

Logan Soil and Water Conservation District

324 Co. Rd. 11 Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311

May 18, 2022

Present: Gloria Carson, Kelsey Cummins, Joe Ramsey, Frank Phelps, and Tim Lyden, – Supervisors
Steve Searson – District Administrator/Technician
Jennifer Snipes – Administrative Assistant
Leisha Billenstein – NRCS District Conservationist

Frank Phelps called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

On a motion by Tim Lyden, seconded by Gloria Carson, and unanimously carried, the board approved the minutes of the regular May 2022 meeting and the special May 26, 2022 meeting.

REPORTS:

NRCS Updates

The following NRCS updates were given:

EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program):

- Following up with behind schedule contracts.
- Currently 4 applications have been pre-approved
 - Approximately \$402,157.00 in funding
- More applications will be pre-approved this week

CSP (Conservation Stewardship Program)

- Received 5 re-enroll applications
- Currently have 3 applications pre-approved
 - \$172,480 in funding over the 5 years

ACEP (Agricultural Conservation Easement Program)

- WRE applications are being ranked for funding.
- Area office is completing site monitoring this year for WRE

FSA ASSISTED FARM BILL PROGRAMS:

Food Security Act –Highly Erodible Land & Wetland Compliance

- 17 HEL Determinations (total for the 2022).
- 17 Wetland Determinations (total for the 2022).
- Currently have 12 pending in the office.
- There are approximately 7 determinations/reconsiderations pending in the area office including reconsiderations.

CRP (Conservation Reserve Program) –

- All of the 2023 re-enroll sites have been checked. Working to finish up status reviews to take to FSA.
- Starting to get applications for new contracts to complete plans by August.
- Received numerous re-enroll applications and working on completing and mailing plans.
- One general CRP application was approved. Plan has been completed and signed.
- Will start working with Steve next week to complete conservation plans for new waterway applications.

Schedule Update:

- Leisha has leave scheduled July 25-29

ODA Updates

Jennifer had previously sent out Jocelyn's notes and included them in the agenda packet. The board reviewed the election calendar and were given a copy of the ODA Seed Testing Program.

MNM & Technical Updates

There were no pollution complaints this month. Waterway design, drawings, and construction have kept us moving this month with numerous being in the completion stages. Also, there were pond site visits, pond site information request, a ditch site visit along with flood mitigation and administrative meetings. It has been an extremely busy month.

Board Reports

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The financial reports were reviewed. On a motion by Kelsey Cummins and seconded by Joe Ramsey the financial reports for the month ending May 31, 2022 were unanimously approved.

On a motion by Gloria Carson, seconded by Tim Lyden and unanimously passed the following items were approved for payment...

FNB of Omaha @ \$80.00

FNB of Omaha – Fuel @ \$109.79

Termination Payments for Cover Crops for CC/Carbon Sequestration Grant

The board was given an update on the budget adjusted request that was presented to the commissioners so that we could hire two individuals and assume the duties of the Flood Plain Administrator. The date we are given to fulfill this is October 1, 2022.

Our AUP Audit for 2020/2021 was completed by Micah Harris at Charles E. Harris & Associates yesterday on May 16th. She came in and verified all our information and will provide a report with the findings. Update: The findings have been received and no exceptions were found.

OLD BUSINESS:

We purchased a used 2018 GMC Acadia to use as an office vehicle for meetings, running in town, and field work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Allison Fowler has accepted our offer as the Nutrient Management/Flood Plain Administrator. We have an offer out to a seasonal technician.

Logan SWCD will assume the duties of the Flood Plain Administrator duties as of October 1, 2022 or sooner if possible. We were allowed additional funding to help with the salary of our new employees by a resolution voted upon by the commissioners.

Our annual meeting date is tentatively set for Sunday, September 18, 2022. We are still discussing venue and what will be provided with Farm Bureau.

.....

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Tim Lyden at 9:42 AM to adjourn. Joe Ramsey seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried by the board and meeting adjourned.

Frank Phelps, Chairman

Tim Lyden, Secretary

Jennifer Snipes, Recording Secretary

cc: Logan SWCD Supervisors, Jocelyn Henderson, Logan County Commissioners

Next Regular Meeting Date: July 20, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.