

Ross Soil & Water Conservation District  
Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting  
Tuesday August 9, 2022  
Ross County Service Center Conference Room D

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The board of supervisors met at the Ross County Service Center in Conference Room D. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by presiding officer, Chairman, Brice Acton.

District Supervisors present in person:

Brice Acton  
Mike Anderson  
Philip Gray  
Greg Ramsey

District Supervisors not present:

Pam Snyder

District Staff present:

Tabby Arnold, Engineering Tech  
JT Flowers, Engineering Tech  
Ben Givens, Engineering Tech  
Greg Rouse, GIS Coordinator

District Staff joining remotely:

Bob Neal, District Administrator

Professional Staff present:

Chris Pancake, ODA Watershed Manager

Professional Staff not present:

Landry Roe, NRCS DC  
Kate Sowards, FSA CED  
Cody Hacker. ODA

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Hearing no corrections, the chair moved to approve by unanimous consent approval of the July meeting minutes as presented.

**REPORTS**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The administrator presented details of the August treasurer's report listing bills paid and bills to be paid. The district received the outstanding payment for the Envirothon T-shirts. The current financial obligation is \$79,793.40. Philip Gray moved to approve the treasurer's report and pay bills in the amount of exactly \$32,663.00. Greg Ramsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

### **Education**

The administrator reported the education committee met on July 18th to discuss FFA Career Day which will be discussed in old business. OSU Extension still seeking location for Woodlands on September 10th.

**Policy** - no report

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

### District News

- The district ordered title work for the Putnam LAEPP from Benson/Motes Title Agency, LLC.
- The Farmland Preservation Office informed the district the Acton LAEPP was approved without the need for the rollback discussed in July.
- Accountants presenting at the ODA QuickBooks training recommend keeping our current software.
- On July 25th, FSA CED Kate Sowards informed DC Landry Roe and the SWCD Administrator that Billie Helterbrand has left her employment with the FSA.

### For the Record

- The district paid the January through June Sales Tax on July 20th: \$544.44 on \$7,566.20 taxable sales (\$20,416.05 gross sales and \$12,849.85 exempt sales).
- Submitted Wildlife Reports to ODNR on July 18th requesting invoice for grant payment.
- ODNR Wildlife Management Supervisor Chris Smith approved the FY23 WLS APOW July 19th.
- The district and supervisors received the Auditor of State Letter of Agreement on July 28th.
- Posted Election Notice on district website on July 27th
- Sent EL-4 to ODA Specialist Cody Hacker on July 28th
- The district received notification of FY23 State Match funding in the amount of \$215,942 or 86% of 2022 Commissioners funding. This amount is \$5,760 or 3% less than FY22 (\$221,702 and 89% of county).

**DC REPORT** - no report

**FSA REPORT** - no report

**ODA REPORT** - Specialist Cody Hacker was unable to attend the meeting but published an ODA update

**WATERSHED REPORT** - no report

## **STAFF AND SUPERVISOR COMMENTS**

GIS Coordinator Greg Rouse reported progress is continuing on the NRCS agreement to use RTK.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING**

Brice Acton began the discussion by apologizing that family obligations require his absence at the annual meeting. The administrator reported on the event schedule which includes a presentation to former supervisor Ronald Eselgroth and descendants of Willard and Charles Peterson. There are only a handful of paid reservations just 2 days away from the RSVP deadline. Publicity has included free and paid media (which replaced the newsletter). Sunroom Catering will cater the event at \$20 per person. Philip Gray is coordinating set up arrangements for the multipurpose building. Philip reported Beck's Hybrid will bring a modern planter and the Paint Valley Antique Machinery Club will bring 1940's era tractors. Posters and artifacts depicting the history of the district will be on display. The administrator discussed supervisor roles at the meeting to welcome visitors, introduce guests and steer the program. The administrator requested a motion to waive policy to expand the VIP (no-charge) list of invited guests and participants. Mike Anderson moved to waive policy and authorize the administrator to waive annual meeting admission for supervisors, staff, elected officials, guests included in the program, media and other invited guests. Greg Ramsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**FFA/FARM BUREAU AG CAREER DAY**

The administrator noted Pam Snyder wanted to disclose she is co-chairing this event for Farm Bureau. The district is still responsible for the Soil Pit. The drone demo has been changed to an equipment display. Pam reports the Farm Bureau board is open to naming the district a co-host. Pam suggested the district buy 100 student T-shirts, citing PR and advertising value. Supervisors reviewed comparisons and Red Barn in Circleville had the best price. Philip Gray moved to authorize education expenses related to the FFA/Farm Bureau Ag Career Day event including costs associated with digging a soil pit and the cost of approximately 100 student T-shirts. Greg Ramsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ROSS COUNTY FAIR WEEK**

Brice Acton described an “amazing” district fair display and thanked the staff for great work.

**WILDLIFE SPECIALIST ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK**

The administrator reported supervisors should review and approve the WLS Annual Plan of Work and that the ODNR has scheduled training at Lake Hope in September.

Wildlife Specialist JT Flowers called the plan straightforward with only minor changes to allocation of hours to include an emphasis on ODNR OLHAP (Ohio Landowner/Hunter Access Partnership). Philip Gray moved to approve the FY23 Wildlife Specialist Annual Plan of Work under the terms of the ODNR Wildlife Specialist Agreement. Mike Anderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Greg Ramsey moved to authorize training and travel expenses for the annual Wildlife Specialist Training Meeting under the terms of the ODNR Wildlife Specialist Agreement. Mike Anderson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**TIMBER HARVEST PLAN** - None received

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None received in July

**ANNOUNCEMENTS • CALENDAR**

- 8/11 RSVP Deadline for Annual Meeting
- 8/17 FSA Drive-thru
- 8/18 Annual Meeting at Fairgrounds
- 9/5 Labor Day - Office Closed
- 9/10 OSU Woodlands Workshop
- 9/13 FFA/Farm Bureau Ag Career Day
- 9/13 September Board Meeting
- 9/14 FSA Drive-thru

**ADJOURNMENT**

Philip Gray moved to adjourn. Greg Ramsey seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

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Pam Snyder, Secretary

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Brice Acton, Chair

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Robert Neal, Administrator

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Date