

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

March 17, 2021

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

Frank Phelps called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Eric Johnson, and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the regular February 2021 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.
- Most of the backlog engineering designs have been completed
- Ranking deadline is April 6
 - Currently there are 10 eligible applications

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Still accepting applications. Application cutoff is March 31.
- Re-Enroll applications have a deadline of March 31
 - 8 contracts are eligible for re-enroll

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- The application deadline for easement programs was March 12, 2021.

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 10 HEL Determinations (total for the 2021).
- 10 Wetland Determinations (total for the 2021).
- 3 determinations are 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
- FSA is currently accepting applications for whole field sign-ups

Schedule Update:

- Current operation status is to maximize telework and the USDA offices are closed to outside visitors. Field work is to continue as needed.

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 surface drainage, waterway, EQIP, and wetland designs. He also had many site visits including a house lot, drainage lot, and mobile home park for drainage issues

or new build advice. He also did some maps for wetlands and ditch petition projects. There were a few meetings throughout the month including an Area Administrator meeting, ditch petition meetings, and levy committee meetings.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Joe Ramsey, seconded by Tim Lyden the financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Jennifer informed the board that she has requested the county funds be issued to meet our state match deadline of April 30. She is waiting to hear back from the county.

On a motion by Gloria Carson, seconded by Tim Lyden, and unanimously carried, the board voted to order another computer exactly the same as the one we just received so that we have two computers in the office with capabilities for the current technician and the anticipated hire of a new technician.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jennifer Snipes gave updates on the tree sale and MCM plug sale. Both have ended. We sold out of trees and need to pay our balance and we had a total order of 211 flats of MCM plugs. Invoices are currently being done to be mailed.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board reviewed the resumes that were received for the Technician/Nutrient Management position that was advertised. The board asked Jennifer to contact Solid Waste about using their conference room for interviews as our building is still currently closed to the public. They would like to do the interviews in the afternoon on either 03/24 or 03/25. Jennifer will set up and post a notice about a special meeting to conduct the interviews. The board was advised of questions that can be asked during an interview.

Steve gave an update on the progress of the sales tax levy.

Mapping Solutions have contacted Logan SWCD about taking over the sponsorship of the Plat Books that was previously done by the Chamber of Commerce. Jennifer provided the board with the break down of costs in ordering certain quantities. On a motion by Joe Ramsey, seconded by Gloria Carson, and unanimously carried the board approved sponsoring the Plat Books for 2021 with an order of 50.

We have been contacted about collaborating with the LUC and Chamber on a brochure for new home builds. This is in the planning stages, but a rough draft was presented to us and shared with the board members.

We received an information request from a company with requests we couldn't help with. Jennifer emailed them back with suggested agencies that may have the information they desire.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Eric Johnson at 9:35 AM to adjourn. Tim Lyden 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: April 21, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.