



# Monthly Board Meeting

## April 11, 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	Guests
Bill Goodman	Kristy Hawthorne	Joe Koehler	Jeff Baker	Chad Amos
Ron Thompson	Britney Stuller		Jeff Bates	Melinda Wesley
Rodney Tornes	Joe Jarvis			Audrey Boeshart
Seth Dobbelaer	Kyle Seitz			Abby Paxton
	Brent Dennis (Zoom)			Caleb Hickman
	Briana Hodgson			
	Linda Nicodemus			
	Deirdre Wetmore			

Absent: Kim Byce, Mamie Hollenback

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

### I. BOARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- a. Utica FFA Ag Issues Team. They will share their contest presentation in preparation for the state contest, their presentation should take about 15 minutes.
  - The FFA team shared their presentation about Farmers vs. Intel. They then answered questions from the staff and board.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENTS & STAFF REPORTS

- a. Staff discussed District Highlights

### III. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of March 14, 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- 4 & 5

**Bill Goodman moved to approve the Consent Agenda items a-f for April 2023 Ron Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

### IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Solar Developments-** Rob Hamilton shared the Division's Guidance Document to be provided to OPSB staff for their reviews.

**1. Union Ridge (Harrison Township)-**

- a. Meeting with Leeward Energy on March 16th. Jaren Zvonar has been named project manager. The PJM certificate has not been issued yet as it is back logged. Along with supply chain issues, the project will not start until Spring 2024.

**2. Open Roads Renewables (Hartford Township)-**

- a. Contracts with Open Roads Renewables to review and discuss
  - i. Escrow account holder for good neighbor agreements: Met with Rodney Newell and Jesse VanFossen on March 27th. We have a better understanding of their expectations and shared a couple of our concerns/observations on their GNA.

- 1. The final document is being worked on. There will be 4 landowners who would each get \$250,000.00. LCSWCD would be the escrow agent.

**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- final report will be available around June 2023 with additional stakeholder meetings scheduled to review results.
  - 1. Hawthorne & Nicodemus discussed EMH&T requesting more money to finish
  - 2. Hawthorne also discussed ms consultants ran out of funding and donated the last 2 months of work to finish
- Met with ODOT and Gannett Fleming yesterday, April 10<sup>th</sup>
  - 1. Hawthorne, Nicodemus & Tornes attended
  - 2. Hawthorne stated they want our 2D model but will have to wait
  - 3. We hope to get the finished model

**d. Intel**

- Central Ohio Water Group- The Group met April 4th. The Nature Conservancy was part of the UN water protection conference held in NYC. Amy had an opportunity to meet with some of the international tech firms. Their preference for project focus will be enhanced stormwater management and stream/river buffers.

**V. NEW BUSINESS-** none to report

**VI. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS**

- a. NRCS Report- DC Joe Koehler
  - Joe went over monthly report
    - 1. 5 EQIP applications were contracted
    - 2. Re-ranking first round applications

- b. District Report- Kristy Hawthorne
  - Urban Program update- Linda Nicodemus
    1. Geiger and Martin asphalt plants update, potential injunction by Licking County
      - a. Nicodemus shared pictures of the site and discussed the timeline of the violations. She stated they had to stop everything. The concrete company was working with no permit and were in a floodway area.
      - b. Hawthorne and Nicodemus stated the Geiger property was getting the violations since they were leasing the property to Shelley Co.
      - c. They also did not have an air permit, Hawthorne stated there would be a public air permit meeting.
      - d. Hawthorne will be attending the Township Meeting April 11<sup>th</sup>
    2. Visits to other Urban Soil & Water programs
      - a. Nicodemus shared information about the visit to Summit County Soil & Water with the urban team
        - i. She went over the tiers of staffing and discussed each tier
        - ii. Nicodemus also talked about how they do their residential plans
  - District Update- Kristy Hawthorne
    1. Savenson Wetland, New Albany
      - a. HOA owned, located on Beech Road
      - b. Hawthorne stated they will be visiting site soon
      - c. Water source for wetland has been zoned for development
    2. Farmland Preservation application cancelled
- c. Building/Equipment/Safety Committee- Chair Goodman-
  - FYI- LCSWCD has to repair garage door and have preventative maintenance done on the second one for approximately \$1,000.00
  - Contract proposal for XEROX machine
    - a. Stuller discussed the new agreement options with Xerox. Old leased is up in July 2023.

**Ron Thompson moved to approve the new Xerox agreement at \$217.00/ month for 5 years. Rodney Tornes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Budget Committee- Chair Thompson-
- e. Grant Sub-Committee- Chair Thompson-
  1. 2023 Application open in April; deadline in September
  2. Application live on website: <https://lickingswcd.com/what-we-do/conservation-mini-grants.html>
- f. Program Committee- Chair Byce-
  - Upcoming Events, need volunteers

- g.** Policy/Personnel Committee- Chair Goodman-
  - Staffing update
  - MORPC Intern update: Intern has declined offer
    - 1.** New intern recommended. Interview with Ethan Koch this Friday at 11:30am
- h.** Nominating Committee- Chair Thompson-
- i.** Legislative Committee- Chair Goodman-
  - Chair Goodman discussed zoning training, House Bill 1 and the upcoming Summer Supervisor's School.
- j.** Board & Associate Board member reports

**Bill Goodman moved to adjourn at 6:38 pm. Ron Thompson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Britney Stuller, Administrative Assistant LCSWCD

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Seth Dobbelaer, Chair LCSWCD

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Bill Goodman, Secretary/Treasurer LCSWCD