

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
August 13th, 2019; USDA Service Center**

BOARD MEMBERS

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

STAFF

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

AGENCY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Wess Stanley, NRCS
Dr. Angela Ball, DCR

ATTENDANCE FROM THE PUBLIC

Neal Kilgore, VA Outdoor Foundation

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Adam Wilson called the August 13th, 2019 Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

APPROVAL OF July 9th, 2019 BOARD MEETING MINUTES: The July 9th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Zac Ketron to approve July 9th, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes. The motion was properly seconded by Scott Jessee and the motion carried.

REVIEW, RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS: The Treasurer's Report as of June 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 June 30th, 2019. The motion was properly seconded by Scott Jessee and the motion carried.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Purchase of AutoCAD and Link Pass Update

Siobhan Nishida conveys to the board that staff has decided to not purchase the Auto CAD LT version and will wait NRCS to issue the Link Pass Cards.

Purchase Additional District Equipment ATV Insurance

Siobhan Nishida reports State Farm would charge per year about 10% of the value of the ATV to insure it. The agent advised a purchase of a side by side as he sees fewer accidents with that type of vehicle. The board requests staff to check into the status of the district umbrella policy.

DEQ Grant Requirements/ NT Drill Information/Review Quotes

Siobhan Nishida and Hunter Wyatt reported that the Clinch Valley's application for the DEQ Agriculture Loan Program has been accepted to be processed. Final loan approval is contingent upon a favorable credit recommendation. The previous two audit reports and the approved FY 2020 budget will be submitted as additional information to be reviewed. The authorized loan amount is \$27,000 with a principle forgiveness of \$13,500. Staff acknowledges that the District is supposed to collect three bids per the personnel policy but only two of the five dealers that were contacted to send bids responded. The board reviews the two bids. The board requests a legume box to be included with the drill. Zac Ketron makes a motion to approve spending \$27,000 with James River, but asks staff to make a lower counter offer if possible and check w DEQ loan staff before making official offer. Scott Jessee seconds the motion and the motion carries.

NEW BUSINESS:

Co- Held Easements with VA Outdoor Foundation

Neal Kilgore explains the reasons for the VA Outdoor Foundation requesting the district to release the co-holding status of easement held in Russell County and the process that needs to happen to proceed. The board requests that VA Outdoor Foundation contact the landowners instead of Clinch Valley SWCD, in this process. Zac Ketron makes a motion to release the easements as long as VA Outdoor Foundation is the entity to notify the landowner. The motion is properly seconded and the motion carried. Mr. Kilgore agrees to this option after receiving a copy of the Board of Director Meeting Minutes.

VACS PY2019 Cancellations and VACS PY 2020 Approvals

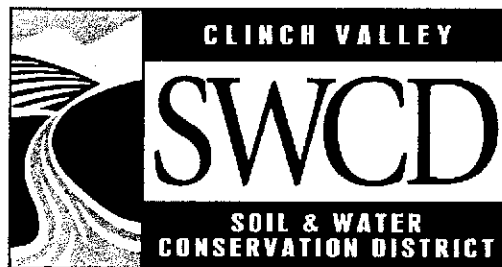
Brandon Blevins reports that the 319 Grant projects will be more advantageous to the producer if they are signed up in the 2020 Program Year. No construction has been started in either of these projects. Scott Jessee makes a motion to cancel contracts 25-19-0036 and 25-19-0037. Zac Ketron seconds the motion and the motion carried. Zac Ketron makes a motion to approve the Conservation Plans from Column 4 including the following: CP-25-20-0003, CP-25-20-0006, CP-25-20-0005, CP-25-20-0007, CP-25-20-0008, CP-25-20-0004. Scott Jessee seconds the motion the motion carried. Zac Ketron makes a motion to approve the following contract numbers: 25-20-0002, 25-20-0005, 25-20-0004, 25-20-0006,

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25-20-0007, 25-20-0008, 25-20-0001, and 25-20-0003. Scott Jessee seconds the motion and the motion carried.

Award Nominations

Staff reviews previous award winners and makes a suggestion of possible award winners. Zac Ketron makes a motion of Mr. John Lawson being the Conservation Teacher of the Year Award, the motion was properly seconded and the motion carried. Zac Ketron makes a motion to name Judy Ray and tenants as the recipients of the Farm Family Award. The motion is properly seconded and the motion carried. The board reviews options for the Clean Water Farm Award and decided to table the decision till the next board meeting. Zac Ketron makes a motion to honor directors that are stepping down. The motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Fairgrounds Diorama Project Budget

Staff requests approval of funding to improve the area in front of the livestock barn at the Russell County Fairgrounds. Zac Ketron makes a motion to spend up to \$1,000 in that area. The motion was properly seconded and the motion carried.

Adam Willson had to leave due to prior commitment.

Annual Banquet

Staff requests approval to invite guests including Stream Sweepers, Envirothon Team, and Youth Conservation Campers from Russell County. Siobhan request the board to consider paying for two Stream Sweeper positions for next summer's work and suggests this could be awarded at the Annual Awards Banquet. The board tabled the decision and will discuss at the September Board meeting.

Review Office Inventory

Siobhan reviews the office inventory list with the board. Angie suggested making the list current by removing the old no till drill, discarded router and any other items that is not currently in use. Staff agreed to make the changes necessary.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

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

NRCS District Conservationist, Wess Stanley:

Wess reports that he has EQUIP sign up until Oct 18 and a second sign up November 18 and then December 20th they will be ranked. Wess suggested that the District would wait until February to shift money to adjacent counties.

District Manager, Siobhan Nishida:

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

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Conservation Specialist, Brandon Blevins:

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

Conservation Specialist, Hunter Wyatt:

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

DATES TO REMEMBER:

3rd Thursday of Every Month: NRCS In-Service Dates
August 20-22 Graves Mountain Training
December 8-10 2019 VASWCD Annual Meeting Sheraton Norfolk Hotel

ADJOURN:

Zac Ketron made a motion to adjourn at 2:30PM and the motion was properly seconded by Scott Jessee. The next Clinch Valley SWCD Board of Directors meeting was scheduled to take place on **September 10, 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