### I. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rice at 10:06 a.m. at the Mezzanine Conference Room, Fort Jackson Building, Waynesburg, PA. Directors present were J. Robert Rice, Chairman; Bradley Eisiminger, Vice Chairman; Tom Headlee, Treasurer; Jim Cowell, Secretary; Archie Trader, Director; Jim Kenney, Director; Greg Hopkins, Associate Director; and Bill Wentzel, Associate Director. Guests and District staff present were Ken Dufalla, President, Isaac Walton League; Chris Hardie, Planner, County Development Office; Martin Niverth, District Manager; Lisa Snider, Assistant District Manager/Watershed Specialist; Laurel Rush, Ag Manager; Dustin Teegarden, Resource Specialist; Brian Retica, WNV Surveillance Monitor; and Becky Salosky, Fiscal Officer.

Martin asked the board to enter Executive Session to discuss a few matters. **A motion was made by Tom Headlee to enter into Executive Session. Bradley Eisiminger seconded. (Motion Passed)**

**A motion was made by Archie Trader to reconvene the meeting and Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)**

### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Dufalla, President of the Isaac Walton League, was present to discuss the letter he received from the Commissioners regarding District Director nominations. Specifically, he had a question regarding the qualifications for a farmer representative. Martin explained that the nominations are for the term of Bradley Eisiminger, who has expressed interest in serving another term.

He also said that two names are required for each director nomination. Archie noted that the law has recently changed to require only one name. Martin said that he will be attending tomorrow night's Isaac Walton League meeting and will further explain this process.

In closing, Mr. Dufalla invited everyone to tomorrow night's Isaac Walton League meeting at 7:00 p.m. at Groovey's where Greg Hopkins will address various environmental issues.

### III. REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES AND GUESTS

Chris Hardie – Chris announced that a workshop with the Planning Commission and the Conservation District boards will be held on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 in the second floor conference room of the County Office Building. Reminders will be mailed. He distributed information on the public notices received by their office. He also distributed copies of letters mailed to Texas Eastern, and to the developers of a proposed railroad and mine portal requesting additional information. He added that the Commission is taking a pro-active approach to ensure that the ordinance is being followed. Matters that will be discussed at the next Planning Commission meeting include two projects in the Mt. Morris Area; the Chesapeake Field Office and the Rising Creek Bakery, and the American Legion Community Center in Cumberland Township.

In Suzy's absence, due to a program review in Fayette County, Laurel reported that she will have two nominees for the Wildlife Conservationist Award and two or three nominees for the Outstanding Cooperator Award. She thought perhaps the 1<sup>st</sup> week on October could be set aside for visits by the committee.

### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**On a motion by Tom Headlee and a second by Jim Kenney, the minutes of the August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved as mailed. (Motion Passed)**

### V. TREASURER'S REPORT

**On a motion by Archie Trader and a second by Jim Cowell, the Treasurer's Reports were approved with the following additions.**

General Fund

Ck # 384 County of Greene – E&S Tech.'s Computer - \$989.00

Ck # 385 Scotty Pizza – Mtg. Lunch - \$80.00

NPDES/CWF

Ck # 181 Martin Niverth – Expenses – 102/105 Training - \$13.45

Ck # 182 Dustin Teegarden – Expenses – 102/105 Training - \$94.28

## West Nile Virus

Ck # 208 County of Greene – August S.R. - \$4,486.43

Ck # 209 County of Greene – August Vehicle Rental - \$1,200.00

Ck # 210 County of Greene – August Fuel - \$421.20

Becky gave an update on the Conservation District Fund Allocation Program (CDFAP). At the last meeting, she reported that approximately \$10,000 was owed to the state, however, it's since been learned that a portion of Robbie's salary may be claimed that will offset this amount. The matter is on hold until Fred Fiscus, who is in charge of the reimbursements, recovers from an accident.

