

DIRECTORS:

Zac Ketron, Chairman
Kelly Gilmer, Vice-Chairman
Jason Bush, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, VT Coop Extension
Andy Smith

DIRECTOR EMERITUS:

Mike Altizer

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS:

Gary Breeding
Bill Worrell



**Clinch Valley Soil and Water
Conservation District**

131 Highland Drive, Suite B Lebanon, VA
24266

Phone: (276) 883-5987

www.cvsxcd.org

We work with the people who work the land.

**Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District
Board Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2023; CVSWCD Lebanon Office 12:30pm**

BOARD MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Brandon Blevins, Conservation Specialist
Hannah Rexrode, Education Specialist
Siobhan Nishida, District Manager

AGENCY PERSONNEL

Mandy Fletcher, DCR (remote call in)
James Wise, NRCS
Bill Miller, VA Department of Forestry
Anna Robinson, intern, VA Department of Forestry

ATTENDANCE FROM THE PUBLIC

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Kelly Gilmer, as deputy chair, called the February 9, 2023, Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:40 pm.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 12 MEETING MINUTES

The *January 12, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes* were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Jason Bush to approve *January 12, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes* as presented. The motion was seconded by Andy Smith, and the motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 6 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The *February 6, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes* were presented for review and approval. A motion was made by Jason Bush to approve *February 6, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes* as presented. The motion was seconded by Andy Smith, and the motion carried.

Zac Ketron arrived and resumed Chair position.

REVIEW, RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS: *The Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2022*, was presented to the board for review. A motion was made by Kelly Gilmer to receive and file the *as of December 31, 2022, Treasurer's report*. The motion was seconded by Andy Smith and the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Executive Committee Report and Recommendations

The Executive Committee made the recommendation to the board to offer the Conservation Specialist position to Jeff Mutter. Kelly Gilmer made a motion to accept the Executive Committee's decision. Andy Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The Executive Committee made the recommendation to provide the Conservation Specialists with a cellphone stipend of \$58.00 per month starting in March 2023. Kelly Gilmer made a motion to accept the Executive Committee's decision. Andy Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Siobhan Nishida informed the board of the progress with the purchase of a lime spreader. Jason Bush made a motion to give Siobhan allowance to order a lime spreader after hearing back from DEQ. Andy Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Lime Application Approval

Brandon Blevins presented one new complete Lime Program applications that had been submitted for PY23. Scott Jessee made a motion to approve all four for cost share on 33% of their lime cost up to \$500. Kelly Gilmer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Donation to Support Camp Woods & Wildlife, \$300 Donation

Siobhan Nishida discussed past donations to Camp Woods & Wildlife with the Board. Jason Bush made a motion to make a donation of \$300 to Camp Woods & Wildlife. Andy Smith seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Brandon's ESC Certification Renewal, \$130 Fee

Brandon Blevins informed the board of the upcoming expiration of his ESC Certification. Scott Jessee made a motion to pay for the renewal of Brandon's ESC Certification. Kelly Gilmer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

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***Note:** Scott Jessee left the meeting

Review of Quotes and Approval of SARP Grant Purchases

Siobhan Nishida reviewed the bids that had been made for the SARP project concerning live-stakes, rock, and other necessary materials. Kelly Gilmer made a motion that Siobhan be able to make the decisions concerning the bids. Jason Bush seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

***Note:** Scott Jessee returned to the meeting

Letter of Request for Funds to Russell County Board of Supervisors

Siobhan Nishida discussed sending a Letter of Request of Funds to the Russell County Board of Supervisors with the Board. Andy Smith made a motion to approve the letter. Jason Bush seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

PY23 Verifications Update

Brandon Blevins informed the Board that the PY23 Verifications were completed, and the necessary improvements had been made.

Required Agriculture Community Outreach Event

Hannah Rexrode informed the Board of the spring outreach event targeting underserved farmers in the area.

Area IV Meeting December Minutes and Spring Meeting Registration

Siobhan Nishida reviewed the minutes from the Area IV December Meeting and discussed the upcoming Spring Meeting in March, as well as took count of how many Directors plan on attending.

2nd Quarter Attachment E Review

Siobhan Nishida reviewed Attachment E with the Board and staff

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

DCR, Mandy Fletcher: Mandy Fletcher called in and reviewed the February 2023 DCR- DSWC CDC report from her home office. See attachment A.

NRCS District Conservationist, James Wise: James Wise reviewed the February 2023 USDA Lebanon Service Center Report. See attachment B.

Clinch Valley Staff, Siobhan Nishida, Brandon Blevins, and Hannah Rexrode: The Clinch Valley SWCD staff reviewed the February 2023 CVSWCD Staff Report with the Board. See attachment C.

Virginia Coop Extension Service: Scott Jessee updated the staff and BOD on VA Coop Extension events, programs, and research farm data.

VA Department of Forestry, Bill Miller: Bill Miller reviewed the internal staffing changes within the Department of Forestry and reviewed burning laws and regulations.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Next Board Meeting 12:30- March 9, 2023

Envirothon Training Day- March 17, 2023

Area IV Spring Meeting- March 21, 2023

Envirothon Competition- April 21, 2023

ADJOURN:

Zac Ketron declared the meeting adjourned at 2:09 PM due to no further business. Next Board of Directors meeting was scheduled to take place on March 9, 2023, and be held at the CVSWCD Office.


Director