

DIRECTORS:

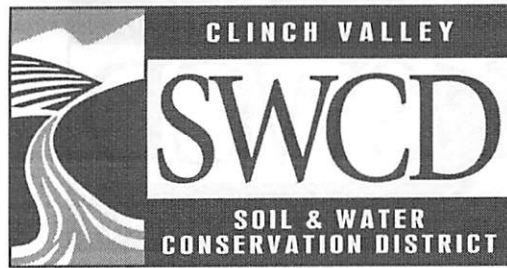
Zac Ketron, Chairman
Kelly Gilmer, Vice-Chairman
Jason Bush, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, VT Coop Extension
Andy Smith

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 8, 2024; 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
Gary Breeding, Associate Director
Mike Altizer, Emeritus Director

STAFF

Brandon Blevins, Conservation Specialist
Jeff Mutter, Conservation Specialist
Siobhan Nishida, District Manager

AGENCY PERSONNEL

Lorie Stevens, DCR
Emerson Kirby, NRCS

ATTENDANCE FROM THE PUBLIC:

Donna Kirby and Angela McDaniel visited the Tazwell Soil and Water Conservation District.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Zac Ketron called the February 8, 2024, Clinch Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Board of Directors meeting to order at 12:40 pm. Directors, staff, and visitors went around the room taking turns with introductions to welcome guests.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11th MEETING MINUTES

The *January 11, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes* were presented for review and approval. Jason Bush made a motion to approve *January 11, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes* as presented. Kelly Gilmer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

REVIEW, RECEIVE AND FILE THE TREASURER'S REPORTS

The *Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2023*, was presented to the board for review. A motion was made by Jason Bush to receive and file the *as of November 30, 2023, Treasurer's report*. The motion was seconded by Scott Jessee and the motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

DIRECTORS:

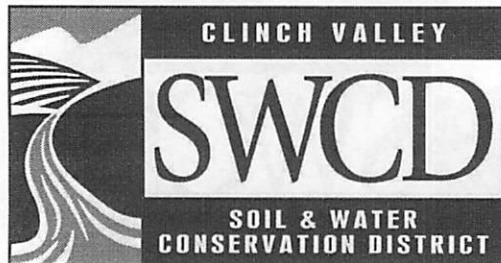
Zac Ketron, Chairman
Kelly Gilmer, Vice-Chairman
Jason Bush, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, VT Coop Extension
Andy Smith

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.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval VACS Projects: Brandon Blevins presented the Feb 2024 VACS CEF Ranking Sheet. Discussion included that funding currently available would not start to pay for the two highest ranking projects but will cover the third highest ranking project's cost share. Andy Smith made a motion to approve contract # 25-24-0020 in the amount of \$4,930. Kelly Gilmer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Small Farm Ag Community Outreach Event: Siobhan Nishida asked for approval of funding to be spent on lunch for the Small Farm Ag Community Outreach Event. Discussion included advertising for the event and asking for an RSVP for people interested in staying for a provided lunch. Funding will come out of the Education Adult Outreach Programs Budget. Kelly Gilmer made a motion to spend up to \$500 on the lunch for the Program. Jason Bush seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Proposed Landfill Discussion: The BOD and Staff discussed the role of the CVSWCD with reference to the proposed landfill in Russell County. Following the Mission Statement staff were directed to help bring facts to the public about practices that improve soil health and water quality. Personal opinions of neither the BODs nor Staff will not be represented as stances on this topic.

Letter of Request for Funds to RC Board of Supervisors: The BOD agreed to request the same amount of funding from Russell County as last year, for support in program development for Education and Outreach for youth and Adults in the community.

Household Hazardous Waste Day Tire Drop Off: Discussion included the date of April 18th and dedication of staff time for the community outreach event. Kelly Gilmer made a motion to put \$1,000 towards the disposal fees of old tires. Scott Jessee seconded the motion and the motion carried.

RC Cattlemen's Meeting Four Year Long Rang Plan Survey/ Raffle Prize: The staff reviewed Four-Year Long-Range Plan Survey that they planned to present at the RC Cattlemen's Association meeting. There was a discussion of potential raffle prizes. Jason made a motion to do a free lime rental day for a prize to be given away. Kelly Gilmer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Area IV December Minutes and Spring Meeting Registration: BOD reviewed the Area IV December Minutes and shared availability for the Area IV Spring Meeting.

Support of MWEE Grant Statewide Availability: Discussion included an environmental education grant for Meaningful Watershed Educational Experience that is only available to schools inside the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The Board supported staff wanting to raise awareness of this limitation at the Area Meeting and asking for it to be made available through out the state.

Education Specialist Position PT/ FT & Salary: Discussion included the need for an Education Specialist, potential programs, funding for the position and the advertised salary range. Zac Ketron asked for the Education Committee to meet and report to the BOD at the March Meeting with suggestions of parameters.

Swag Ideas: Staff asked for the best swag ideas and products mentioned to include District Logo: Cattle Flags, Cow Sticks, Koozies, and Lanyards.

DIRECTORS:

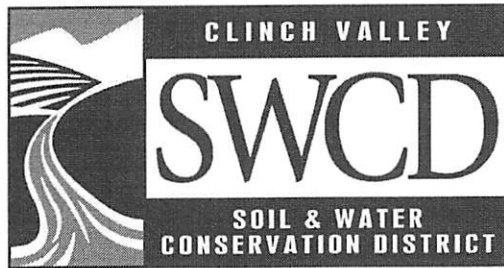
Zac Ketron, Chairman
Kelly Gilmer, Vice-Chairman
Jason Bush, Treasurer
Scott Jessee, VT Coop Extension
Andy Smith

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.

Request for a \$300 for Camp Woods and Wildlife: Kelly Gilmer made a motion to make a donation to Camp Woods and Wildlife in the amount of \$300. Jason Bush seconded the motion and the motion carried.

REPORTS FROM COOPERATING AGENCIES:

DCR, Lorie Stevens: Lorie Stevens reviewed the February 2024 DCR- DSWC CDC. See attachment A.

NRCS, Emerson Kirby: Emerson Kirby reviewed the February 2024 USDA Lebanon Service Center Report. See attachment B.

Virginia Coop Extension Service: Scott Jessee updated the staff and BOD on VA Coop Extension events, programs including the Russell County Cattlemen's Meeting to be held on February 29. He invited staff to set up a table to share information. Bill Worrell updated the group on upcoming educational opportunities.

Clinch Valley Staff, Siobhan Nishida, Brandon Blevins, and Jeff Mutter: The Clinch Valley SWCD staff reviewed the February 2024 CVSWCD Staff Report with the Board. See attachment C.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Next Board Meeting 12:30 March 14, 2024

ADJOURN:

Zac Ketron declared the meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM due to no further business. Next Board of Directors meeting was scheduled to take place on March 14, 2024, and be held at the CVSWCD Office.



Director