



1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740  
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Western Maryland RC&D  
Quarterly and Council Meeting  
Minutes  
March 27, 2013

Council President Craig A. Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Allegany College of Maryland Continuing Education Building, Room CE-8 in Cumberland, MD. In attendance were Craig Hartsock (Allegany SCD), Roger Troxell (Frederick SCD), Ed Null, (Carroll SCD), Paul Shogren (Garrett SCD), Jeff Barclay (Allegany County Economic Development), Willie Lantz (University of Maryland), Gary Aronhalt WMRC&D), Laura Michael (WMRCD), Mark Goldbach (WMRCD), Gary Reeves (WMRCD) and Rhonda Kratochvil (WMRCD).

Guests included Robin Summerfield (US Senator Ben Cardin), Dan Fiscus (Frostburg State University), Alex Williams (FSU, A STAR AmeriCorps), Connie Louchs, (MDE, Land Management AML), Adam Heavner, Allegany Soil Conservation District, Paul Petzrick, (MDNR, PPRP).

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

Ed Null presented the Treasurer's Report.

Dan Fiscus, FSU gave a power point presentation on the status of the Frostburg Grows Project. Dan is serving as the "Interim Project Coordinator" and reported that volunteers from FSU's Geography Department have contributed labor towards completion of the first high tunnel hoop house on the site. The positions of "Site Manager" and "Project Coordinator" have been advertised for applicants by FSU. Plants are expected to be growing on site by mid-April 2013. A project logo has been developed and is in use. Connie Louchs expressed interest in purchasing trees for mine land reclamation. Robin Summerfield asked about that proposed date for the project's "Grand Opening" celebration.

Doctor Keith Eshleman, Appalachian Environmental Labs, gave a power point presentation on work prepared under contract to Maryland Department of the Environment to inform the Governor's Safe Drilling Initiative Team. These Best Management Practices for Marcellus Shale Gas Development in Maryland was a geospatial exercise on locating these industrial facilities within the natural resource data sets developed for the study. The study includes key findings, major recommendations, and can be viewed at the following website;

<http://www.umces.edu/al/natural-gas-assessment>

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Willie Lantz gave an update on the Nutrient Management Regulations in place effective December 2012 and passed out several handouts. Willie discussed requirements for setbacks from streams and how all manure organic nutrients must be injected or otherwise incorporated within 48 hours of application to the land, and the ban on winter spreading of manure. The goal is to work with small farmers, the SCDs, WMRC&D and MDA to successfully implement these regulations. Willie briefly discussed potential partnership projects including a MDA cost share program for manure management, and WMRC&D applying for grant funding to purchase equipment that could be made available to farmers for use.

Craig adjourned the meeting for lunch at 11:45 a.m.

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

Mark Goldbach gave a power point presentation on WMRC&D projects and grants administration status. Laura Michael gave an update on her work on the Jennings Run Project and at the Materials Testing Lab and associated environmental studies work and writing assignments for the MDNR PPRP. Rhonda Kratochvil and Gary Reeves gave joint update on their work at the Materials Testing Lab within the Appalachian Labs and the proposed meeting on 3/28/13 with AES. Gary Aronhalt gave a power point presentation that updated his work with the MDNR Forest Service's Firewise Program.

### **Council Member Meeting:**

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

Minutes from the December 12, 2012 Quarterly Council Meeting were approved as distributed.

### **Old Business:**

The DRAFT letter to the Maryland Legislative Sportsman's Foundation regarding the joint proposal to reintroduce elk in Western Maryland was discussed. The letter was approved with a minor editorial change.

### **New Business:**

A donation request to the Maryland Forestry Boards Foundation for the Natural Resources Career Camp to be held this summer in Garrett County was discussed. A motion was passed to donate \$500 to help sponsor 5 students from 5 Western Maryland Counties, towards the 2013 Natural Resources Career Camp.

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A donation request to The Maryland Envirothon for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Maryland Envirothon was discussed. A motion was passed to donate \$500 to MASCD/Envirothon for this purpose.

Jeff Barclay gave the Council an update from the Nominating Committee for Council positions in 2013. Nominations are; Craig Hartsock, President, Roger Troxell, Vice President and Ed Null, Treasurer. The Council was scheduled to vote on these nominations at the June Quarterly Council Meeting.

The next scheduled Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the WMRC&D Office in Hagerstown.

The next Council Quarterly Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Western Maryland Cooperative Extension Research and Education Center in Keedysville, Maryland.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.