

# WASHINGTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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## MINUTES

### WASHINGTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

May 21, 2025 - 10:30 a.m.

*WCSCD Conference Room Live and with the ZOOM Platform*

#### ATTENDEES:

Supervisors Present: Harry Strite (Chair), J. Scott Shank, III (Treasurer), Edward Wurmb (Supervisor), and Joshua Ernst (Supervisor)

Associate Supervisors Present: Boyd Michael and Kirk Winders (via ZOOM)

Others Present: Denise "Dee" Price, Mark Kendle, Lori Flook Bishop, Brent Cammauf (USDA, NRCS), and Jim Kriner

#### CALL TO ORDER:

The May Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Harry Strite, Chair, at 10:40 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Darcy Kline, VP/Partner, with Glessner Technologies.

As discussed during previous Board Meetings, the building owners/landlords (Eckstine's), have asked permission to use WCSCD's internet to view their security camera footage remotely. The owners have reached out to Glessner Technologies for interest in camera updates, key card entries at main doors, etc. Darcy Kline attended today to offer an explanation of the amount of bandwidth needed for the Eckstine's to look at the camera data remotely, and to answer any questions the Board may have. Darcy assured it would only be a small amount of bandwidth used on WCSCD's internet, and more than likely, would be done after hours. The Board had no further questions and appreciated the useful information.

#### REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

The April Regular Board Meeting Minutes were submitted for review and approval.

J. Scott Shank, III made a motion to approve the April Regular Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. Edward Wurmb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### District Board of Supervisors

Harry E. Strite  
Chair

J. Scott Shank, III  
Treasurer

Edward C. Wurmb, D.V.M.  
Supervisor

Ariel L. Herrod  
Supervisor

Joshua C. Ernst  
Supervisor

Boyd J. Michael, III  
Associate

Kirk E. Winders  
Associate

### **TREASURER REPORT:**

The April Treasurer's Report was submitted for review and approval.

All accounts are in order.

Dee also noted she still has not received Trust Fund and General Fund MOU's nor the County Budget approval to enable her to complete the District Budget, Salary Analyses, etc. for Board review and approval.

J. Scott Shank, III made a motion to approve the April Treasurer's Report as submitted. Edward Wurmb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **MONTHLY BILL APPROVAL:**

The March Monthly Bill Approval Report was submitted for review and approval.

A reminder, during the April Board Meeting, the March Monthly Bill Approval Report was submitted for review and approval, however, it was noted there was a glitch with the printing of the report in QuickBooks. The March Monthly Bill approval was tabled and to be brought back for approval at the May Board Meeting.

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the March Monthly Bill Approval Report as submitted. J. Scott Shank, III seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The April Monthly Bill Approval Report was submitted for review and approval.

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the April Monthly Bill Approval Report as submitted. J. Scott Shank, III seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **MACS MONTHLY COST-SHARE SUMMARY REPORT:**

The MACS Monthly Cost-Share Summary Report was submitted for review and approval.

We are starting to see an increase in activity due to the time of year and newly hired staff becoming trained, etc.

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the MACS Monthly Cost-Share Summary Report as submitted. J. Scott Shank, III seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **REPORTS FROM OTHERS:** None

## **URBAN PROGRAM REPORT:**

Sediment Control Review Report: The April Sediment Control Review Report was submitted for review and approval by Mark Kendle (Programs Technician/Office Coordinator).

J. Scott Shank, III made a motion to approve the April Sediment Control Review Report as submitted. Edward Wurmb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Grant Report: Dee shared a brief update on the following grants:

- Keedysville Stream Restoration Project - Ecotone, Inc. has mailed the final design plans for signature. Permits have been received from the Army Corps. of Engineers and the Maryland Department of the Environment. We will apply for local review and permitting, followed by our plan approval (signature) with plans to begin construction June/July 2025.
- Hamilton Run - Plan to do outreach in July in cooperation with Catoctin Land Trust (additional project funder) and the City of Hagerstown. Continuing to work with Ecotone, Inc. on overall project design and needed studies for bridges, etc. Plans to move forward with construction the Summer of 2026.
- Rest Haven Cemetery - Continuing to work with adjoining landowners involved in drainage concerns to rectify/mitigate stormwater to allow for a future on-site stream restoration project.
- NFWF Grant Funding - Dee and Mark recently spoke with Matt Fleischer (Catoctin Land Trust) to whom the District has developed a working relationship through projects, such as, the Hamilton Run Stream Restoration. Matt is very pleased with our cooperation, information, etc. and has decided to provide the District grant funding in the amount of \$12,500 for work we currently do with no required reporting, documentation, etc.

