



1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740  
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Quarterly Council Meeting  
Minutes  
September 18, 2013

Council President Craig A. Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Allegany College of Maryland Continuing Education in Cumberland, MD. In attendance was Craig Hartsock (Allegany SCD), Roger Troxell, (Frederick SCD), Ed Null (Carroll SCD), Jeff Barclay, (Allegany County), Paul Shogren, (Garrett County), Laura Michael (WMRCDC), Gary Aronholt (WMRCDC), Mark Goldbach (WMRCDC), Gary Reeves (WMRCDC), Rhonda Kratochvil (WMRCDC).

Guests included Adam Heavener, Allegany Soil Conservation District, Paul Petzrick, (MDNR-PPRP), Dean Joe Hoffman, FSU, Dan Fiscus, FSU, Louise Potter, FSU, Nathan Bennett, FSU, Jonathan Kays, Extension Specialist, University of Maryland, Joe Mullenax, Allegany Business Consulting and Janice Keene, Evergreen Heritage Center.

Council President, Craig Hartsock welcomed everyone attending especially guests and then introduced Council Treasure, Ed Null who provided the Treasurer's report and a financial update.

Joe Mullenax presented the results of the Western Maryland RC&D Council financial review including his accountant's internal report and financial statement for the fiscal year. Joe reviewed several financial issues including sales tax charges, the need to run Holiday bonuses through payroll, and late fees on credit card bills. Joe's presentation reviewed his financial statement requirements, findings and recommendations for financial management. Council President Hartsock thanked Joe for the presentation.

Extension Specialist, Jonathan Kays provided a power point presentation on Wood Energy Taking Root in Maryland. Both residential and industrial use of wood as a renewable energy source was covered in this presentation. Jon discussed the recommendations under consideration by the Maryland Wood Energy Coalition for improving sustainable use of wood and incentives available for wood energy grants for homeowners and businesses. Jonathan also presented information available about the upcoming Wood Energy Conference to be held in December 2013.

Dan Fiscus, Frostburg State University provided an update on the operations of the Frostburg Grows project. Dan introduced Louise Potter, the new Americorp employee sponsored by FSU who will be working on this project. Dan's power point presentation focused on the latest status of this partnership including on-site construction improvements and participant funding contributions. Dan identified September 27 and 28 as scheduled as volunteer work days and

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Open House scheduled for Saturday, October 5 starting at 9 AM. Dan asked the Council for a letter of support for a grant application that FSU will be submitting.

Janice Keene, Evergreen Heritage Center provided an update on her progress including a learning station update, the Heritage Hoop House, a Heritage Wood Shop Conceptual Design which is proposed to include a portable sawmill, the Discover Evergreen Open House scheduled for October 19, 2014 and efforts to place the select Center properties on the National Register of Historic Places.

Laura Michael presented to Dean Hoffman a framed poster of the “Unique History of the Hoffman Tunnel and Mine Workings” and thanked him for Frostburg Universities support to Western Maryland RC&D.

Council President, Craig Hartsock adjourned the meeting for lunch at 12 PM.

The meeting reconvened and was called to order at 1 p.m.

WMRC&D Staff Reports;

Gary Aronholt gave a power point presentation on his efforts with fire prevention, planning, outreach and fire suppression activities.

Laura Michael, Rhonda Kratochvil and Gary Reeves gave updates on their work at the Materials Testing Lab and associated environmental studies work for the MDNR PPRP.

Council President, Craig Hartsock called the Council business meeting to order at 1;15 PM.

Craig Hartsock called the roll of voting members and determined a quorum was present in order to conduct a council business. A motion to approve the council meeting minutes from March 27, 2013, was passed unanimously by council officer members.

### **Old Business;**

A motion to elect the existing council member officers for another year was made as follows;

President	Craig Hartsock
Vice President	Roger Troxell
Secretary/Treasurer	Ed Null
Assist. Secretary/Treasurer	Betty Myers

This motion was passed by the Council unanimously.

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The Mid-Atlantic Association of Resource Conservation Council's invoice for payment of \$200 in dues was discussed. A motion was made to not pay the dues this year and wait to see what the Mid Atlantic Association offered to Councils for 2014 was made as consideration for the future payment of dues. The motion to not pay dues was passed by the Council unanimously.

### **New Business;**

The Washington Elm Project (1932) as presented by Council Member, Paul Shogren, was considered for support and adoption by the Council. Paul identified the potential for collecting approximately 50 Washington Elm tree seedlings from the Garrett County Hospital property, growing in a nursery and transplanting. This project was approved and adopted by the Council's unanimous vote.

Craig identified the need to act on FSU's proposal for the Frostburg Grows Grant letter of support as requested by Dan Fiscus. The Council approved the preparation of a letter of support by unanimous vote.

The WMRC&D credit card policy was discussed for possible revision. A motion was made to revise the policy for credit card authorization to include both staff members **and council members**. This motion was passed by unanimous vote.

The next scheduled Executive Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at the Western Maryland RCD office.

The next Council Quarterly Meeting will be held on December 11, 2013 at the University of Maryland's Research and Education Center in Keedysville, Maryland.

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