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Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council
Quarterly RC&D and Council Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2014

Council President Craig Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at the Western Maryland Research and Education Center in Keedysville, MD. In attendance was Craig Hartsock (Allegany SCD), Roger Troxell (Frederick SCD), Ed Null (Carroll SCD), Dan Fiscus (Frostburg State University), Paul Shogren (Garrett SCD), Jeff Barclay (Allegany County), Willie Lantz (Garrett County), Laura Michael (WMRC&D), Gary Reeves (WMRC&D), Gary Aronhalt, (WMRC&D) and Mark Goldbach (WMRC&D).

Guests included Dean Joe Hoffman (Frostburg State University), Paul Petzrick (MDNR PPRP), Charlotte Davis (Rural Maryland Council), Paul Kazyak (MDNR) and Adam Heavner (Allegany SCD).

Council President, Craig Hartsock welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance and recognized guests attending the meeting.

Ed Null presented the Treasurer's Report financial status to the Council and meeting attendees.

Mr. Jonathan Kays, Extension Specialist, University of Maryland was ill and not able to attend the meeting and make his presentation as planned on the council meeting agenda.

Mr. Paul Petzrick, MDNR, PPRP provided a summary discussion on the EPA's proposed rulemaking dealing with the use of coal fly ash and CO2 storage and mineralization issue and how this might impact the need for future material testing lab services. Paul presented two options, one was a proposed new materials testing lab in Baltimore and another would be to locate the lab at Frostburg State University. Council President Hartsock and Dean Joe Hoffman stated that they would prefer to see the lab located in Western Maryland as opposed to Baltimore, and offered their cooperation and support. Paul explained the budget constraints within the PPRP program and stated that future funding capabilities to support a materials testing lab is uncertain.

Dan Fiscus provided an update on the current status of the Frostburg Grows project. Dan stated that the Frostburg Grows team is on track to complete the deliverables by the end of October. The Maryland State Highway Department assisted with digging the trench for the electric service line and one half of the conduit was in place. Dan is working on selecting a Chesapeake Conservation Corp volunteer as we have four good candidates for the position. The AmeriCorps position is scheduled to be refilled when the current one-year term position expires. Black Walnut and White Oak germination over the winter was successful as 700 Black Walnut seedlings and 1000 White Oak seedlings were started. In early May, Willie Lantz from the

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Frostburg Grows Team conducted a workshop for High Tunnel Hoop house Construction. The Team planted 600 tomato plants and a new food contractor is in place at Frostburg State University. A lunch was held at the Frostburg Grows project site for Senator Ben Cardin who continues to be amazed at the progress of this project with the limited funding available. Planning for another Open House at the Frostburg Grows site is under consideration for the fall of 2014. Lastly, Dan identified that “Food Systems” majors are a growing trend at University’s across the Nation.

WMRC&D staff reports followed with Gary Aronhalt providing a power point update on his fire prevention activities, and fire prevention planning including a wood chipping project. Laura Michael provided a joint power point presentation including a quarterly update of her activities. Laura identified her activities on the CEIR-17, the Jennings’s Run Limestone Leach Bed project; work on PPRP reports and monitoring activities, and the Wine Brenner Run Benthic Study and Stream Sealing.

Gary Reeves reported on his work towards producing a synthetic Dolomite that incorporates fly ash, his communications with John Osborne towards a potential project and his continued need for a building to hold the materials testing lab and associated equipment.

Craig adjourned the meeting for lunch at 11:35 AM.

Craig reconvened the meeting and called it to order at 1:00 p.m.

Council Member Business Meeting:

Craig Hartsock called the roll of voting members and determined a quorum was present in order to conduct council business.

Minutes from the March 12, 2014 Quarterly Council Meeting were approved as distributed.

Old Business:

Craig initiated discussion towards donating \$500.00 towards the Maryland Natural Resources Career Camp. The purpose of the donation would be to provide \$100 sponsorships (the full cost is \$500 per person) for 5 individuals representing the five western Maryland counties. These funds would be available for the counties that request the funding support. Council member Willie Lantz and Jeff Barclay proposed a motion to this effect. A motion was unanimously passed by the Council to provide this support.

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New Business:

Dan Fiscus initiated discussion towards the need for a MDA tree sales permit for the Frostburg Grows Project. A motion was unanimously passed for the council to apply for this permit.

Council President Hartsock reported on his attendance at the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Council's meeting in Mobile, Alabama. Craig reported the National Association is alive and well and supported our continued affiliation in the national association. Craig identified a speaker at the NARC&D's meeting and the possibility that she (CEO of US Government Grants) provide a 2 day, training workshop possibly at Rocky Gap Resort in Western Maryland. Craig agreed to distribute more information towards the details of hosting this grants workshop.

A letter from the Maryland Envirothon requesting a 2014 donation was discussed by the Council. A motion was unanimously passed by the Council to provide \$500.00 in donation support to the Envirothon.

Council at large member, Willie Lantz discussed an opportunity to apply for a SARE Grant. Pre-proposal applications are due by June 19th. Funds would be requested for a regional resource and education grant to develop a food production training program utilizing the Frostburg Grows infrastructure. A motion was made by Paul Shogren and seconded by Jeff Barclay for WMRC&D to apply for the grant. A motion was unanimously passed for the council to apply for this grant.

The next scheduled Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday August 13, 2014 at the WMRC&D Office in Hagerstown.

The next Council Quarterly Meeting will be held on Wednesday September 10, 2014 at either Frostburg State University or the Allegany College of Maryland in Cumberland MD. There being no further business, President Hartsock adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.