

HARFORD SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT – Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes – 12/7/17

NEXT MEETING: January 17, 2018 @ 11:00 am

Board Members Present: Lee McDaniel, Frank Richardson, Dave Doran, Kim Lewis, and Dan Magness

Agency Personnel: Bill Tharpe, Leslie Zink, Chris Prigge, Annette Ensor (NRCS), and Heather Hutchinson (MDA)

1. Meeting called to order at **8:32 am**.
2. Agenda approved with amendments to remove the Grant Programs Update and add Legislative Assignments under New Business.
3. There were no public comments.
4. Minutes of meeting from November 9th were reviewed and approved.
5. Treasurer's report for November was filed as presented.
 - a. Motion to increase the District's spending limit, without Board pre-approval, from \$200 to \$500 – **APPROVED**.

Correspondence:

1. Received donation request from the Envirothon Steering Committee.
 - a. Since all voting members are not present, recommend delaying decision until the January Board meeting.
2. Received a letter from Phillip King, State Soil Scientist, confirming that our request for soil reclassification has been scheduled with the Hammonton MLRA soil survey office.

Old Business:

1. **DC Report** – (see attached report) **HIGHLIGHTS:**
 - a. Bill Metcalf has completed the 120-day detail.
 - i. Rob McAfee reports that we should know who will be the next detail by next week.
 - b. Issues with the Hartline and Mandl Ag Waste Structures concerning MSR 2400 lumber.
 - c. USDA has changed the program tiers.
 - i. We are now part of the Northern Tier and no longer with the Eastern Shore.
 - d. NRCS will be getting a new position; Grazing Specialist.
 - i. This is an RC&D funded position.
 - ii. Will cover Harford, Baltimore, Cecil, and possibly Kent.
2. **DM Report** – (see attached report) **HIGHLIGHTS:**
 - a. A request was included in the Harford Co. FY19 Operating Budget for a copier/printer/scanner lease.
 - b. Ecotone follow up to Facebook posts:
 - i. Wrote a letter to Janet Archer, President of Farm Bureau.
 - ii. Made changes to their HR policy, which Bill has reviewed.
 - iii. The individual is no longer allowed on any Harford SCD projects.
3. **Conservation Tracker** – (see attached report)
4. **Grant Programs Update** – (no report this month)
5. **Extension Report** – (no report this month)
6. **Ag Center Update** –
 - a. Lease has been updated.
 - b. Move in date is tentatively scheduled for the week of January 8th.
 - c. There will be open area workstations to work with NRCS.
 - d. Motion to share cost of a refrigerator for Breakroom with Farm Bureau up to \$750.00 – **APPROVED**.
7. **Other** –
 - a. Heather thanked the District for efforts with Cover Crop program and gave updates on SQL questions.

New Business:

1. **Other**
 - a. Lee attended meetings in DC:
 - i. Met with USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue and NACD.
 - ii. Met with Senate Ag staff re to hiring freeze, SAMS/DUNS, and hierarchy/reorganization of USDA.
 - b. Legislative assignments to be discussed at the January Board meeting.
 - c. Annette discussed meeting between NRCS and FSA.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.