

DIRECTORS:
ZAC KETRON, CHAIRMAN
KELLY GILMER, VICE-CHAIRMAN
JASON BUSH, TREASURER
SCOTT JESSEE, VT COOP EXTENSION
ANDY SMITH

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:
MIKE ALTIZER
GARY BREEDING
BILL WORRELL



**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
March 10th, 2020; USDA Service Center 12:30pm**

BOARD MEMBERS

Zac Ketron, Chair
Kelly Gilmer, Vice Chair
Jason Bush, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, VT Coop Ext
Andy Smith, Director
Bill Worrell, Associate Director
Gary Breeding, Associate Director
Mike Altizer, Director Emeritus

STAFF

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

AGENCY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Wess Stanley, NRCS
Jim Echols, DCR
Dr. Angela Ball, DCR

ATTENDANCE FROM THE PUBLIC

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Zac Ketron called the March 10th, 2020 Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Request for \$1,000 Donation for Forage Harvester Implement:

Scott Jesse updated the Board about the research that is ongoing using the Forage Harvester purchased last year through various donations from area SWCDs and other funds raised by the Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association. He asked the Board to consider a \$1,000 donation towards purchase of an additional implement, a Sample Processor, for the Wintersteiger Harvester. Discussion. Scott Jesse left the meeting due to conflict of interest. Jason Bush made a motion to approve a \$1,000 donation to the Abingdon Feeder Cattle Association towards the purchase of the Sample Processor. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

APPROVAL OF February 11th, 2020 BOARD MEETING MINUTES: The February 11th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes were presented for review and approval. A correction was made replacing the word "Executive" with "AdHoc" under the Unanimous Consent of the January 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Andy Smith to approve February 11th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF February 11th & 14th, 2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: The February 11th and 14th, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes were presented for review and approval. The Executive Committee Minutes from February 11th and 14th, 2020 were approved through unanimous consent.

REVIEW, RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS: The Treasurer's Report as of January 31st, 2020 was presented to the board for review. A motion was made by Scott Jesse to receive and file the Treasurer's Report as of January 31st, 2020. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Clarification on Direct Deposit 1417 on 12/31/19: Siobhan Nishida reported that it was an end of the year insurance issue and Sarah Adams confirmed with her that no money was paid out, but this item was just a Quick Book required notation.

90+ Day Old Checks to RS&J: Siobhan Nishida reported that she contacted Jay Boyd to remind him that checks could not be held longer than 90 days. She reported the checks have been all cashed.

NEW BUSINESS:

VACS 2020 Cancellation:

Brandon Blevins reported that per landowner request, Margaret Deel would like to cancel their SL-6 project. Discussion. Jason Bush made a motion to cancel CN 25-20-0044. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

VACS Verification Check – Report on Lawson Project:

Brandon Blevins reported that he will be checking the Lawson project on Monday March 16th and that the water system needs to be functioning at that time or a fine will be requested. Angela Ball clarified that the fine would need to be calculated from the first day that the project was found out of compliance.

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Review County Board of Supervisors Request:

Siobhan Nishida presented the draft request for directors to review. Formatting edits were discussed to make the document overall easier to read. Siobhan stated the request will be sent to Lonzo Lester for consideration.

4 Year Long Range Plan Questionnaires:

Staff reported that the questionnaire was created to be easily reviewed and pertinent information could be collected at events to help shape the next 4 Year Long Range Plan. Staff reported that they plan to target some of the county employees such as teachers and board of supervisors to be able to include their responses.

Board Support for Brandon Blevins Returning to Youth Conservation Camp:

Brandon Blevins received Board support for serving as a counselor for Youth Conservation Camp in the summer of 2020.

Donation to VCE Russell County for Tree Give Away:

Siobhan Nishida updated the Board that the trees will be provided through VCE Russell County this year. Clinch Valley SWCD planned to make a donation in the amount of \$500.00 for assistance and the delivery of the trees.

Spring Education Outreach Programs:

Siobhan Nishida updated the Board on events planned for the spring including the following: Tree Give Away, Tire Pick Up, House Hold Hazardous Waste Day, Kids in the Creek, Environmental Education Symposium and Clinch River Clean Up.

Scholarship Recipient:

Siobhan Nishida reported to the board that 6 students applied for the scholarship this year. The Education Committee reviewed the applications and put forth their opinion that two applicants should be considered for the scholarship. The Board reviewed these two candidates. Discussion. Kelly Gilmer made a motion that Shilo Lyttle's application should be forwarded to the state level scholarship Competition but both students Shilo Lyttle and Annaica Harris would receive the local \$1,000 scholarship. The motion was seconded and the motion carried.

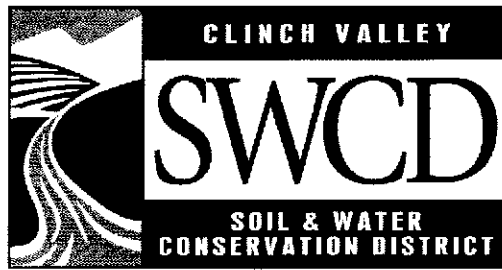
REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

DCR Jim Echols: Jim updated the Board the proposed statewide budget reporting that it will be finalized in the coming months. Jim encouraged staff and board to review TAC meeting minutes. He reported that work is underway to finalize the 2021 cost share manual.

DCR Conservation District Coordinator, Dr. Angela Ball: Angie reviewed the March 2020 CDC Report with the Board. See attachment A.

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NRCS District Conservationist, Wess Stanley:

Wess Stanley requested clarification on the possibility of a project that may transfer ownership and the new applicant applying for VACS. He reported no construction had started. Staff and Angela Ball responded that they need to check the VACS manual to be sure and plan to follow up with this answer.

District Manager, Siobhan Nishida:

Siobhan reviewed the February 2020 District Manager Report with the Board. See attachment B.

Conservation Specialist, Brandon Blevins:

Brandon reviewed his February 2020 Conservation Specialist Report with the Board. See attachment C.

Conservation Specialist, Hunter Wyatt:

Hunter reviewed his February 2020 Conservation Specialist Report with the Board. See attachment D.

VA Cooperative Extension, Bill Worrell:

Bill Worrell shared that he planned to help with Envirothon and the Tree Give Away.

VA Cooperative Extension, Scott Jessee:

Scott Jessee shared information about the forage harvester and the upcoming informational meeting on April 6th about the invasive Asian long horned tick.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

3rd Thursday of Every Month: NRCS In-Service Dates
Area IV Spring Meeting, March 31, 2020 Marion VA

ADJOURN:

Scott Jessee made a motion to adjourn at 2:30PM. The motion was seconded and the motion carried. The next Clinch Valley SWCD Board of Directors meeting was scheduled to take place on **April 14, 2020 at 12:30 PM** and be held at the Lebanon USDA Service Center.



Director