

DIRECTORS:

ADAM WILSON, CHAIRMAN
ZAC KETRON, VICE-CHAIRMAN
GARY BREEDING, TREASURER
SCOTT JESSEE, VT COOP EXTENSION
JASON BUSH, AT-LARGE

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:

MIKE ALTIZER
BILL WORRELL
KELLY GILMER



**CLINCH VALLEY SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT**

140 HIGHLAND DRIVE, SUITE 4
LEBANON, VA 24266

PHONE: (276) 415-3526

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We work with the people who work the land.

**Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
November 12th, 2019; USDA Service Center 12:30pm**

BOARD MEMBERS

Adam Wilson, Chair
Zac Ketron, Vice Chair
Gary Breeding, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, Director
Jason Bush, Director
Mike Altizer, Associate Director
Bill Worrell, Associate Director
Kelly Gilmer, Associate Director (not present)

STAFF

Brandon Blevins, Conservation Specialist
Hunter Wyatt, Conservation Specialist
Siobhan Nishida, District Manager

AGENCY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Emerson Kirby, NRCS
Dr. Angela Ball, DCR

ATTENDANCE FROM THE PUBLIC

Melanie Carter, Virginia Tech

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Adam Wilson called the November 12th, 2019 Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

VASWCD Sponsorships Amount

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts had requested sponsorship funding for the Annual Meeting this year. Discussion. Gary Breeding made a motion to donate \$250.00 to the VASWCD this year. Zac Ketron seconded the motion and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF October 8th, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES: The *October 8th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes* were presented for review and approval. Angie Ball requested two corrections to be made including listing the Contract Numbers for the projects that were being discussed in both topics of PY2019 Cost Estimate Adjustment and PY2020 Findings/Failures. A motion was made by Jason Bush to approve *October 8th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes* pending the mentioned corrections. The motion was properly seconded by Gary Breeding and the motion carried.

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REVIEW, RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS: *The Treasurer's Report as of September 30th, 2019* was presented to the board for review. A motion was made by Zac Ketron to receive and file the *Treasurer's Report as of September 30th, 2019*. The motion was properly seconded by Gary Breeding and the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Completed Lease Agreement

Siobhan Nishida described the lease agreement that was proposed for board approval. Rent will be maintained at \$833.00/month. The SWCD has additional storage space made available and the leak in the roof has been fixed. Discussion. Gary Breeding made a motion to approve the agreement effective 11/12/2019. Zac Ketron seconded the motion and the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

VACS PY2020 Approvals

The BOD reviewed projects presented on the Ranking Sheet attachment.

Jason Bush left the room due to Conflict of Interest.

Zac Ketron makes a motion to approve the Conservation Plans from Column 4 including the following: CP-25-20-0019, CP-25-20-0023, CP-25-20-0018, CP-25-20-0021, CP-25-20-0026, CP-25-20-0020, and CP-25-20-0025. Gary Breeding seconds the motion the motion carried. Zac Ketron makes a motion to approve the following contract numbers: 25-20-0012, 25-20-0034, 25-20-0042, 25-20-0035, 25-20-0038, 25-20-0039, 25-20-0044, 25-20-0033, 25-20-0043, 25-20-0037, 25-20-0041, and 25-20-0032. Gary Breeding seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Jason Bush returned to the meeting.

SARP Grant Application

Scott Jessee left the room due to Conflict of Interest.

Melanie Carter of Virginia Tech shared information with the board about a proposed bridge removal and stream restoration project funded through NRCS on Copper Creek to improve habitat for the Hellbender. She requests support from Clinch Valley SWCD to be the Applicant for a South East Aquatic Resource Partnership Grant. These funds will help cover landowners portion of the cost share in this project. Discussion. Zac Ketron made a motion to allow Staff to apply for the grant after determining the District obligation for the Grant. Gary Breeding seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Scott Jessee returned to the meeting and Melanie Carter exited the meeting.

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Directors/Award Winners to Attend Winter Forage Conference:

Staff requested the BOD to respond if anyone was interested in attending the 2020 Winter Forage Conference in Wytheville, VA and if the District would offer to pay for the registration out of the income from the Drill Rental Program for past program participants. Discussion. Zac Ketron makes a motion that the District would offer to pay for attendance to the conference to any participant from the past two years out of the Drill Income or Operations Fund. The motion is properly seconded by Gary Breeding and the motion carried.

Sarah Crawford Stare Poster Contest Winner

Siobhan informed the BOD Sarah Crawford from Lebanon High School was the State Award Winner in the Poster Contest. Her poster will represent VA in the National Contest for the 10th-12th graders.

Schedule Executive Committee Meeting

Siobhan Nishida requests that the Board schedule an Executive Committee Meeting for December. The meeting was scheduled for December 17th at 10am.

Building Lease Agreement

Staff informs the BOD that a new building lease needs to be signed. Staff is instructed to draft a new lease including the improvements that are requested of the building owner.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

Conservation District Coordinator, Dr. Angela Ball: Angie reviewed the November 2019 CDC Report with the Board. See attachment A.

NRCS District Conservationist, Emerson Kirby:

Emerson Kirby reported to be still taking continuous signups in NRCS with no known ranking deadline.

District Manager, Siobhan Nishida:

Siobhan reviewed the October 2019 District Manager Report with the Board. See attachment B.

Conservation Specialist, Brandon Blevins:

Brandon reviewed his October 2019 Conservation Specialist Report with the Board. See attachment C.

Conservation Specialist, Hunter Wyatt:

Hunter reviewed his October 2019 Conservation Specialist Report with the Board. See attachment D.

VA Cooperative Extension, Bill Worrell:

Bill Worrell had no new news since the last BOD meeting.

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VA Cooperative Extension, Scott Jessee:


Scott shared that Corbitt Wall will be speaking on December 16th, 2019 at the Higher Education Center. Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association submitted a Tobacco Commission Grant to help with pastures damaged due to weather extremities. Funding could be applied to fertilizer, lime, and application equipment.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

3rd Thursday of Every Month: NRCS In-Service Dates
December 17 Executive Committee 10:00am and Board Meeting 12:30pm
December 8-10 2019 VASWCD Annual Meeting Sheraton Norfolk Hotel
December 16th Corbitt Wall guest speaker of Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association

ADJOURN:

Zac Ketron made a motion to adjourn at 2:30PM and the motion was properly seconded by Gary Breeding. The next Clinch Valley SWCD Board of Directors meeting was scheduled to take place on **December 17, 2019 at 12:30 PM** and be held at the Lebanon USDA Service Center.


X _____
Adam Wilson
Chairman

Prepared By:
Siobhan Nishida
CVSWCD District manager

