



WASHINGTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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MINUTES

WASHINGTON COUNTY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING

January 15, 2025 - 10:30 a.m.

WCSCD Conference Room Live and with the ZOOM Platform

ATTENDEES:

Supervisors Present: Harry Strite (Chair), Edward Wurmb (Supervisor), Ariel Herrod (Supervisor), and J. Scott Shank, III (Treasurer) via ZOOM

Associate Supervisors Present: Boyd Michael, and Kirk Winders via ZOOM

Others Present: Denise "Dee" Price, Mark Kendle, Lori Flook Bishop, Brent Cammauf (USDA, NRCS), Jeff Semler (UMD Washington County Extension), and Loretta Collins (SSCC)

CALL TO ORDER:

The January Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Harry Strite, Chair, at 10:31 a.m.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Loretta Collins, Executive Secretary (SSCC), who replaced Alishia Mulkey in this position, attended the January Board Meeting. Loretta started the position during the Summer of 2024, attending the MASCD Summer Meeting. Loretta is making an effort to attend Board meetings in all counties across the State.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:

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

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the December Regular Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT:

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

All accounts are in order.

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the November Treasurer's Report as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

District Board of Supervisors

Harry E. Strite
Chair

J.D. Rinehart
Vice Chair

J. Scott Shank, III
Treasurer

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

Ariel Herrod
Supervisor

Boyd Michael
Associate

Kirk E. Winders
Associate

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

All accounts are in order.

Ariel Herrod made a motion to approve the December Treasurer's Report as submitted. Edward Wurmb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bank Accounts - Update: Dee shared the Truist checking account is now closed, and the remaining balance was deposited to the MVB checking account. The only outstanding account with Truist is the Certificate of Deposit. Also noted, the MVB Money Market account has earned \$20,061.26 in interest to date.

MONTHLY BILL APPROVAL:

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

Ariel Herrod made a motion to approve the November Monthly Bill Approval Report as submitted. Edward Wurmb seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the December Monthly Bill Approval Report as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MACS MONTHLY COST-SHARE SUMMARY REPORT:

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

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the MACS Monthly Cost-Share Summary Report as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM OTHERS:

- Jeff Semler (UMD Extension) shared he is again in need of a Nutrient Management (NM) Advisor. An employee recently hired has already given their notice of leaving the position. There is a contracted person who is writing plans, so please continue to forward any NM inquiries to Jeff Semler for processing.
- Dee noted, the District had been given a new State Planner, who started last week, however, MDA Human Resources contacted the employee and offered them another MDA position after only two days in the WCSCD office. Dee will work together with Keith Potter to fill the Technician and Planner positions for the Washington County office as soon as possible.

URBAN PROGRAM REPORT:

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

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the November Sediment Control Review Report as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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

Edward Wurmb made a motion to approve the December Sediment Control Review Report as submitted. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dee shared, she, Mark, and Owen recently went on a field visit to the Eastern Panhandle Expansion Project (Columbia Gas Line) project going under the Potomac River near Hancock. She noted it was interesting to observe the drilling process, which will be coming from both sides of the river, with drilling, approximately 150 feet below the riverbed. The contractors expect to be done drilling in approximately two weeks and offered to share drone footage once complete. Dee will share with the Board when received.

Pond Approval(s): None

OLD BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the following old business:

RFP (Stream Restoration) - Update: The latest revisions to the Draft - Request for Proposal (RFP) package, reviewed by the District's Attorney, Brian Kane, has been returned and reviewed by J. Scott Shank, III. Dee and Mark will review as time allows.

Reservations for Winter, National, and Summer MASCD Meetings - Update: Dee, Mark, Owen, and Supervisor Edward Wurmb will be attending the MASCD Winter Meeting in Annapolis, February 3-4, 2025. The first day is meetings; the second day is breakfast and a meeting with Legislation in the office space of Lobbyist Mike Mason with Providence Strategies.

Additionally, Edward Wurmb will attend the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) 79th Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 8-12, 2025.

As a reminder, the MASCD Summer Meeting will be held in Allegany County at Rocky Gap Casino and Resort, August 4-6, 2025; hosted by the Central region. Supervisors are asked to let Dee or Lori know if they are interested in attending so registrations and reservations can be made.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

J. Scott Shank, III provided an update regarding the interest in AED Defibrillators for our office. He is waiting to hear from his contact at Emergency Services to see if they can provide AED's, assist with maintenance costs, etc.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Board discussed the following new business:

Supervisor's Appointment/Letter of Recommendation: Supervisor J.D. Rinehart's Appointment Term expires February 12, 2025. This is an At-Large Appointment, designated by the University of Maryland Extension. Loretta Collins (SSCC) advised two applicants are required. Jeff Semler (UMD Extension) mentioned this is advertised on their website, newsletter, and Facebook pages. Dee and Jeff have reached out to J.D. Rinehart.

Board members questioned the process regarding why the Oath of Office needs to be administered at the Court House each time a Supervisor is re-appointed. Loretta will take questions and concerns to the next SSCC meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

- As a reminder, Dee still needs completed W-4 and I-9 forms, copies of driver's licenses and Social Security Card's from several Board Supervisors.
- Dee asked the Board if the February 2025 Board Meeting could be moved to the third Wednesday of the month, due to Supervisor Edward Wurmb attending the NACD Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 8-12, 2025. Changing the date will allow Ed to attend our regular Board Meeting. The Board concurred. The February Board Meeting will be held, Wednesday, February 19, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT:

Edward Wurmb made a motion to adjourn the January Regular Board Meeting. Ariel Herrod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Harry Strite, Chair, adjourned the January Regular Board Meeting at 11:35 a.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled in-person, (the third) Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 10:30 a.m., WCSCD Conference Room, 1260 Maryland Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740, and with the ZOOM Platform option.