APPROVED **MINUTES**

**CARROLL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISOR’S MEETING**

**December 19, 2019**

Chairman Myron Frock called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Carroll Soil Conservation District Office in Westminster, Maryland. The following were present:

Board Chairman Myron Frock Board Supervisor Stacy Sellers

Board Vice-Chairman Greg Dell Associate Supervisor Janet O’Meara

Board Treasurer Donald Maring District Manager Matt McMahon

Board Supervisor Chris Weaver District Conservationist Eric Hines

Area Coordinator Heather Hutchinson

**MINUTES**

Board Vice-Chairman Greg Dell made a motion to approve the November 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor Chris Weaver and was passed.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Board Treasurer Donald Maring gave the Treasurer’s Report, breakdown of District’s Equipment Account and the following list of bills to be approved for payment:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MD Dept of Ag - Nut Mgmt Training - Stan Pennington | $30.00 |
| Bay Trust payroll 10/31-11/13/19 | $1,139.12 |
| Bay Trust payroll 11/14-11/27/19 | $1,139.12 |
| Bay Trust payroll 11/28-12/11/19 (vacation pay balance) | $417.20 |
| Carroll County Public Schools - Teacher subs for Envirothon | $734.12 |
| Ecotone – Sam’s Creek | $592,536.60 |
| American Farm Publications - Delmarva Farmer | $38.06 |
| PNC Bank - Bay Trust and QuickBooks tech support - 1 year | $340.71 |
| Johnson Bus Service - Envirothon | $1,086.60 |
|  |  |
| TOTAL | $597,461.53 |

Account Breakdown - Reported on balances in accounts.

Board Treasurer Donald Maring moved to approve payment of bills. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor Stacy Sellers and the motion was passed.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Board Chairman Myron Frock reported on the following: MASCD Winter Meeting is February 3-4, 2020. Let Matt know if you want to attend so he can get you registered. Are there any issues to be brought forth? The Farm Bureau is having their meeting January 6 at the Ag Center with the Delegates; New AIR forms are coming out; Will be tracking manure coming into the state; The Ag Business breakfast on Jan 2 at Baugher’s Restaurant will be attended by Justin Ready; State Highway stream restoration activity – when they put the easement on the property, it has lots of restrictions including us doing or maintaining a best management practice. There should be language in the easement saying that if the participant is a farm, Soil Conservation should be allowed to do practices on that farm; State planting trees on properties – State highway has a requirement to treat 20% of their impervious surface in each of the counties. Planting stormwater trees was their way to accumulate that credit. They are planting the trees on the State’s part of the right of way. This State Highway issue should be brought up at the Winter Meeting; The next Board Meeting will be January 16, 2020 at 7 p.m.

**DISTRICT**

District Manager Matt McMahon reported on the following: E-mail was sent to the Board on Dec 4 regarding the District fill policy that Bryan and Matt worked on. The next step is to sit down with the County to work out the fine details; Got letter from Catoctin High School requesting a donation for their Land Judging Team. Board Supervisor Stacy Sellers moved to approve a $100 donation. The motion was seconded by Board Treasurer Donald Maring and the motion was passed; Taste of Maryland is February 6. Whomever wants to go, please let Matt know so that he can make reservations; Eric Hoff is officially a State Conservation Planner. It’s uncertain if the State will fill that Trust Fund position or if the State will fill that position with a pin; Terry’s pin will be vacated at the end of the month. Will make a lot of noise to get that filled; Wrapping up MACS status reviews; MDA is talking with Terry about using Trust Fund money to have her come in part-time to review and approve designs to alleviate technician workload on an as-needed basis; Matt on leave starting Dec 26 to January 6. Stan Pennington will be acting; Thank you all for giving him the opportunity and support for this District Manager position.

**MACS APPLICATIONS**

Board Supervisor Stacy Sellers moved to officially approve the (3) MACS applications. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor Chris Weaver and the motion was passed.

**NRCS**

District Conservationist Eric Hines reported on the following: Forest Harvest plan changes – changes to language that now says that the local DNR forester has to be notified of all operations; Have only 1 more day of funding; The Feds are off Christmas Eve; Most of the NRCS State staff was at training last week for the new Farm Bill programs. They are supposed to train us on the changes. Our area is supposed to be trained in February; CRP is up and running; NRCS bought a very expensive piece of GPS survey equipment. Staff was trained on it yesterday; State Soil Conservation minutes – stormwater management. Farm Bureau lobbied to just have a plan and have the District take care of it. A conservation plan has to have conservation practices. Can’t put anything in the plan that’s not conservation related. Over an acre has to have an engineer. The policy needs to be settled once and for all; NRCS has a new research soil scientist who came here and will be helping with the Envirothon.

**EDUCATION**

District Manager Matt McMahon reported on the following: Envirothon Instruction Day was in November and the actual Envirothon is April 21.

**EQUIPMENT**

Board Supervisor Chris Weaver reported on the equipment. Some people still owe money.

**PERSONNEL**

Board appointment. Farm Bureau has sent in 3 names. Greg will serve until someone is appointed.

**FSA**

Tentative plans for public education meeting for ag risk program; A little over $2M for Carroll County with the Market Facilitation Program.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board Supervisor Janet O’Meara: Letter came to them from a private contractor for stream restoration in Union Bridge. They want the owner to put easements in perpetuity to offset development impact. These long-term easements are binding in perpetuity. The ag property owner should understand all the consequences of that. The County will meet internally on this matter and bring the District in on it also.

Assistant Supervisor Lawrence Meeks: Cover crop delayed termination gives you $15 if you don’t kill it down until after May1. You had to sign up for this when you reported your acres. There is a concern as to who is going to do the spot checks. MDA is talking about utilizing the verification team to do this.

At 11:05 a.m. Board Vice-Chairman Greg Dell made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Supervisor Stacy Sellers and the motion was passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay A. Teada