

MINUTES OF GARRETT SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SUPERVISORS' MEETING

June 20, 2017
District Office

Supervisors met at 5:30 pm at the property of Leonard Custer to look at a forest harvest operation conducted by Sisler Lumber Co. which had major erosion and sediment control violations. The property is located off of Foster Road approximately 4 miles north of Oakland. Supervisor present were: George Bishoff, Smokey Stanton, Kris Enlow, and Katharine Dubansky. Also present were Leonard Custer (landowner), Leonard Cage and Brad Metzger from Maryland Department of the Environment, Chad Bucklew, Carrie Colebank, and Shaun Sanders. The group walked around one of the landing areas while Brad Metzger and Leonard Cage gave an overview of the operation and related problems.

Supervisors reconvened at the Soil Conservation office and the meeting was called to order by Chair George Bishoff at 6:45 pm. Present were: Smokey Stanton, Kris Enlow and Katharine Dusbansky. Also present were: Carrie Colebank, Chad Bucklew, and Shaun Sanders.

The minutes of the May 16, 2017 meeting were approved as distributed.

The following report of state funds for the month of May 16, 2017 was presented and approved:

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| Balance – May 1, 2017 | \$ 4,589.34 |
| Receipts – May 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017 | 0.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 4,589.34 |
| Expenditures – May 1, 2017 – May 31, 2017..... | 140.66 |
| Balance – May 31, 2017 | <hr/> |
| | \$ 4,448.68 |

The detailed report of expenditures for all accounts for the period May 16, 2017 to June 20, 2017 and the Income Versus Expenditures report for the period of January 1, 2017 to June 20, 2017 distributed.

Discussion took place concerning the cooperators dinner for this year. It was decided to hold it in early September at the Garrett County Fairgrounds in McHenry. Carrie has been in contact with the Lions Club about doing a chicken barbecue but has not received a definite price yet. A motion was made by Smokey, seconded by Katharine to keep the meal cost for the public at \$9.00 with the District paying the difference. Shaun informed the board that he had contacted Dr. Hilderbrand from the University of Maryland - Center For Environmental Science, Appalachian Laboratory, Frostburg MD and he was willing to be a guest speaker. Also, the possibility of recognizing someone as an outstanding cooperator was discussed. Shaun said he had ask staff for possible names to considered for an outstanding cooperator and Nevin Sines and Seth Fratz were mentioned by staff as possible nominees. Supervisors had questions about the two operations and what BMPs were put in place or being followed. Shaun will have the technician most familiar with each operation to prepare a brief summery for the board to review.

Chad presented the field office activities report for the period of 5/16/17 through 6/20/17. Chad shared the status of AMA and EQIP contracts for the FY to date. Round 2 EQIP preapprovals are expected soon, and some additional contract offers may be forthcoming. Chad shared information about the realignment of Risk Management Agency, Farm Service Agency, and NRCS into the Farm Production and Conservation Mission Area. Chad mentioned that proposed budgets include an approximately 5% staff reduction for NRCS by the end of FY 2018. High level Customer Service is a continued point of emphasis from national leadership.

Meeting adjourned 9:00pm.