

**Catoctin Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, September 19, 2023- 9:00 AM**  
**Burkittsville Ruritan**

**In attendance:** Supervisors: B. Sowers, E. Arnold, J. Falkenstein, J. Orlowski. Associates: R. Grossnickle, B. Brennan, W. Shafer. District Manager, H. Hutchinson. Soil Conservation Coordinator, K. McAfee. Extension, M. Townsend.

Meeting called to order by B. Sowers at 9:05 AM.

**July Minutes approved as presented by motion:** E. Arnold, second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

**Treasurer's Report approved as presented by motion:** J. Falkenstein, second by E. Arnold. All in agreement.

**Expenses for the month approved as presented by motion:** J. Falkenstein, second by E. Arnold. All in agreement.

1. **Bank Account Reconciliation** Motion to accept the Bank Account Reconciliation report as is by J. Falkenstein, second by E. Arnold. All in agreement.

**Old Business:**

1. The results of the referendum were in favor of a merger. SSCC will meet on September 21<sup>st</sup> and will vote to determine if the merger is administratively feasible. If voted yes, advertising for new board members can start.
2. H. Hutchinson reported on the MASCD Summer Meeting that was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> in Cambridge, MD.
  - a. During the Banquet, E. Arnold was awarded a pin for his five years of service as a supervisor.
  - b. MD Envirothon is looking to host the 2027 National Envirothon Competition.
  - c. Endowment grants will not be offered this year.
  - d. The employee incentive program is still undetermined.
  - e. The FASCAP program is now being called Bay Friendly Farmers with new guidelines and signage.
3. H. Hutchinson reported on the Soil Smart Farm Tour that was held in partnership with Farm Bureau and Horizon Farm Credit. There were roughly 45 people in attendance. All of the featured farmers did a wonderful job of representing agriculture. The County Executive joined the tour at Calico Farm.

**Current Business:**

1. H. Hutchinson reported that the staff recommends Richvale Farm- the Ahalts for Cooperator of the Year. They have installed a crossing, waterway, two HUA's, and removed a liquid tank.
  - a. E. Arnold motioned, second by J. Falkenstein, to select Richvale Farm, the Ahalt family, as Catoctin Cooperator of the Year. All in agreement.
2. H. Hutchinson reported that she received a letter from Karen Miller, Envirothon coordinator, asking if the districts would be interested in purchasing "Training Trunks" to provide to teachers who coach Envirothon teams. Each set of training trunks is \$1000. Orders must be placed by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. B. Sowers and R. Grossnickle are requesting more information from Karen Miller about what is contained in the trunks.
3. H. Hutchinson reported that MASCD dues are \$2700 plus a \$50 fee for Teacher Awards for a total of \$2750.
  - a. J. Orlowski motioned, seconded by E. Arnold, to pay the \$2750 MASCD Dues. Motion passes; (2) Yay- J. Orlowski, E. Arnold. (1) Nay- J. Falkenstein.
4. H. Hutchinson reported that MD Farm and Harvest is looking for sponsors in the amount of \$625.00.
  - a. J. Orlowski motioned, second by J. Falkenstein, to sponsor MD Farm and Harvest in the amount of \$625.00. All in agreement.

**Committee Reports:**

- **RC&D:** No Report
- **Info/Education:** No Report
- **Awards:** No Report
- **Legislative:** No Report.
- **Ag Complex:** No Report.

**Communications:** H. Hutchinson reported she received invites directed to the Board/ District Manager to attend the Anne Arundel Banquet on October 18<sup>th</sup> and Farm Bureau Banquet on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Cooperating Agencies (MDA, Extension):** Mark Townsend provided a handout of upcoming training opportunities.

**Urban Report:** Included in board packets.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 9:00 AM held at the Burkittsville Ruritan.

**Adjournment:** J. Orlowski motioned, seconded by J. Falkenstein, that the board adjourn the regular meeting at 10:21am and meet in closed session to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter as authorized by General Provisions Article Section 3-305(b)(13). The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Kendra McAfee