

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

April 21, 2021

Present: Tim Lyden, Joe Ramsey, Frank Phelps, and Gloria Carson – Supervisors
Steve Searson – District Administrator/Technician
Jennifer Snipes – Administrative Assistant

Frank Phelps called the meeting to order at 8:29 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

On a motion by Joe Ramsey, seconded by Gloria Carson, and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the regular March 2021 meeting and the March 24, 2021 special meeting.

REPORTS:

NRCS Updates

The following NRCS updates were given:

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program):

- Working to complete engineering designs and complete field visits for new EQIP applications.
 - Working on red-line plans for pasture practices
 - Working on completing I&E's

- Currently 2 applications are tentatively pre-approved

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Currently 2 applications of file for this year
- Re-Enroll applications have a deadline of March 31
 - 8 contracts are eligible for re-enroll

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- 10 sites have been selected for easement monitoring this month

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 13 HEL Determinations (total for the 2021).
- 13 Wetland Determinations (total for the 2021).
- 1 determination is pending in the field office
- Approximately 8 determinations/reconsiderations pending in the area office

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- Field checks are required this year for the 2021 and 2022 re-enrolls.
 - Maps have been provided by FSA and will start completing field checks
- PF Biologist position has been advertised

Schedule Update:

- Current operation status is to maximize telework and field work is to continue as needed. Visitors are allowed one at a time with a scheduled appointment
- Civil Rights Review-
 - Reviewed MOU, 1619 agreement – no changes from previous years
 - Current work schedule: Kolan 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Leisha 7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
 - Please review provided copies of the Civil Rights statements

ODA Updates

Jocelyn Henderson's notes were previously emailed. ODA is currently teleworking due to COVID-19.

MNM & Technical Updates

Steve reported that there were no manure complaints. Steve has been working on quite a few CRP Waterway Survey and Designs as well as Waterway farm visits. He has had numerous inventory and evaluation visits for ponds, house lots, and waterways. He completed an EQIP Construction Check and did a Drainage Design for the Health Department. A couple of ditch information requests were completed as well as an informational request on manure guidelines.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Gloria Carson the financial reports for the month ending March 31, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Jennifer discussed the Form 11 with the board and provided it for signature by Joe Ramsey and Steve Searson. She also let the board know that the county funds were received and deposited so that this could be completed.

On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Joe Ramsey, and unanimously carried, the board voted to order increase the allowable cost of the new computer for additional handling capabilities needed for some of our technical programing. The approximate increase will be \$525.

On a motion by Gloria Carson, seconded by Joe Ramsey and voted on by Gloria Carson – aye, Frank Phelps – aye, Joe Ramsey – aye, Tim Lyden – abstain, the board agreed to submit a grant proposal to Logan Solid Waste District for a Carbon Sequestration Cover Crop Grant to explore the affects of cover crops on carbon sequestration in Logan County. We have proposed that Logan SWCD would provide the technical and administrative aspects as well as do the soil testing for up to 500 acres with 3-4 farms as the test areas for this program.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jennifer Snipes gave updates on the tree sale and MCM plug sale. All trees were packaged at Kinney’s and have been dispersed with the extras being donated to Indian Lake State Park. The plugs will arrive May 6, 2021.

Jennifer will email the nominating committee to secure a meeting in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board reviewed the submitted pictures for the cover of the plat book and chose a winning photograph that was sent in by Dennis Schaub that they felt represented the agricultural and natural resources of Logan County. Jennifer will send him a release form. A write up of what we would like included in the plat book was also provided to the board and they had no changes.

An update on the progress of the sales tax levy was given.

On a motion by Gloria Carson, seconded by Tim Lyden and unanimously carried, the board voted to change the Logan SWCD hours of operation to 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday as well as set the hours for the new technician Trace Smail to be 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday with a half hour unpaid lunch break. Jennifer Snipes hours will also change to this, with the exception of her day off due to decreased workload/hours due to COVID.

We received two requests for assistance on educational days. We will help with the 3rd/4th grade Ag Day at Indian Lake on May 7th. We will also be setting up a session on Friday, May 21st at Mac o Chee Castle for a Friends and Family Day there. Jennifer will be doing this and talking about Monarch Butterflies and Pollinators.

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Tim Lyden at 9:17 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, Theresa
Howick **Next Regular Meeting Date: May 19, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.**

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