

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

August 19, 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 8:36 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 July 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
 - 12 of the 13 EQIP applications have been obligated
 - Obligation deadline was August 14
 - Total Funding: \$120,497
 - Total Acres: 616.3
- Continuing to make payments as practices are finished

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Currently 4 application on file
 - Total Funding: \$92,434.00
 - Total Acres 1,135

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- 6 WRP easements have been had monitoring
- 4 Farmland Preservation sites still need to have monitoring completed
- Steve has graciously agreed to assist with the monitoring on the 850-acre WRE site

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 15 determinations pending in the office

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- Mid-Contract Management paperwork has been sent over and approximately 20 field visits are needed
- Focus has been on completing CRP contracts and mailing to participant for signatures
 - Total Plans Completed: 50
 - Total Still Needed: 25

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.

- New Soil Conservationist, Kolan Livingston started 08/03/2020
 - He is assigned to cover Logan County full-time
 - He is a graduate from Kentucky State University
 - If you would like to arrange a time to meet him just let Leisha know
 - Tim Lyden has agreed to be his mentor and will be spending extra time with Kolan at the Lyden Farm

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 did let the board know he was contacted about adding additional information to manure complaints for the last several years in Beehive and this has been completed. He has been working on construction checking waterways and doing site visits for new homes and ponds. Steve also gave a report on the Upper Mill Creek grant project we are partnering on. He provided maps to the board with what conservation practices they are hoping to implement to improve the water quality in the surrounding areas of the target locations.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Frank Phelps, seconded by Eric Johnson the financial reports for the month ending July 31, 2020 were unanimously approved.

Jennifer let the board know that we have received our contribution agreement and the information for state match FY 2021. She also informed the board that the laminator has quit working and that she has priced a new one at approximately \$1400. Additionally, we may need printer heads and ink in the future for the plotter with a cost of approximately \$350 for printer heads and \$900 for 6 ink cartridges. On a motion by Frank Phelps and seconded by Joe Ramsey the board approved to buy a new laminator and to purchase plotter supplies if needed out of district funds. Motion was unanimously carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Jennifer reported that the findings of our audit were received. She gave the board an update on the one recommendation provided by the auditors and how that recommendation would be accomplished in the future. She also let the board know that we have received the bill for 80% of the services for the FY 2018-2019 audit and it will be paid this week.

Customer appreciation day was discussed for Wednesday, September 30th. The logistics are being worked out currently. We have received a request from Farm Bureau to set up with us. Our federal partners (ODNR and Division of Wildlife) are still not able to attend public events so they will not be able to participate.

Tim Lyden gave an update on the Cover Crop meeting that was held Tuesday, July 28th at the park in Zanesfield at 6 p.m. He was pleased with the turnout from Logan County residents and said he hopes to have a few participants trying cover crops yet this fall.

Jennifer gave updates on the letters provided to requests for collaboration on grants received from ILWP and Logan County Land Trust.

Jennifer reminded the board that we have an allowable allotment in our budget for branded apparel per year. She will be ordering from Lands End and provided them some options that they made choices from. Joe Ramsey made a motion to buy an item each per employee and board members within the allotment. Eric Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Frank Phelps at 10:10 AM to adjourn. Gloria Carson 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: September 16, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

UNOFFICIAL