

Frederick Board Meeting  
September 28, 2021

APPROVED

**In attendance:** Supervisors- B. Black, D. Flickinger, R. Myers, S. Hipkins, Associate P. Spurrier, B. Ripley, J. McKeever, District Manager- H. Hutchinson, Assist. District Manager- S. Leatherman, Extension-J. Hurry.

Minutes and approved by Motion: Flickinger/Myers – with correction of next meeting date- should have read Sept.28, 2021. All in agreement.

Treasurer's report approved by Motion: Myers/Flickinger – to approve as file. All in agreement.

Joint urban checking, money market, Ag complex accounts approved by Motion: Flickinger/Black as filed. All in agreement.

Hutchinson is to check with Frederick County Bank on operating account 8101, as to other options to make sure, the whole account is FDIC insured.

Expenses for the month approved by Motion: Flickinger/Black -as filed.

Checks #3818 thru 3841, Joint Urban Checks #2035 thru #2036, Ag. Complex Checks # None. All in agreement.

**Old Business:**

1. Hutchinson reported she has not received any response back from Jack Howard (DGS) acknowledging Soil Conservation still owns 11 plus or minus acres of the site, and whether that changed the status of repayment on the grant. Hutchinson is to follow up. Heather also reported she has contacted Todd Salisbury and he is checking on the confirmatory deed.
2. Hutchinson presented a shirt size chart to Board Members, they directed her to choose the color.
3. Hutchinson reported the Remington Calendars have been ordered and paid.
4. Hutchinson presented a quote from Express signs for the road signs. The 4' x 8' is \$247.50 and the 2' x 3' are \$ 49.21 each. After some discussion the Board asked Hutchinson to get another quote, Myers suggested contacting Deg Spalding at E-Plus in Emmitsburg and Grimes Graphics.
5. Hutchinson reported the e-mail had been hacked, she had Computer Enhancement install a new Filter and Router. Comcast replaced the modem which has increased the speed. She had Verizon change the office plan. The Office was paying \$88.00 dollars a month for the bundle unlimited calling for FAX and DSL. We do not need DSL. There is an early termination fee of \$75.00 dollars. The new bill should be half of what was previously being charged.

6. Black and Hutchinson reported on the outcome of the Soil Smart Farm Tour.

**CURRENT BUSINESS:**

1. Flickinger brought up the idea of Soil Conservation having a re-appearance at the Frederick Fair. Hutchinson is going to check into it to see if it is possible.

2. Hutchinson reported that the staff were unsettled by the unexpected passing of MDA Planner Jamie Snider. A grief counseling session is being provided by NRCS on September 29, 2021. Hutchinson reported that the family was asking for donations to two scholarship funds in honor of Jamie. There was a Motion: Flickinger/Black to donate \$500.00 dollars to Allegheny Ag. Expo Scholarship Fund. All in agreement.

3. Hutchinson presented Staff recommendations for Award Winners, Cooperator of The Year- Elizabeth Olher and Keilholtz Memorial Award – Patti Burdette. After some discussion the Board approved the Staff recommendations. The Board asked that Staff do the presentation

4. Hutchinson reported no progress has been made getting a debit card, she has contacted BB&T Bank but has not received a response at this time.

5. Hutchinson reported MAC's implementation of 100% cost share effective August 2, 2021 for certain BMP's she went into detail on eligible practices.

6. Hutchinson reported MAC's approved the resolution made at the summer MASCD meeting for a 30% increase in flat rates to address COVID related increases in material costs. The increase is in effect until at least June 30, 2022. SCD had the option to increase individual flat rates or adapt 30% across the board. There was a Motion: Myers/Black to approve the 30% emergency across the board flat rates increase. All in agreement.

7. Hutchinson presented a memorandum agreement between NRCS and the Districts, there was a Motion: Myers/Flickinger to table until October Board Meeting. All in agreement.

8. Hutchinson reported she has advertised a Board Member vacancy coming in November, in the Frederick News Post. The deadline to apply is November 8<sup>th</sup> for interested parties.

9. Hutchinson presented the Annual Maryland Envirothon dues to the Board, there was a Motion: Flickinger/Black to donate \$750.00 dollars towards the Maryland Envirothon and challenge the Catoctin District to do the same! All in agreement.

10. Hutchinson presented a request from Denny McLaughlin for an Ag. Exemption on the Rickard Farm, after some discussion there was a Motion: Myers/Black to give a 6-month extension with the stipulation of clean fill only and to be stabilized properly by the end of March 2022. All in agreement.

11. Hutchinson reported she and M. White visited Sam Tressler to try to get a commitment from him to do stream fencing.

12. Hipkins suggested paying a fee for the use of the Grange Hall since they did not make a request for payment. There was a Motion: Flickinger/Black to pay \$50.00 dollars per meeting for Grange Hall use. All in agreement.

**Communications:**

1. Hutchinson reported there is a virtual Ag. Law Education Conference coming up on November 17, 2021. Areas of focus will be Carbon banking, strengthening local food systems through law and policy, legislative strategies for reaching the Chesapeake Bay clean-up goals for agriculture and using legal education to increase equitable participation in NRCS conservation programs.

**Cammauf:** No Report

**Committee Report: Info/Ed**

1. Myers presented B. Burch Envirothon expenses and mileage  
2. Myers reported there was an Envirothon Zoom Meeting – Craig Hartsock is retiring as Maryland Envirothon Coordinator, he also stated it has not been determined how and if the County Envirothon Training and competition can be done with COVID still on the rise.

**Awards:**

1. See Old Business for award winners that was selected for this year's Banquet.  
2. Invitations will need to be sent out around the last of October.  
3. Table centerpieces as door prizes, Gwen Whitmore is contact.  
4. The Board suggested some type of hand out- Hutchinson to decide.

**Legislative:**

B. Black reported what changes maybe coming to politics.

**Ag. Complex:** Nothing to report.

**Conservation plans:** No Plans to accept.

**Cooperating agencies:** Extension J. Hurry – Extension wants to have an in-person pesticide and voucher training but with COVID things are undetermined.

**NEXT MONTHLY MEETING:** Date: Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 @ 9:00 am @ Thurmont  
Grange Hall Motion: to adjourn: Myers/Flickinger

Minutes recorded by Steve Leatherman.

