

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

July 15, 2020

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

Tim Lyden called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

On a motion by Eric Johnson, seconded by Gloria Carson, and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the regular June 2020 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS:

NRCS Updates

The following NRCS updates were given:

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program):

- Focus has been on completing ranking and contracting new applications
 - 14 of the 17 EQIP applications have been selected for funding
 - Obligation deadline is July 31

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Currently 4 application on file
 - 3 applications have been pre-approved
 - Obligation deadline is July 28

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- 10 easements have been selected to have monitoring completed this year

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 24 HEL Determinations (total for the year).
- 24 Wetland Determinations (total for the year).
- There are 5 reconsideration determinations pending.
- Approximately 12 determinations pending in the office

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- Mid-Contract Management paperwork has been sent over and approximately 20 field visits are needed
- We have 66 re-enroll applications that will need to have plans completed.
- 4 general CRP and 2 grassland CRP contracts need to be completed
- Continuous – CRP applications for waterways, filter strips, and quail buffers also need to be completed
 - Steve has been working on waterway designs. Mark has started the re-enroll wildlife contracts

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. He has been finishing completed waterways and surveying for new ones.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Frank Phelps, seconded by Gloria Carson the financial reports for the month ending June 30, 2020 were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer reported that the in-person audit was held on Thursday, June 9th and numerous items were requested and provided. The auditors will complete their findings and contact us with any further questions.

Customer appreciation day was discussed for Wednesday, September 30th. The logistics will need figured out, but Jennifer would like to invite our partners so that the public can meet the many members of our team who can be accessed through the soil and water offices. The announcement has been made to the public for nominations being open until July 31, 2020 at noon and the newsletter with candidate bios will be mailed out shortly after that.

Tim Lyden gave an update on the Cover Crop meeting that will be held Tuesday, July 28th at the park in Zanesfield at 6 p.m.

We received a request from ILWP to support them in their pursuit of a 9 Element Plan Grant. On a motion from Joe Ramsey and seconded by Gloria Carson we will support their efforts to receive this grant. Jennifer will write a letter of support. A roll call vote was done as Frank Phelps abstained. Eric Johnson – aye, Joe Ramsey – aye, Gloria Carson – aye, Tim Lyden – aye. Motion passed.

We also received a request from Logan County Land Trust to partner with them for a presentation by Brian Brandt on the Upper Scioto Watershed Project. The board asked for more clarification on what support was wanted and expected from Logan SWCD. Jennifer will ask for further details.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Frank Phelps at 9:31 AM to adjourn. Eric Johnson seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried by the board and meeting adjourned.

Tim Lyden, Chairman

Frank Phelps, Secretary

Jennifer Snipes, Recording Secretary

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

Next Regular Meeting Date: August 19, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.