

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 24, 2022

MEETING #871

Present:

Scott Ryan, *Chairman, Grange Member*
Brian Holloway, *Vice Chairman, Farm Bureau Member*
Martin Kelly, *Legislative Member*
Richard Kennedy, *Member at Large*
Robert Headwell, Jr., *Legislative Rep*

Corey Nellis, *District Manager*
Karen Klemczak, *District Clerk-Treasurer*
Scott Davis, *District Technician*

CALL MEETING TO ORDER @ 7:30 PM

Election of officers: *Richard Kennedy made motion to keep the same slate of officers, seconded by Martin Kelly, all in favor, motion carried.*

Review of Policies: *Internal Review; Bill Payment; Investment; Procurement; Director's Attendance; FOIL policy; Designation of Official Publication: Amsterdam Recorder; Official Depository: NBT Bank. Richard Kennedy made a motion to approve all policies as currently written, seconded by Martin Kelly, all in favor, motion carried.*

Audit: *Brian Holloway and Robert Headwell, Jr. will review the 2021 Annual Treasurer's Report and let the board know their results*

TREASURER'S REPORT as of January 21, 2022

<i>District Checking:</i>	19,467.55
<i>Building Acct:</i>	22,053.81
<i>MCSWCD Savings (Grants)</i>	145,213.80
<i>Trumbull C701373</i>	577.74
<i>Bolster CRF C012140</i>	64,150.00
<i>Caroga Creek C701262</i>	9,805.90
<i>Water Quality</i>	990.05
<i>John King C701338</i>	93.60
<i>MMT C011843</i>	2,100.01
<i>Saltsman C701372</i>	76,448.14
<i>Kelly CAFO C012082</i>	1,019.53
<i>Holloway C012182</i>	85,948.07
<i>Hoefele C012183</i>	61,134.00
<i>Fisher C012181</i>	37,076.73
<i>AEM</i>	19,002.02
<i>Ridgedale C701426</i>	90,388.93
<i>Crowe T012325</i>	7,229.40
<i>Undeposited Funds</i>	.00
Total in all accounts	\$ 642,699.28

Review of disbursements (check register 12/13/21 through 1/21/22)

Review of outstanding accounts

Bills to be paid: Core & Main \$ 2160.00

Core & Main \$ 1446.00

Martin Kelly made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, pay all audited bills, approve all salary payments for the next month and/or the next board meeting, seconded by Richard Kennedy. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

- 1.) AED Position** – *Two very qualified applicant were interviewed for the new AED position. Both had very strong attributes. The board left the decision up to Corey as to which employee he felt would be the best fit for the position. The salary will begin at a GS 8-3, \$53,979.*
- 2.) Covid Policies** – *NRCS has updated their covid policies. Due to the increase of covid cases in Montgomery Co the office staffing is now down to 25%. Anyone that tests positive for covid or has direct contact with anyone that tests positive must quarantine for 5 days after symptoms begin or 5 days after firsthand exposure. Corey does not see any way that he could limit our Soil and Water staffing to 1 person. At this time, our office will continue working with full staff regardless of NRCS covid policies.*

- 3.) **¾ Ton Truck** – Scott Davis got quotes from Main Motor Car to purchase a ¾ ton truck off their lot instead of going through the state bidding. He received a quote of \$46,230 for a 1-ton truck that will be available in about a month. He also got a quote of \$38,960 for a ½ ton from Main Motor and that truck also would be available in about a month. We do have a purchase order in on another ½ ton with Nye Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram for \$26,738. This purchase order was from 1/29/21 but Scott Davis was told that if the truck does come in, they would still honor that price. However, there were no guarantees as to when or if that truck will come in. Robert Headwell, Jr made a motion, seconded by Martin Kelly to purchase both the 1 ton and the ½ ton truck through Main Motor car. If the truck from Nye Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram does come in at some point, we will sell one of the trucks at that time. The motion was accepted by all the board member, motion carried.

New Business:

- 1.) **Legislative Days (Mar 1st – Mar 3rd)** – Scott Ryan, Joe Slezak, and Scott Davis will attend meetings via zoom at the office for Legislative Days. They have a meeting with Angelo Santabarbara and trying to set up one with Michelle Hinchey.
- 2.) **2024 NCF Envirothon** – They are looking for a donation of \$3000 from each Soil and Water district to cover the cost of hosting the 2024 NCF Envirothon. The board declined to make a motion to send in a donation at this time.
- 3.) **Part C – Trail Work 2022** – Martin Kelly made a motion to use \$20k of our part c money to spend on trail work for 2022. Richard Kennedy seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.
- 4.) **Retirement Health Benefits** – Currently the district doesn't have any policy regarding retirement health benefits. Robert Headwell, Jr suggested that we table the discussion, and, in the meantime, the employees get together and see what retirement health benefits they would like to see implemented and present that to the board for further discussion.
- 5.) **PDR's** – There was a roadblock recently with our PDR program. Mohawk Land Conservancy has been paying the bills right along. They paid for \$36k for the survey and they paid \$9k for the appraisal at Bunkers. When those bills are paid, they submit receipts to the state for reimbursement. When Bunker's appraisal came in it came in low, they were considering backing out. With the market changes that have taken place over the last 7 months they said that they could do another appraisal based on all the original paperwork but reflect the market changes. The second appraisal would only cost \$2k because most of the paperwork was done. When Mohawk Land Conservancy submitted those receipts, the state said that they would only pay for one appraisal and it would be the cost of the lower appraisal, not the cost of the appraisal done for \$9k. Corey talked to Matt Ossenfort and the county agreed to pay for the \$9k appraisal to keep the process moving along.

Committee Reports:

NRCS: No Report

FSA:

We are working on Sign up for the Dairy Margin Program for 2022 which had a deadline of February 18th along with anyone who would like to increase their milk pounds to their 2019 pounds. The corn base programs (ARC-CO, ARC-IC or PLC) sign up is also occurring and needs to be completed by March 15th. There is a new organic program that will reimburse 25% of the eligible costs for transitioning or certifying your organic practices and it pays for 2020 or 2021 but the deadline is fast approaching. Please contact the office with any questions.

Sandra L. (Ferry) Scott
County Executive Director
Montgomery, Fulton, & Hamilton

AEM:

- Round 16 closeout work almost completed will close out with SWCC
- Earned \$215,875 in reimbursement for staff time over 2 year contract.

Chuctanunda/Amsterdam Projects

- Rehab work on Chuctanunda Trail and Eagle trail this year.
- Hydroseed at Veteran's Park in spring 2022

- We had a request to assist more community gardens in the city. 2 sites recently purchased looking to develop.

Joseph Slezak
Resource Conservation Specialist

AED: No Report

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned @ 9:17 PM

NEXT MEETING: February 28, 2022

Respectfully, Karen Klemczak