

Catoctin Board Meeting
Thursday, December 21, 2023 - 10:00 AM
Jefferson Ruritan

In attendance: Supervisors: B. Sowers, E. Arnold, J. Falkenstein, A. Holter. Associates: R. Grossnickle, W. Shafer. District Manager, H. Hutchinson. D. Flickinger, FSCD Supervisor attended and took notes for minutes.

Meeting called to order by B. Sowers at 10:05 am.

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

Closed Minutes approved as presented by motion: A. Holter second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

Treasurer's Report approved as presented by motion: J. Falkenstein, second by A. Holter. All in agreement.

Revised October Treasurers report approved as presented by motion: J. Falkenstein, second by A. Holter. All in agreement.

Expenses for the month approved as presented by motion: A. Holter, second by J. Falkenstein. 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. H. Hutchinson reported that the new board members have been appointed as follows:
 - a.i. Diane Flickinger (At-Large)
 - a.ii. Robert Black (At-Large)
 - a.iii. Wes Shafer (Extension)
 - a.iv. John Falkenstein (Farm Bureau)
 - a.v. Ben Sowers (Frederick County Council)
- b. Waiting on articles of incorporation. Current boards continue to exist until the article of incorporation are received. The application to the Secretary of State has been signed by the new FCSCD.
2. H. Hutchinson reported that the Annual Cooperators Banquet was held on November 16th at the New Midway Volunteer Fire Company. There were 142 people in attendance and received nice comments about the photo books for the award winners. An Income and Expense sheet for the 2023 Annual Cooperators Banquet was included in the board packet.

Current Business:

1. H. Hutchinson reported that the MASCD Winter Meeting will be returning to Annapolis on January 22-23, networking with legislators on the second day. Hotel rooms must be reserved by December 22nd and registration closes on January 1st. Discussion centered around who could attend and who was driving.
2. H. Hutchinson reported on the Climate Summit to be held at Hood College on February 2-3. The districts were invited to sponsor the event and have a booth during the conference. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of having a booth. Speakers representing agriculture include Dave and Belinda Burrier, Katie Stevens, Ron Schnable, and Emma Jagoz. No agenda was available at meeting time. Tabled to be discussed at the Joint Meeting.
3. H. Hutchinson reported that Katie Stevens has scheduled a meeting for January 24th at 10 am at 30 N. Market Street as a quarterly meeting. The meeting will include the Director of Permitting, Debbie Carpenter, Gary Hessong, Anne Bradley, Economic Development, NRCS, Ag Business Council, and Farm Bureau to discuss the pertinent permitting and zoning concerns. Board Chairman are invited to attend.
4. H. Hutchinson reported that the County has developed a report to track payment for minor grading and logging permits. In reviewing the report, it was discovered that the county has waived the SCD review fee on all county projects. This was not approved by the SCD Boards.

5. H. Hutchinson reported that she received an invite for the boards to attend the Taste of MD event at MD Live Casino on February 1st. Each ticket is \$100 and reservations are due by January 12th. No one committed to attending.
6. H. Hutchinson provided a letter seeking sponsorship of the MD Soil Judging Team Trip to the national competition.
 - a. A. Holter, motioned, second by J. Falkenstein, to give a donation of \$550. All in agreement.
7. H. Hutchinson reported on Small Pond legislation. A bill has been drafted and pre-filed that would allow SCDs to charge for small pond review.
8. H. Hutchinson reported on the Legislative Day planning meeting. B. Sowers, D. Flickinger and H. Hutchinson attended. The event is to be held on February 10 at the New Midway Fire Company. A multi-page Legislative Day talking points document would be compiled and circulated among the Farm Bureau, Grange, and Soil Conservation Districts.
9. H. Hutchinson reported on the Soil Health Day to be held on February 28, in the Null Building at the Great Frederick Fair. The Staff is planning the event. Dale Strickler has been contacted to be the keynote speaker.
10. H. Hutchinson announced that there would be a Nutrient Management Update on January 19 at the New Midway Fire Hall.
11. J. Falkenstein presented a letter of intent from the Frederick Southern States Cooperative, signed by Larry Remsburg, indicating interest in purchasing the Ag Complex property. D. Flickinger had also been contacted by the same group concerning the property. The discussion will continue in the Joint Meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **RC&D:** No Report
- **Info/Education:** No Report
- **Awards:** No Report
- **Legislative:** No Report.
- **Ag Complex:** No Report. Discussion moved to Joint Meeting.

Communications: None

Cooperating Agencies: No Reports

Urban Report: Included in board packet.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 9:00 AM held at the Burkittsville Ruritan.

Adjournment: J. Falkenstein motioned, seconded by A. Holter, to adjourn meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Minutes recorded by Diane Flickinger