

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

April 20, 2022

Present: Kelsey Cummins, Joe Ramsey, Frank Phelps, Tim Lyden, and Gloria Carson – Supervisors
Steve Searson – District Administrator/Technician
Jennifer Snipes – Administrative Assistant
Jocelyn Henderson – Ohio Department of Agriculture, Area IV Program Specialist
Leisha Billenstein – NRCS District Conservationist

Frank Phelps called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

On a motion by Kelsey Cummins, seconded by Joe Ramsey, and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the regular March 2022 meeting and the special March 30, 2022 meeting.

REPORTS:

NRCS Updates

The following NRCS updates were given:

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program):

- Following up with behind schedule contracts.
- Currently have 11 applications that met the eligibility deadline.
 - Ranking deadline is the 22nd
 - Pre-Approval list will be released by the 29th
- Working to follow-up with behind schedule applications.

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Received 5 re-enroll applications
- Currently have 3 applications on file
 - Ranking deadline is the 22
- Second round of applications was announced

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- WRE application deadline is February 18.
- Farmland preservation deadline is January 14.
- Area office is completing site monitoring this year

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 17 HEL Determinations (total for the 2022).
- 17 Wetland Determinations (total for the 2022).
- Waiting on one determination to be signed so it can be mailed. We have 10 pending in the office.
- There are approximately 7 determinations/reconsiderations pending in the area office including reconsiderations.

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- Maps for 2023 re-enrolls have been sent over from FSA.
- MCM job sheets have been mailed for all practices.
- Starting to get applications for new contracts. Have received approximately 11 different applications for waterways.
- Getting lots of applications for re-enroll and new contracts to complete by August.

Schedule Update:

- Face masks are no longer required to be worn in the field office by visitors or staff.

ODA Updates

Jocelyn attended the meeting and her updates were provided in the monthly packet. She highlighted the upcoming items that are due as well as talked about events that we might be interested in. She updated us on MNM issues in the county and other discussion was had about policy, Beehive, state match, internal reviews, and audits.

MNM & Technical Updates

There were no pollution complaints this month; however, there is still follow-up going on with one previous known issue. It is now being addressed by the state and we will no longer track. Currently many waterways are being visited, surveyed, designed, and constructed. We also had a couple tile map requests and an erosion I&E. With the wet spring we also receive the usual requests for drainage visits.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Joe Ramsey and seconded by Kelsey Cummins the financial reports for the month ending March 31, 2022 were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Gloria Carson and unanimously passed the following items were approved for payment...

Pheasants Forever Seed \$1425.60

Alpha Nurseries \$1610.03

Spence Restoration Nursery, Inc. \$18062.40

TL Graphics \$188.00

FNB of Omaha @ \$822.30

FNB of Omaha – Fuel

Misc. needed for Area IV Envirothon (will be reimbursed by Area IV Envirothon)

On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Gloria Carson and unanimously passed the board voted to purchase a new industrial laminator large enough to laminate maps that are printed from our plotter.

The board discussed the notification from the payroll department the vacation payout for accrued time to Trace Smail was denied. An inquiry was forwarded to the prosecutor to confirm we are not liable for this payout. If we are liable and payroll does not pay it, a motion was made by Tim Lyden, seconded by Kelsey Cummins and unanimously passed to pay out of district funds.

Jennifer Snipes let the board know that the yearly county funds were deposited and provided a copy of the Form 11 for review. Joe Ramsey signed the Form 11 for submission.

Jennifer Snipes is still working to get our sales tax paid. We have collected it and signed up to pay it through Ohio Gateway but are still running into road blocks on actually being able to submit payment.

We were contacted by Micah Harris at Charles E. Harris & Associates to set-up our AUP Audit for this year to cover 2020/2021 fiscal years. The audit will take place on May 17th/18th at the office.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Girl Scout Camp event and Vehicle Purchase were discussed. The Girl Scout Camp event was not attended as they did not reach out with the needed details of the event prior to the day before the scheduled event. We have not yet found a vehicle that meets our wants.

NEW BUSINESS:

An Envirothon update was given. It will be next Tuesday, April 26th at Myceerah Nature Preserve.

New Hire Update – we have received 1 resume so far.

Plugs will be delivered on Thursday, May 12th. We had a total of 321 flats ordered.

Jennifer Snipes will be attending the 3rd/4th grade Ag Day @ ILES put on by Farm Bureau on May 13th.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Kelsey Cummins at 9:34 AM to adjourn. Gloria Carson seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried by the board and meeting adjourned.

Frank Phelps, Chairman

Tim Lyden, Secretary

Jennifer Snipes, Recording Secretary

cc: Logan SWCD Supervisors, Jocelyn Henderson, Logan County Commissioners

Next Regular Meeting Date: May 18, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

UNOFFICIAL