

APPROVED

MINUTES
CARROLL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MEETING
May 15, 2025

Board Chairman Greg Dell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Carroll Soil Conservation District office. The following participated:

Board Chairman Greg Dell	Board Supervisor Donald Maring
Board Supervisor Janet O'Meara	District Manager Matt McMahon
Board Supervisor James Leppo	NRCS District Conservationist Samantha Cox
UMD Extension Agent Bryan Butler	Associate Candidates Brian Rasche and David Swain

MINUTES

Board Supervisor James Leppo made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2025 Board Meeting. Board Supervisor Donald Maring seconded, and the motion passed.

TREASURERS REPORT

Board Chairman Greg Dell cited the Financial Report, breakdown of District's Equipment Account and the following list of bills to be approved for payment:

Carroll County Public Schools- Envirothon Teachers	470.62
Johnson Bus Service, LLC- Envirothon Buses	1,374.00
Commissioners of Carroll County- Postage for February	135.35
Chesapeake Employers - Workers Comp Insurance	267.00
W. B. Mason Co., Inc.-Office Supplies	61.89
Commissioners of Carroll County-Envirothon Lunch	300.00
Donald Maring- FY25 Q2 Expenses	227.60
Janet O'Meara- FY25 Q2 Expenses	482.19
Kim Crone- FY25 Q2 Expenses	402.00
Jamie Leppo FY25 Q2 Expenses	312.00
Gregory M. Dell FY25 Q2 Expenses	376.80
Erin Driscoll-Envirothon Prize	100.00
Celin Anthony- Envirothon Prize	100.00
Angeli Barragan-Envirothon Prize	100.00
Molly Hieatzman- Envirothon Prize	100.00
Colin Flanagan-Envirothon Prize	100.00
Kyocera Document Solution-District Copier	3.06
TOTAL	4,912.51

Account Breakdown -

Board Supervisor Donald Maring moved to approve the Treasurer's report and payment of bills. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor James Leppo, and the motion was passed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The next Board Meeting will be held on June 19th, at 7:00 p.m. at the District office.

DISTRICT

District Manager Matt McMahon reported that he was invited to take part in the County's Agriculture Workgroup that was formed along with groups from Housing and Economic Development as part of the 2035 Master Plan. Board Supervisor Janet O'Meara is also part of the group, along with several other representatives from Carroll County Government, several agricultural producers, and other citizens at large. The group was formed to discuss how to keep Agriculture viable in Carroll County over the next 10 years. The first of 6 meetings took place on May 6th, and the next will be May 21. Spring Certification for Cover Crop is well underway and runs until June 3rd. Registration for the MASCD Annual Meeting at Rocky Gap is open. Please let Matt know as soon as possible if you plan to attend. Coloring Contest entries are due back to the District by May 30th.

MDA

District Manager Matt McMahon passed along the following:

Eddie Franceschi has joined MDA as the new Ag Assessment Planner for the Central Region. The Resource Conservation State-wide All-Employee Meeting was held on May 14th at Sandy Point State Park. Much of the discussion was concerning the State budget for FY 26 and the outlook for FY 27. The General Fund budget wasn't affected significantly, but the Trust Fund took a big hit. As a result, the funding for the 25-26 Cover Crop Program will be significantly reduced. The final regulations for the program will be released in the next week. There will be an in-person training course on the Open Meetings Act at MASCD this year. SSCC also sent out a "Quick Review" on Ethical Requirements for Supervisors. Matt forwarded it to all Carroll Supervisors on 4/18. Any questions should be directed to Loretta Collins.

NRCS

District Conservationist Samantha Cox gave the following update:

Financial Assistance:

- \$2 million in applications preapproved in Carroll, 9 contracts for 2025 (March board meeting)
- Since then, we've gotten another 8 preapproved EQIPs for \$915,000.00 and 5 CSP preapprovals (3 Ag Land, 2 Forestry) utilizing Prior Year Funds. Getting these contracts signed next week
- New CRP enrollment period is now open with offers made by June 6th for 1.2 million acres available which is re-enrollments and new contracts.

Local Updates:

- Piney Run Dam Project- Notice of No significant Impact
- Construction Season- grassed waterways, ag chems, fencing, livestock pipeline and troughs.
 - Extended the seeding date on Waterways until May 23, 2025, given the recent rains
- Planning- ag preservation plan updates, CREP,
- Requests for Technical Assistance- 4 (ag preservation, waterways, pollinators, new dairy) No new updates

Future Planning

- Plans for reorganization were supposed to be made available to the state NRCS office on May 12th but a judge's ruling on May 9th delayed the release prior to a review. We continue to service requests for technical assistance and existing contracts.
- Programs – fund pools and planning for FY26 and unknowns.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND – EXTENSION

UMD Extension Agent Bryan Butler gave the following update: Ag Venture begins on Monday, May 19th and runs until Friday, May 23rd. There are approximately 1,100 students signed up to participate. Nutrient Management Planner Lucy Hayes is coming along well and should be writing plans on her own soon. MDA hired a new Nutrient Management Inspector, Matt Marker, who will exclusively serve Carroll County. On July 10th, MDA and Extension are putting on a Nutrient Management Workshop for the Amish community to get them up to speed with the rules of

the program and assist them with getting their plans. It will be held at Jesse Lapp's farm in Union Bridge.

FSA

District Manager Matt McMahon passed along the following from Acting CED Amy Bange:

On May 13th, 2025, FSA was notified that a Secretarial Disaster Designation S5977 listed Carroll, Howard and Montgomery Counties as Primary Counties in this Designation and Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Prince George's and Frederick as contiguous. The beginning date for this designation is March 4th. The reason this triggered is because we have Long Season Small grains for grazing in Maryland, which has a growing season that spans the winter months. But to my knowledge from the disaster that triggered over winter on the Eastern Shore, the only cases we have of producers utilizing this are in Caroline and Washington Counties. So, this notice is not going to trigger LFP in the three primary counties, just emergency loans.

Today's U. S. Drought Monitor update has Carroll County in week 7 of a D2 drought. If this continues for one more week, Carroll County will trigger eligibility for the Livestock Forage Program (LFP).

FSA continues to accept Emergency Commodity Assistance Program (ECAP) and has a few producers are starting to report spring planted crops.

FSA has also been told that we will be having other FPAC employees assigned to our three empty desks, but we have not been given any more details on this, at this time.

At 8:02 p.m., Board Supervisor Donald Maring made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor Janet O'Meara, and the motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt McMahon, District Manager