## VI. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Lisa reported that the Watershed Specialist Annual Training will be held October 14-16 in State College with a \$100 reimbursement from PACD. **On a motion by Jim Kenney, approval was granted to Lisa to attend the training. Bradley Eisiminger seconded. (Motion Passed)**
- b. The Annual PACD Staff Conference, in conjunction with the Envirothon Coordinators meeting, will be held October 28 & 29 at the Ramada Inn in State College. **A motion was made by Bradley Eisiminger to grant approval to two staff members to attend the conference. Jim Kenney seconded. (Motion Passed)**

## VII. REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

No Request for Assistance forms were received.

## VIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Martin said the gathering of information continues regarding the issue of stream reclassifications.
- b. Laurel distributed a draft copy of the rental agreement guidelines for the lime spreader. Mr. Kenney reported that a meeting was recently held to draft these guidelines and he feels they are comprehensive, yet not too restrictive. He said that they decided to base the rates on tons with a charge of \$3.00 for fewer than 100 tons and \$2.50 for over 100 tons. He said that it is not the intention to make a profit renting the spreader, but to cover the maintenance costs. As discussed previously, included in the draft is the requirement that the renter provide proof of insurance and Mr.

Cowell added that the equipment will be covered for fire or theft while being stored on his property. Laurel said that she spoke to Gene Lee and he suggested that if we would like our own coverage on the equipment that we speak to Bailey Insurance. She also said that the county solicitor has not yet reviewed the agreement, but his suggestions were incorporated in the document. Martin said that since we are not asking for approval of the guidelines at this meeting, we can have the solicitor and the directors review the document, and check about the insurance. Mr. Kenney suggested that if insurance is obtained that it be a secondary policy, with the renters' being the primary policy. When the equipment is at Mr. Cowell's, his insurance should be the secondary policy. Mr. Trader suggested that we have on file proof of insurance. Laurel said that although we are not requiring them to provide a copy of their policy, we are asking that the renter include the insurance company's name and policy number which can be used for verification. Another inclusion that Laurel feels is important, is the listing of their make and model of tractor. Mr. Hopkins suggested that in addition to the rental agreement, that information regarding soil testing, lime sources, and consistency be included at the time of rental. Chairman Rice thanked the committee for their work.

- c. The next item of business discussed was the annual awards luncheon. Laurel added that the first farm preserved under the Farmland Preservation Program will fall around the same time as we usually hold our luncheon and that their board requested that we partner in the two events. Mr. Cowell and Mr. Kenney will serve on the committee to make the farm visits to the award nominees.
- d. Lisa discussed the next item of business, the Dirt and Gravel Roads Program. She said that plans are underway to host the Environmentally Sensitive Roads Training on November 5 and 6. The Center has taken a number of reservations with some of those being out of state. Plans are to attend the upcoming township convention and distribute meeting information. Regarding the Falls Hollow Project, an inspection was done and a few things need to be worked out with the township. The township ran out of the dirt and gravel road mix and she is working with Sarah Henry to try to have Atlas, who is working in the area, finish the area. If Atlas can not complete the project, it will have to be approved as is. The Jackson Township project is nearly complete and the Washington Township project is now underway.
- e. As approved at the last meeting, Dustin has received his new computer under the Technology Initiative. The initiative called for the replacement of the District Manager's computer next; however, since Martin was not here at the time, Dustin's was replaced. Martin reported that his computer is extremely slow and needs to be replaced. It was also reported that many

of the battery backups no longer work. **A motion was made by Archie Trader to approve the purchase of a computer for Martin and battery backups for those who are in need with the cost not to exceed \$1,500.00. Jim Cowell seconded. (Motion Passed)**

- f. The last item discussed under Old Business, was the Greene Expo. Laurel reported that we will be participating in the event on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. The \$100 registration fee was paid since this was the most inexpensive way to register, as opposed to becoming a Chamber member.

#### IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Martin reported that PACD will be increasing their dues this year by 5% and many Districts are upset. He will obtain additional information for the next meeting.
- b. **The West Nile Virus Grant application for 2009 was presented. Lisa and Brian will be working on the application and a motion was made by Archie Trader to approve the application for the WNV grant. Tom Headlee seconded. (Motion Passed)**
- c. The last item discussed under New Business, was the revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Commissioners. Martin reported that the County wants to amend the document and he requested that a committee of directors be appointed. Chairman Rice said that he spoke to Robbie about this matter and he appointed Jim Kenney to serve as the Chairman along with Bradley Eisiminger, and Tom Headlee. He asked that anyone not wishing to serve, to please let him know and asked Mr. Kenney to organize a meeting.

#### X. DISCUSSION OF STAFF REPORTS

Most staff reports were mailed with the meeting notices. Additionally, Martin thanked the board and county commissioners for their patience during his illness. He said that his health problems made it difficult to do his job effectively and he hopes to change that. He has many plans and ideas for the District.

In addition to her written report, Lisa said that she and Brian attended the recently held township workshop to discuss the Water Resources Program. They hope to have all the townships visited and the power point presentation ready to show at the next meeting. She said that Brian is now working on the

West Nile Virus Program for about 35 hours per week and the other 5 hours is spent on Water Resources.

Brian gave an update on the West Nile Virus Program. As mentioned previously, a mosquito testing positive for West Nile Virus was found on August 5<sup>th</sup> and since then two spraying events (August 21<sup>st</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>) were completed at Reese's Mobile Home Park and the Waynesburg Borough Treatment Plant. After the spraying, the number of mosquitoes trapped have drastically decreased with 95 found before treatment at Reese's and 12 after treatment. 123 were found before treatment at Waynesburg Borough's Sewage Treatment Plant and 39 after. This morning he collected the traps that were set out on Monday morning and a visual inspection shows fewer mosquitos, so it appears that the spraying was beneficial.

Mr. Trader commended and thanked the staff for the good job they did to notify the residents of the spraying.

Dustin apologized for not getting a written report finished in time to be mailed, but he said that he and Martin were in State College for 102/105 training last week. He said that the training was beneficial with a large emphasis on oil and gas issues and is pertinent to Greene County since 12 of the 17 plans submitted for review since the last meeting were gas related. He asked the board what type of monthly report they would like from him and they indicated that they like the spreadsheet which includes the status of each project.

In addition to her written report, Laurel said that she received an e-mail regarding the REAP program stating that 492 applications were received with 421 of those on the first day. Approximately 335 of those applications have been reviewed and all the applications will be acknowledged by October 4<sup>th</sup>. Greene County had one application. The Fall Field Day, through the PACD Mini Grant, will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> at the Kenney and Hopkins Farms. In addition to highlighting the conservation farms, a demonstration of the lime spreader is also planned. She also said that extra money was available through Penn's Corner and \$150.00 was granted to us for our field day.

Martin discussed the Grigsby Acid Mine Drainage Project. He said that money was put aside for the operation and maintenance of a treatment facility, however, that facility was never constructed. Lisa explained that Maakin Engineering is working on a Growing Greener II grant application which includes \$20,000 of matching funds through the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watershed Protection. John Daas of the Foundation has agreed to provide matching funds if we agree to submit the application through Penn's Corner RC&D, since they are a 501C-3 organization. She also said that Penn's Corner, at their meeting yesterday, agreed to hold the funds for us with a one

percent fee. The \$20,000 in matching funds is contingent upon obtaining the Growing Greener Grant. **A motion was made by Bradley Eisiminger to allow Maakin Engineering to submit this grant application in our name for the matching funds. Jim Kenney seconded. (Motion Passed)**

Chairman Rice had a question regarding an inventory of acid mine drainage sites. Lisa said the most of the sites are included in the Dunkard Creek Rivers Conservation Plan.

XI. The next regular meeting will be October 21<sup>st</sup>

XII. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Rice declared the meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca K. Salosky  
Fiscal Officer