

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

October 16, 2019

Present: Tim Lyden, Frank Phelps, Joe Ramsey, and David Knight – Supervisors
Steve Searson – District Administrator/District Technician
Jennifer Snipes – Administrative Assistant
Leisha Billenstein – NRCS District Conservationist
Jocelyn Henderson – Area IV Program Specialist, ODA

Tim Lyden called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

Frank Phelps made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 2019 regular meeting as well as the September 2019 minutes of the annual meeting. David Knight seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

NRCS Updates

The following NRCS updates were given:

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program):

- Construction of planned practices in the works
 - Waste storage facility is currently under construction, pasture practices are being installed
- Sign up cut off for 2020 program year has not yet been announced
 - Will start working on planning for current applications
- Ohio Disaster Recovery
 - Working on completing field checks so payments can be processed

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Working on field checks of completed practices before payments

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 38 HEL Determinations (total for the year).
- 38 Wetland Determinations (total for the year).
- There are 4 reconsideration determinations pending. All determinations with the area office are complete.
- Approximately 15 determinations pending in the office

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- All conservation plans and designs for FY 19 were completed by the deadline
- Steve is finishing up red-lines on designs and certifying waterways for payment
- Mark has been completing field visits as requested by landowners

Schedule Update:

- LaRae is still acting DC for Madison & Clark counties, her work station is now assigned to Union Co. but she will continue to assist with Logan Co. workload.

ODA Updates

Jocelyn's notes had been previously emailed. Jocelyn gave updates on upcoming trainings and events. Also discussed was preparing for the upcoming programs by getting organized and strategic planning for manpower.

MNM & Technical Updates

Steve Searson reported that he had no manure complaints. He has been working mostly on waterways and is finishing up the 15,000-16,000 ft. of waterways that were completed this year. As there was a short window for sign-ups with a late start this was more than we expected to get done.

REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed as emailed. Jennifer provided hard copies of August and September financial statements since we didn't have a quorum to approve in September.

Joe Ramsey made a motion to approve the financial statements for months ending August and September. David Knight seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Jennifer gave an update on old business for the following...

- A recap of the annual meeting was done
- Jennifer explained that we have not heard any news on the budget or estimated revenue submitted. A public meeting is to be held on December 5th if anyone would like to attend.
- An update was given on where we are on the audit process as it is being contracted out and what all has been asked of our entity to make this happen.
- Jennifer informed the board of what she learned at her 1st ADP training session for this year that was held on 10/09/19. As the payment and registration was due prior to a formal meeting Jennifer had gotten an ok to attend and pay for it from Eric, Tim, and Joe; however, a formal vote was done. Frank Phelps made a motion to approve the cost and attendance to yearly ADP trainings for Jennifer. David Knight seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.
- The DIY Tour/School Day was discussed and there is a meeting with the committee on Monday, October 21st to discuss the future of the tour.
- Soils Judging was deemed a success, the board wanted to make sure we had thanked Knief Farms. Jennifer informed them she mailed a thank you card.
- Jennifer informed the board that the records commission meeting was held on 09/24/19; however, she is not submitting anything for disposal until after the 1st full audit under her employment is done in 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Jennifer discussed the new payroll program from the county auditor and that at this time we are at the mercy of the county to continue to print our payroll information as we are not connected to the county system. In time, we are supposed to have access remotely to print our own paystubs, payroll summary, etc.
- Due to questions coming up with ILWP, the Memorandum of Understanding was reviewed and determined to be out of date. Jennifer updated needed information and provided the board with an updated draft. The board gave their input on some of the required information for Jennifer to update. She is then to provide to ILWP project coordinator Abbi Hastings with the revised copy for review by the ILWP board at their meeting on Wednesday, October 23rd. If ok with them, it can be presented next month for a vote.
- Jennifer, Steve, and Jocelyn gave an update on preparing for new programs that may be coming which will require an updated Plan of Work and different strategies in Beehive. Jennifer has been working on some of these items and will continue to prepare.
- Discussed was the expectations with the plan of a new hire entry level technician as far as when we would start advertising for the position and where we would advertise. It was determined that we will wait until after budget approval by the county for 2020 to advertise a possible position.

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As there was no further business, a motion was made by Joe Ramsey at 10:14 AM to adjourn. Frank Phelps seconded. Motion carried and meeting adjourned.

Tim Lyden, Chairman

Frank Phelps, Secretary

Jennifer Snipes, Recording Secretary

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

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 20, 2019 at 8:30 AM.