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WM RC&D Quarterly Council Meeting  
Minutes  
December 14, 2011

Council President Craig Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. at the Western Maryland Cooperative Extension Research and Education Center in Keedysville, Maryland. In attendance were Craig Hartsock (Allegheny SCD), Ed Null (Carroll SCD), Mark Goldbach (WMRCD), Laura Michael (WMRCD), Gabe Zepp (Carroll County), Gary Reeves (WMRCD), Rhonda Kratochvil (WMRCD), Paul Shogren (Garrett SCD), Roger Troxell (Frederick SCD) and Gary Aronhalt (WMRCD).

Guests included Julianna Albowicz (Senator Mikulski's office), Brigid Kenney, Maryland Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission, Shaun Sanders (Garrett SCD), Mikal Zimmerman (Chief O&G), Paul Petzrick (MDNR-PPRP), Doug Hutzell, (Environmental Services Inc), Keith Moore, (Frederick Seibert & Associates, Inc.).

Gabe Zepp presented a financial update to the Council.

Doug Hutzell and Keith Moore gave a power point presentation on the Whitehall Dam Removal project along Little Falls Creek. They stated that the project is finally completed after 2 years of work and unexpected damage from a tropical storm. The project was for brown trout restoration and involved stream channel bypass construction and dam removal to allow for fish passage.

Brigid Kenney, Senior Policy Analyst for the Maryland Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission gave a power point presentation on the Commission's efforts to regulate Marcellus Shale gas well development in Western Maryland. Her briefing was very informative and consisted of the history of existing oil and gas well development, surface owner protection measures, benefits to the economy and the status of the Commission's efforts to date and their scheduled actions. A copy of her power point presentation was saved for the many individuals who requested it.

President, Craig Hartsock presented the 2011 Western Maryland RC&D Conservation Award to Sabrina Albright for her many years of outstanding contributions and dedicated service for the Western Maryland RC&D.

Lunch was then offered to meeting attendees at 12 noon.

After lunch, the Western Maryland RC&D staff including, Gary Aronhalt, Laura Michael, Gary Reeves, Rhonda Kratochvil and Mark Goldbach gave presentations on their work.

**Council Member Meeting:**

At 2:10 PM Craig Hartsock called the roll of Council voting members and determined a quorum was present in order to conduct council business.

Minutes from the September 15, 2011 Quarterly Council Meeting were accepted as distributed.

**Discussion:** Payment of the invoice from The National Association of RC&D's for \$450.00 was discussed. The status of the services provided by the National Office was discussed.

**Motion:** To not pay the \$450.00 for the 2012 calendar year, however to keep an eye on the services provided for consideration for payment for next year.

**Moved:** Paul Shogren

**Seconded:** Roger Troxell

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Discussion:** Revise the WM RC&D Bylaws to delete reference to the USDA, NRCS as this no longer applies. In addition, it was recommended by the Executive Committee to revise the Bylaws to change the annual election of officers to every two years.

**Motion:** Mark Goldbach will revise the Bylaws accordingly and present a draft of the revised Bylaws at the next Council Meeting.

**Moved:** Ed Null,

**Seconded:** Paul Shogren

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Discussion:** Provide a \$250.00 sponsorship to the Natural Resources Career Camp to be held the last week in July 2012, at the Hickory Environmental Center in Garrett County, MD.

**Motion:** Send a check for \$250.00 to the Maryland Forestry Board for the recommended sponsorship.

**Moved:** Gabe Zepp

**Seconded:** Ed Null

**Vote:** Unanimous

The next scheduled **Executive Council Meeting** will be held Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at the Western Maryland RC&D Office in Hagerstown, MD.

The next scheduled **Quarterly Council Meeting** will be held March 14, 2012 at the Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.