

Minutes

South Licking Watershed Conservancy District

February 11, 2019, at 6 pm.

Hebron Municipal Complex

934 W. Main Street, Hebron

Chairman Dan Blatter called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Directors: Dan Blatter and Linda Nicodemus

Visitors present: Joe Hart, Ed Parrish, Denise Brooks, Jeff Martin, David Straub, Matt Bauman

Approve Minutes – January 14, 2019 meeting -- Dan reviewed last month's minutes and moved to approve, Linda seconded the motion; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Linda reported an account balance of \$1,583.82 as of January 31, 2019, expenses for the Annual Meeting Legal Notices having been paid in January. Dan asked for questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, there being none, declared the report accepted.

Old Business

- a. Watershed Plan – US Army Corps: Linda reports we are in their budget cycle as we submitted our request in time for it to be included in this year's planning.
 - a. The first \$100,000 cost is covered by the ACOE, after that the cost is an 80/20 split; 20% being our responsibility.
 - b. Some studies have been conducted by Ohio University that should help to identify water quality issues in some of the HUC 12s.
- b. Use of MS4 Regulations (within the Conservancy District boundary): Feedback from other counties?
 - a. Jonathan Ferbrache has told Linda parts of Fairfield are applying such rules but some communities (e.g. Millersport) were "exempt" so are not.
 - b. Feedback from Perry County is positive to applying such regulation, according to Linda's discussion with one of their commissioners.
 - c. It is our goal that all communities follow MS4 rules regarding construction sediment and erosion control, stormwater volume control, and post construction water quality protection, but not necessarily all the minimum control measures.
 - d. MS4 entities must keep records of their MS4 development activities, and OEPA audit reports of their programs are public records.
- c. Conservancy Court – funding (source and amount of Conservancy District funding): Comment – The Court had seemed favorable to some sort of assessment but asked us to research amounts and formulas used by other conservancy districts before we get back with them. They seemed to have no interest in creating a sub-watershed within MWCD.
 - a. Dan talked with Mike Smith (LC Auditor) and learned applying an assessment would not be difficult.

- b. Dan had met with the Licking County Board of Commissioners regarding our present financial condition. He also had assured the City of Heath that no substantial work would take place upstream of Heath without consideration of its downstream effects on the City.
 - i. It also was reported that Heath addresses water quality but not water quantity.
 - ii. Denise (LCSWCD) commented that the Heath complaint of streambank erosion includes to be the naturally occurring meanders.
- c. Matt Baumann states Fairfield County officials may provide some funding if needed.

New Business

- a. Silver Jackets Meeting – attended by Linda in January: they fund many projects such as watershed modeling or small-area modeling. They are a CORP group that looks at water quality issues. All Corp districts in Ohio are represented. ODOT, ODNR, OEMA are represented.
- b. Issues surrounding Buckeye Lake and the South Fork:
 - a. Many ash trees have died, they are now falling so will clog the stream (SF).
 - b. Buckeye Lake Spillway flow (constructed in 1999) filled the South Fork so the channel was widened. Spillway outflow still raised flood levels a foot during the 100-yr event.
 - c. Old South Fork plan included clearing and snagging along the river – selective tree removal
 - d. Buckeye Lake will be full for the first time in four years (with unknown downstream consequences).
 - e. Debris removal from the South Fork will continue to be an issue – about 15 years since much has been done. (Apply to MWCD for more \$\$, say 30K x 15 years = 450K)

Other Discussion:

Watershed Coordinator grant from ODA is open again. LCSWCD will be applying and asks for partner support.

The Lancers Ditch Petition was granted by the LC board of commissioners.

Hebron wetland has been approved and construction will likely begin in the fall.

South Fork grade is “steep” beginning north of Ridgely Tract Rd.

No development plans presently have to be submitted to the Conservancy District for review or comment.

Buckeye Lake water level gauge will be moved to near the Amil Gate sometime in the near future to better monitor the lake’s water level.

Next Meeting: March 11, 2019 at the same location & time.

There being no further business, Linda moved to close the meeting, motion seconded by Dan and passed at 7:46pm.

Approved on _____, 20--

Linda Nicodemus

~Draft by Dan~