



Monthly Board Meeting

March 14, 2023

The Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors met at 4:00 p.m. at the Ag Service Center- 771 E. Main St., Newark, OH 43055

Those present were:

Supervisors	District Staff	NRCS Staff	Associate Board
Bill Goodman	Kristy Hawthorne	Joe Koehler	Jeff Baker
Ron Thompson	Britney Stuller		Jeff Bates (zoom)
Rodney Tornes	Joe Jarvis (zoom)		Mamie Hollenback
Seth Dobbelaer	Kyle Seitz		
Kim Byce	Brent Dennis		
Rodney Tornes	Briana Hodgson		
	Linda Nicodemus		
	Deirdre Wetmore		

Absent: Mamie Hollenback

Chair Dobbelaer called the meeting to order at 4:32 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. BOARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- a. Updated training request forms and processes
 - Hawthorne shared and discussed new travel/training request forms.
- b. NACD Conference
 - Hawthorne, Stuller & Dobbelaer discussed the NACD conference and sessions that were attended. Hawthorne discussed sharing updates after big conferences. Hawthorne also discussed training opportunities being an investment.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS & STAFF REPORTS

- a. Staff discussed District Highlights

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of January 10, 2023 Board Meeting
- b. Special Fund Financial Report
- c. District Fund Financial Report
- d. Aged Receivables Report
- e. Cash Disbursements Report
- f. Leave Balance Financial Obligation Report- periods 23, 24, 25, 26 & 2023: 1, 2, 3
- g. OT- listed on Cash Disbursement Report
- h. Approve Transfer of Service Requests: Wetmore & Garavuso
- i. Credit Card limit increase
- j. Cash Basis

Bill Goodman moved to approve the Consent Agenda items a-j for March 2023 Rodney Tornes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Solar Developments-** Co-Presented with Rob Hamilton from ODA to OSWCC about solar and DSWC guidelines being developed for Districts and Ohio Power Siting Board to use.
 - Hawthorne discussed the document for solar development guidelines and stated the need/support for that document at state level
 - 1. Union Ridge (Harrison Township)-**
 - a.** Meeting with Leeward Energy on March 16th to receive update and review draft 9-Element Plan
 - 2. Open Roads Renewables (Hartford Township)-** Certificate approval has been appealed by Save Hartford Township, therefore everything is on hold for a rehearing that has not been scheduled yet.
 - a.** Contracts with Open Roads Renewables to review and discuss
 - i.** Escrow account holder for good neighbor agreements- Would like to schedule a meeting with the landowners who have a Good Neighbor Agreement to understand what their expectations are for us as the escrow holder.
 - 1.** March 28th will be a sit down meeting to develop agreement to be escrow agent account holder. LCSWCD would work with the landowners and control the money.
 - ii.** MOU for services – SWPPP review, soil testing, water quality testing
 - 1.** LCSWCD will charge developers to oversee development
- b. FEMA Grant Update**
 - Ohio EMA approved grant to move to national level competition
 - 1.** Funding announcement expected in June 2023
- c. South Licking Watershed Conservancy District Projects**
 - Flood Study and 2D Model will be complete by end of March 2023
 - 1.** Continue to have stakeholder meetings
 - 2.** Discussed EMH&T map of Feeder Canal
 - Meeting with ODNR & ODOT
- d. Intel**
 - Construction Update meeting February 23rd – update, aerial photos shared in email
 - 1.** Hawthorne shared and discussed the aerial photographs from the Intel site
 - Central Ohio Water Group- I’ve been asked to sit on the steering committee for the group to work through projects, set up ranking, working with Environmental Foundations.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a.** Ag Pollution Complaint- Warning Letter to landowner~ needs approved

Bill Goodman moved to approve the NRCS 590 Code and Ag Pollution Complaint Letter Ron Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Hosting the Ohio Soil & Water Conservation Commission for 2-Day tour/meeting in October
 - Hawthorne stated she will be working with Emily Heppner to finalize schedule. They are currently looking at visiting the Intel site, Union Ridge and somewhere Ag & Stormwater related.

VI. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS

- a. NRCS Report- DC Joe Koehler
 - Joe discussed his report and stated they passed the Inflation Reduction Act. There will be a second round of EQIP & CSP sign-ups.
 - The first round of EQIP resulted in 19 applications approved for funding
- b. District Report- Kristy Hawthorne
 - Urban Program update- Linda Nicodemus
 - 1. Linda discussed some of the main EPA violations the urban team are dealing with
 - a. She discussed a mining operation with violations and a concrete/asphalt plant moving forward without a permit
 - b. Hawthorne is meeting with Mark Johnson to discuss violations
 - District Update- Kristy Hawthorne
 - 1. Hawthorne stated she was asked to serve on the Licking Land Trust board
 - 2. Hawthorne discussed losing a farm in the Farmland Preservation program due to negligence on the landowner
- c. Building/Equipment/Safety Committee- Chair Goodman-
 - Cubicle workspace additions will be installed March 21st
- d. Budget Committee- Chair Thompson-
 - 2023 Budget approved by Commissioners
 - 1. Hawthorne updated the budget and resubmitted on March 14th. Should get resolution on Thursday
- e. Grant Sub-Committee- Chair Thompson-
 - 1. 2023 Application open in April; deadline in September
- f. Program Committee- Chair Byce-
 - Camp Canopy Student Scholarship for \$400.00
 - 1. Hawthorne discussed Camp Canopy and went over a scholarship application Deirdre created to grant a student \$400.00
 - 2023 Board Retreat and/or professional development- requests/ideas from Board
 - 1. Hawthorne discussed having a regular board meeting in the beginning and then possibly engaging in discussion about the Strategic Planning
 - Annual Plan of Work- Soil & Water goals for 2023
 - Long Term Strategic Planning- thoughts on hiring consultant, timeframe
 - 1. Hawthorne and board discussed potential timeline
- g. Policy/Personnel Committee- Chair Goodman-
 - Urban Technician: Nick Garavuso offer – motion to approve employment

Ron Thompson moved to approve hiring Nick Garavuso for the Urban Technician at \$20.00/hour, Kim Byce seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- MORPC Intern: Joe Platt offer, Internship program to run May 9-Aug 11, 2023. – motion to approve

Bill Goodman moved to approve hiring Joe Platt for the MORPC Summer Internship from May 9th-August 11th, 2023 at \$16.00/hour, Rodney Tornes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Center for Watershed Protection- National Conference, April 24-27 2023 in San Diego – Approve Nicodemus and Hawthorne to attend.

Rodney Tornes moved to approve Kristy Hawthorne & Linda Nicodemus to attend the Center for Watershed Protection Nation Conference in San Diego, California, Kim Byce seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- h. Nominating Committee- Chair Thompson-
 - Election calculator provided for review
- i. Legislative Committee- Chair Goodman-
 - Hawthorne and Goodman will be meeting with Representative Thad Claggett
 - 2023 Elected Official Tour
- j. Board & Associate Board member reports

Bill Goodman moved to adjourn at 6:46 pm. Ron Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Britney Stuller, Administrative Assistant LCSWCD

Seth Dobbelaer, Chair LCSWCD

Bill Goodman, Secretary/Treasurer LCSWCD