



**Frederick Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 29, 2023- 10:00 AM
Soil Conservation District Office**

In attendance: Supervisors: D. Flickinger, R. Myers, S. Hipkins, R. Black, B. Burch (by phone). Associate: B. Sweeney. District Manager H. Hutchinson, Soil Conservation Coordinator K. McAfee, K. Stevens, B. Tucker, and B. Cammauf, J. Smith, Western Maryland RC&D.

Meeting called to order by S. Hipkins at 10:42AM.

Minutes approved as presented by motion: R. Myers, second by R. Black. All in agreement.

Treasurer's Report approved as presented by motion: D. Flickinger, second by R. Black. All in agreement.

Financial Report Statements approved as presented by motion: R. Black, second by R. Myers. All in agreement.

Expenses for the month approved as presented by motion: R. Black, second by R. Myers. All in agreement.
H. Hutchinson to schedule Joint Meeting to discuss banking and CD's.

Old Business:

1. H. Hutchinson reported on the Board Merger. Currently Catoctin has 25 signatures and Frederick has 40 signatures. The attorney from MDA has reached out regarding holding the referendum. There is no requirement for a public meeting.
 - a. In order for boards to merge we must have 50 ballots cast. The majority vote will decide the merger.
2. H. Hutchinson reported that the SSCC meeting was held on March 16th. MACS is moving forward with the new flat rate structure which goes into effect on April 1st.
 - a. J'Que from NRCS spoke about the 378 standard. MD has not updated the standard because it is incorporated into COMAR. Coordinating with MDE to update- changes include changing the naming of classifications from A, B, C to low, significant, and high hazard dams.
 - b. The new standard will be published in the field office technical guide.
 - c. John Roche plans to develop a design criteria manual to house all of their guidance memos.
 - i. Farm Pond Guidance
 1. Only a farm pond if it is included in the conservation plan
 2. Farm ponds need Geotech report to verify that soil compaction is adequate
 - d. All wet ponds in class III or put and grow watersheds need to go to MDE for approval.
 - e. 40 applications were received for the Healthy Soil Competitive Grant.
 - f. Introduced new pilot program related to the Tree Solutions Now Act. Any MACS practice that pays for trees is eligible for an additional, per tree payment of \$2/tree up to \$1000.
 - i. Conservation Buffer Initiative and CREP do not qualify due to the \$1000 incentive already paid on those practices.
 - g. MDE is conducting screening reviews for AFO permits to ensure environmental justice.
 - h. NRCS is looking to develop an agreement with MASCD that would provide funding through 2027.
 - i. NACD Fly In is being held in DC on March 22nd if anyone is interested in attending.

Current Business:



1. H. Hutchinson reported that she has submitted the application for Director and Officers insurance to Keller and Stonebreaker and is waiting to hear back.
2. H. Hutchinson emailed the general fund budget request with the board packet. We are limited to \$7500 support for supervisors.
 - I. Board advised to request funds for five supervisors to attend the summer meeting.
3. K. McAfee included a copy of the District Digest newsletter in each board members packet. It has been posted on Facebook and our website.
 - I. Sign up to receive it via email on our Facebook or on the Website.
4. B. Burch reported on the Envirothon Training Day- 60 students were in attendance representing 6 schools. Bill Rawlings and Emily Doney presented the 5th Issue.
5. H. Hutchinson brought forth a revised signature authority policy to include in the policy manual. This policy gives H. Hutchinson the authority to sign checks up to \$1000.00.
 - I. Motion by R. Myers to give H. Hutchinson signature authority for the Frederick Operating account of up to \$1000, second by D. Flickinger. All in agreement.
6. A new signature authorization form for Cover Crop is needed since Steve Leatherman is retiring. H. Hutchinson suggests having K. McAfee as the backup approval authority.
 - I. Motion by D. Flickinger to give K. McAfee back up approval authority for Cover Crop, second by R. Black. All in agreement.
7. H. Hutchinson provided copies of the MOU with Frederick County. No one reported any changes to be made.
8. H. Hutchinson reported that at the February meeting the SCD voted to obtain a nutrient management license. Kaitlyn Fuss has since then been writing plans for various cooperators. She has written 6 plans and Emma P. has written 10 plans.
9. H. Hutchinson reported that the MASCD Board Meeting was held on March 28th. There are proposed changes to the operating rules.
 - I. Currently, if the President is from the Eastern Shore, the Vice President must be from Western MD- vice versa. The request is to remove the requirement that the President and Vice President reside from different sides of the state.
 - I. H. Hutchinson suggests that the language states that the President and Vice President should be from different MASCD regions (there are five regions).
10. Alisha from SSCC sent a notice about investing public funds. H. Hutchinson reported that the SCD may have a checking account, savings account, and CD's.
 - I. H. Hutchinson to request Joint Board meeting for April.
11. H. Hutchinson reported that the Catoctin and Frederick districts are in charge of the MASCD Auction this year and has requested that K. McAfee attend.
 - I. Motion by R. Black to have the Frederick District pay for K. McAfee to attend the summer MASCD, second by D. Flickinger. All in agreement.
12. Each SCD is asked to contribute an item to the Endowment Auction at the Summer MASCD meeting. Kendra showed a painted cheese box by a local artist and asked if the board would like to donate a similar item and fill it with wine and cheese. The board agreed to purchase a cheese box.
13. Rob Schnabel sent a letter of request to H. Hutchinson asking for the board support for a grant application. This grant would provide \$10,000 in funds for the SCD in support of holding two soil health outreach meetings and two field days to demonstrate soil health practices.
 - I. Motion by D. Flickinger for the SCD to write a letter of support for Rob Schnabel, second by R. Black. All in agreement.



Committee Reports:

1. **Awards:** No Report
2. **Legislative:** No Report.
3. **Info/Education:** R. Myers reported that the Scholarship closes on April 15th and they will decide winners at the April Board Meeting. Kendra send the scholarship information to FCPS and all of the FFA advisors for distribution.
Envirothon will be held at Cunningham State Park on April 25th, board members wishing to attend to help dip ice cream should arrive at 10:30am.
4. **Ag. Complex:** No Report.
5. **RC&D:** No Report.

Communications:

1. Heather sent a card to Paul Spurrier from the board.

Cooperating Agencies (MDA, Extension):

1. M. Townsend, Frederick County Agriculture Agent Associate, provided a handout prior to the meeting for upcoming events related to Extension.

Urban Report: Handout provided by David Stonesifer.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 10 AM at the Soil Conservation District Office.

Adjournment: R. Black moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 1:22PM, seconded by R. Myers. All in agreement.

Minutes recorded by Kendra McAfee