

## **ALLEGANY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES JULY 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Allegany Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 in the garage behind the ASCD office located at 12407 Naves Cross Road, Cumberland. Carl Robinette, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Supervisors present were Lee Heavner, Jim Mullan, Amanda Paul, Carl Robinette and Steve Young. Others present were Wesley Gordon, Associate; Chad Bucklew, District Conservationist, Adam Heavner, District Manager; and Mona Lee, ASCD Secretary.

Minutes – Lee moved to approve the minutes as presented. Amanda seconded; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Lee gave the June report. On the motion of Lee, seconded by Amanda, the report was approved as presented.

Bills – There were no bills to approve.

Permits – There were 11 permits approved during June with fees totaling \$965.

District Conservationist's Report – Chad gave an update on the office remodeling. Phase one is pretty much complete and phase two is scheduled to begin Thursday. Work should take about 1 ½ - 2 months to complete. The hot water tank has been replaced and a heating/cooling unit installed in the Lan Wan room. Nine EQIP contracts have been approved and there are a few more to wrap up. Several payments will be made soon. Chad will be attending all four days of the MASCD/NE Regional meeting in August.

Other Agency Reports – Sherry Frick from Extension will be on leave through the end of August.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

DEI Questions – A copy of the email to and from MASCD Executive Director Jen Nelson is in everyone's packet (attached).

Lime Spreader – Mr. DeMarchio has put in an offer of \$10K to purchase the lime spreader. After discussion, Amanda moved to counter offer \$16K and follow up advertising in Lancaster Farming. Lee seconded; motion passed. Adam is authorized to accept \$15K if offered. The ad will run twice, with a picture of the equipment and asking price of \$16K. Another option discussed was contacting who we purchased the equipment from, Richard Strite to see if he would take it on consignment.

State Envirothon Recap – Thirteen teams competed at the one-day competition in Howard County. Montgomery placed 1<sup>st</sup> with 423 points. Anne Arundel finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, Harford 3<sup>rd</sup>, Allegany 4<sup>th</sup> and Washington 5<sup>th</sup>. They are hoping to return to a two-day event next year.

Cooperator's Picnic – All were given a list of caterer's quotes (attached). Amanda moved to book Merkel's Wing and a Prayer to cater the event at a cost of \$16 per person. Jim seconded; motion passed. Amanda moved to charge adults \$18 per person, kids 6 – 12

years old, \$12 to attend. Steve seconded; motion passed. Lee moved to select Senator Edwards as Resource Conservationist. Amanda seconded; so moved. Wes suggested a unique gift over the usual plaque. Some ideas with prices will be presented for consideration at the August board meeting.

MASCD Summer Meeting – Rocky Gap has donated 18 rounds of golf for up to four people as our auction item. Jim moved to include a \$100 gift card and Amanda seconded. Motion passed.

MDA FY23 General Funds Budget – MDA sent a modification to extend FY22 budget through June 2023, allotting same dollar amounts. Lee moved to approve, seconded by Steve; so moved. Adam reported he discussed the large carryover balance in the MDA account with District Operations Program Manager, Byron Petrauskas. The district can request using the funds for survey equipment or hire a former employee to help train new staff. After discussion, it was decided to look into purchasing equipment at some time in the future. Adam would need to submit three quotes. The suggestion was made to check state bids for equipment.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

FY22 Accounts Review – Lee moved to use Advantage Resource Group from Altoona, PA again this year to conduct the annual financial review. Amanda seconded; motion approved.

MDA BMP Verifiers – Adam explained the duties of the two verifiers working in Allegany County. They started two weeks ago and will be here through the summer. Their work should help ASCD to meet 2025 WIP goals.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Cooperator Agreements – None.

Conservation Farm Plans – On the motion by Lee, seconded by Amanda, the following plans were approved: 1) Richard C. Blickenstaff in Oldtown and 2) Timothy J. Carney.

Cancellations – None.

Correspondence – 1) Email from Chase increasing the credit limit to \$13,400; 2) Thank you letter from NE Association of Conservation District Employees for \$100 donation; 3) Invite to the Allegany County Farm Bureau's picnic on 7/14/22 (all attached).

Adam reported he hasn't heard from Jason Bennet regarding the county budget but he did see on the county website the adopted FY23 budget. ASCD's budget request was approved with the exception of a new vehicle.

Carl announced that Adam has been selected by MASCD as Outstanding Employee and will be recognized at the luncheon during the summer meeting.

Other discussions: 1) Spotted Lanternfly has been found at Rocky Gap; 2) Amanda suggested a possible fundraiser helpful to the county might be recycling agricultural plastic; 3) the status of the landfill expansion.

Carl adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mona M. Lee,  
ASCD Secretary  
7/12/2022 1:59 PM