

September 2021 Minutes

South Licking Watershed Conservancy District

September 28, 2021, at 6 pm.

Hebron Municipal Complex

934 W. Main Street, Hebron

Chairman Dan Blatter called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Directors: Dan Blatter, Kevin Elder, and Linda Nicodemus

Visitors present: Dave Levecy, Nichole Kirchner, Sebastian Teas, Barb Bebout, Jen Bowman, Miles Hebert (via zoom); Terry Hanna, Kristy Hawthorne, Rando Morgan, Jody Holland (in person)

Approve August 24 Minutes: Linda moved to approve minutes as presented, Kevin seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Linda stated the report has been prepared by Britney Stuller at the Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District (LCSWCD) with a present balance of \$46,874.00. We have received an invoice from EMH&T in the amount of \$4,243.74 for services rendered and the submittal of a grant application to the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District (MWCD).

Kevin moved to pay the invoice, Dan seconded the motion. Vote: Kevin-yes, Linda-yes, Dan-yes, motion carried.

Kevin moved to accept the Treasurers Report, Dan seconded, motion carried.

Old Business

Watershed Updates:

1) BRIC Grant Funding:

i) Kristy Hawthorne explained the application process. The pre-application deadline is September 30th.

b) Licking County Soil & Water Update:

i) Leeward Solar – The Harrison Township Solar development is moving through the Ohio Power Siting Board process. Hawthorne has suggested the company work with OU to develop a 9-element plan for the Kirkersville HUC as part of their community outreach.

ii) Harvey Solar Project – The Hartford Township solar development is about 2,800 acres. The LCSWCD is talking to the Commissioners about setting aside a portion of the project's PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) money be earmarked for a Natural Resources Maintenance Fund. The fund could be used within the County by local government entities and non-profits for stream debris removal and streambank restoration (similar to MWCD grants).

iii) River Roundup was successful with over 240 volunteers, removed 16,500 pounds of trash, 334 tires, and 1,540 pounds of scrap metal.

- iv) Watershed Coordinator position has been filled. Kyle Seitz, current District Urban Technician, has been chosen. The transition will begin in December 1st while LCSWCD looks for his replacement.

 - v) LCSWCD is working on an H2Ohio Wetland Grant for a 15 acre wetland in the Kirkersville Feeder watershed. The 9-Element plan Sebastian Teas created for the watershed is being used to complete the application. The project is estimated near \$500,000 for design, engineering, and construction. The application deadline is September 30th. Awards will be announced in November.
- 2) Fairfield Soil & Water Conservation District- Dave Levecy reporting:
- a) They did meet with ODNR regarding flooding behind the Buckeye Lake Dam (east of Sellers Point – part of the North Bank in Fairfield County) and to find allowable discharge points.
 - b) Fairfield County is considering a county wide stormwater utility to maintain ditches.
- 3) Perry County Soil & Water and Buckeye Lake Watershed Coordinator - Sebastian Reports:
- a) Cristland Hills wetland: 319 wetland agreement has been signed with EPA for the wetland (along the proposed Lancer Ditch) with intention of completion in 2022.
 - b) Perry SWCD received an offer to host an Americorp Position through Rural Action. A job description will be written soon, then the position will be open for applicants.
 - c) Brooks Park wetland opened on the September 16th. ODNR gave a talk and tour of the wetland. It project was funded by ODNR H2Ohio money.
- 4) MWCD Grant: Miles Hebert:
- a) Grant was timely submitted and received. There is a lot of competition and won't know the outcome. There were many letters of support that were submitted with the grant application.
 - b) Miles added that hydrologic models being planned could help Fairfield County determine affects to discharge points for North Bank drainage.
- 5) New Web Site - Linda Reported
- a) The web site for SLWCD.org is now up but only in its beginning. The site was shared on zoom.

New Business - none

Next Meeting: **October 26, 2021 at 6 pm**

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm

Approved on _____, 20--

Linda Nicodemus