

**ALLEGANY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES APRIL 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Allegany Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 in the conference room of the ASCD office located at 12407 Naves Cross Road, Cumberland, MD. 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 Ron Hawk, Associate; Ben Sansom, Associate; Wesley Gordon, Associate; Adam Heavner, District Manager; Chad Bucklew, District Conservationist; and Mona Lee, ASCD Secretary.

Minutes – Amanda moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Lee. Motion passed.

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

Bills – There were no bills to be approved.

Permits – There were 18 land use permits approved during March and 4 major reviews generating \$1,863 collected at the County office. Three major plans approved generated \$650 income for ASCD.

District Conservationist's Report – Chad is seeking an alternative method to share information without having to go into an executive session on a regular basis. Several ideas were discussed. He reported that ranking is complete for EQIP applications. He should know pre-approvals by next meeting. The deadline to rank Teams Allocations is May 12, 2023. Applications for Allegany County that aren't approved through Teams may be funded by MACS. Most applications should be approved, just a matter of what funding pool they will draw from. Details are coming about an inflation adjustment payment (similar to CARP after Covid 19) to help with materials cost for practices completed during January 1<sup>st</sup> through 09/30/2023.

Other Agency Reports – There were no reports from Extension. However, both the Nutrient Manager Advisor and Extension Educator positions have been advertised.

**OLD BUSINESS**

2023 Tree Sale – A summary was in everyone's packet (attached). \$70.94 was donated towards scholarships and a net profit of \$1,677.77 was realized from the event.

Nutrient Management Pilot Program Update - An announcement has not been made yet as to the duration of the pilot program. ASCD will retain their license.

FY24 State and County Budgets – Both were submitted ahead of the due dates. Per instruction from the County Administrator’s office, Carl and Steve submitted a letter as part of Schedule F to keep Adam’s classification and salary in par with his years of service. Adam has not yet heard if either budget has been approved.

MASCD Summer Meeting Update – Registration prices have been set and the pavilion at Blackwater Refuge has been reserved for an optional crab feast event on Sunday evening of the annual meeting. MASCD will collect the registration money and ASCD will create name badges and meal tickets. The auction donation was discussed with ideas provided for consideration at the next board meeting.

County Envirothon – Both Allegany and Garrett County events are taking place on Wednesday, 4/26/23. Volunteers to help at the Allegany soils pit and with 5<sup>th</sup> Issue should be at Rocky Gap by 8:30 a.m. Adam has a Wildwings print for 1<sup>st</sup> place in soils. Lee moved to purchase framed photos from Caroline Blizzard of Hawks Flight Studio in Garrett County for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place prizes. Steve seconded his motion; so moved.

Chartering of the Allegany FFA Chapter – ASCD was well represented at the event on 3/22/23. Carl announced the University of Maryland Terps won the soil judging again this year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

MASCD Board of Directors Meeting Recap – MASCD Award Nominations are due to MASCD on May 5, 2023. Items discussed during the zoom meeting included changes in the Envirothon endowment grant’s operating funds, the Conservation Stewardship program and bylaws and operating rules that will be addressed at the summer meeting.

Farm Bureau Meeting with Secretary Kevin Atticks – The dinner meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 4/25/23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Flintstone Volunteer Fire Company. A flyer with details was provided to all (attached). Secretary Atticks will visit a site in Washington, Allegany and Garrett counties prior to the meeting. The Allegany visit will be to Sam Walker’s farm. Steve moved for the board to pay the \$15 per person for ASCD district manager and board members to attend. Lee seconded; motion passed. Attending will be Carl, Lee, Amanda, Jim, Wesley and Adam.

MACS Flat Rates – The flat rates became active April 1<sup>st</sup>. Adam, and MDA employees Ian Cheek, Kara Klein and Reid Boden attended a training on the new application and rates. Allegany is now using regional flat rates that are equivalent to NRCS.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no Cooperator Agreements or Cancellations for review.

Conservation Farm Plans – There were 4; one in Midland on 95.6 acres and three in Flintstone. One on 75 acres, one on 155.7 acres and one on 20.6 acres.

Correspondence – 1) thank you note from Boonsboro High School for supporting their team at the Ag Mechanic competition; 2) thank you note from Annie Stark for the \$100 donation to the newly formed Allegany High School FFA (both attached).

On the motion of Lee, Carl adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mona M. Lee,  
ASCD Secretary  
4/11/2023 1:48 PM