Pond Approval(s): None

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

The Board discussed the following old business:

AED - Update: Following discussion, J. Scott Shank, III made a motion to ask the building landlord to purchase the AED in exchange for use of WCSCD's internet. Joshua Ernst seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dee had received a call and will meet with the landlord later today at his request.

Cover Crop Program Spring Certification - Update: Dee noted operators have been steadily coming in to report their Spring Cover Crop Spring Kill-Down Certification. This must be completed within two weeks after kill down and before June 3, 2025.



**OTHER OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The Board discussed the following new business:

Get Certified - MD Bay Friendly Farm Certification Program: An email with a live link was included for Board reference. This was previously the FSCAP Program (Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program) and is now rebranded as MD Bay Friendly Farm Certification Program. Funding had been paused and has now been released.

MASCD Committees - Draft Recommendations for Board Review: An email from MASCD was included for Board review. Included were breakdowns of current, proposed, and other committee structures, as well as, four questions for Board discussion and feedback. The Board agreed to table discussion until the June Meeting and will review and have recommendations ready to share at that time.

State Soil Conservation Committee Meeting and MDA Statewide Meetings - Update: Dee provided a recap of items discussed during the SSCC Meeting and MDA State Meeting, held in May 2025.

Items included:

- MDA Rachel Jones - Solar bill passed for a 5% cap on priority preservation areas; limiting solar facilities on preservation (no cap presently), i.e. protecting 95% of preservation areas.
- MDA Rachel Jones - Solarbill passed for decommissioning costs to be included in the solar contracts put forth by companies.
- LEEF - Tiered Incentive Program being developed as a result of the Chesapeake Bay Legacy Act.
- PFAS (PFAS are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) - Structural definition revised; to bring back next year.
- WIP (Watershed Implementation Plan) - No longer referred to as "WIP"; will now be "RENS", Reducing Excess Nutrients & Sediment.
- Hans Schmidt - Legislation may go into a special session, Fall 2025. Hans plans to visit Boards in the coming months to encourage more participation in Legislation, Statewide Meetings, etc.

July Board Meeting Reschedule - Due to Year End Closeout and July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday: Dee noted, due to the Year End Closeout with our Accountant and the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday, the July Board Meeting will need to be rescheduled to the third week, Wednesday, July 16, 2025. The Board concurred.

### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS:**

- Dee and Mark recently met with Brad Metzger and Kate Ansalvish, with MDE regarding our current Field Services MOU. The meeting was to review the MOU with all parties involved, to include changes in leadership with MDE, and potentially re-word the document to better suit our needs and allow the document to be used in other counties across the State of Maryland using our District as a model.
- Dee and Keith Potter will be attending a Washington County Ag Tour, May 22, 2025, with Washington County Business Development, Secretary Atticks, and MDA. The Tour will visit Creek Bound Farms, Misty Meadow Farm Creamery, and Ernst Grain & Livestock.
- Dee's laptop hard drive is failing per our IT Companies determination; Mark's laptop is beginning to have the same issues. Dee provided a quote for the purchase of two new laptops in the estimated amount of \$3,818.34 and is seeking approval to purchase.

Edward Wurmb motioned to approve the purchase of new laptops for Dee and Mark for the estimated amount of \$3,818.34. Joshua Ernst seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Joshua Ernst made a motion to adjourn the May Regular Board Meeting.  
J. Scott Shank, III seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Harry Strite, Chair, adjourned the May Regular Board Meeting at 11:58 a.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled in-person, Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 10:30 a.m., WCSCD Conference Room, 1260 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740, and with the ZOOM Platform option.