



1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
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**Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council Meeting
Quarterly RC&D and Council Meeting Minutes
Allegany College of Maryland
Continuing Education Building, Room CE-20
September 21, 2016**

Council President Craig Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Allegany College of Maryland, in Cumberland, MD. In attendance was Craig Hartsock (Allegany SCD), Ed Null (Carroll SCD), Willie Lantz, Dan Fiscus and Corey Armstrong (Frostburg State University), Jeff Barclay and Paul Shogren (Garrett County), Jason Litten, John Ninestead and Erica Breighner (Western Maryland GIS Center), Laura Michael, and Mark Goldbach (WMRC&D). Guests included Senator George Edwards (Maryland Legislator), Joe Mullenax, Allegany Business Consulting, Janice Keener, Evergreen Heritage Center, Charlotte Davis, Rural Maryland Council, Corey Armstrong, Dan Fiscus, Joseph Hoffman, Kate Livengood and Amber Hanning from Frostburg Grows.

Council President, Craig Hartsock welcomed everyone including guests and thanked them for attending the meeting.

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

Joe Mullenax, Allegany Business Consulting presented his findings from his annual financial review. Joe distributed copies of his financial report to the Council. As part of Joe's financial review he examined checks, deposits, looked for discrepancies, and compared bank statements to Quick Books. Joe had several recommendations for improving the handling of finances. These recommendations are included in Joe's report.

Janice Keener gave a power point presentation on the current status of the Evergreen Heritage Center. Janice noted that the center had 5,000 visits last year. The Evergreen Heritage Center has a management and development plan with a focus on providing environmental educational opportunities on the 130 acre property. Janice offered to host a Western Maryland RC&D Council Meeting at the center. Accordingly, the Council is considering the holding the QCM for September, 2017 at the Evergreen Heritage Center

Jason Litten, from Western Maryland GIS Center located on FSU campus gave a power point presentation on a high concentration of methane gas leaking from an area south of Frostburg. Jason identified the different methods of monitoring methane gas and the various reasons that might cause methane gas production including landfills, mine shaft voids, pipeline leaks etc. The work that the GIS lab focuses on including mapping subsurface mining directly correlates to locating potential methane gas production problem areas.

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John Ninestad from Western Maryland GIS Center gave a power point presentation on a study he is working on to identify a potential dam site on Laurel Run in Garrett County for hydro-electric power production. John reviewed the project area's existing acid mine drainage discharge into Laurel Run and affects a dam might have on improving Laurel Run's water quality. John reviewed potential dam construction methods and the area to be inundated by water and how this facility might best be utilized. John concluded that this project is in study phase and needs considerable additional work.

Erica Breighner Western Maryland GIS Center gave a power point presentation on Gob Piles identification, utilization and reclamation. Gob piles are left over coal deposits mixed with overburden from historic coal mines. Many of these Gob Piles are now being revisited using advanced technology that allows for retrieval of the coal and reclamation of the land.

Corey Armstrong with Frostburg Grow's (FG) delivered a power point presentation on the current state of the Frostburg Grows project. Corey focused on the successful completion of the rain water collection project funded by the Chesapeake Bay Trust grant. Currently 40,000 gallons of water have been collected for the 2016 growing season. This has been a considerable asset to the Frostburg Grows project as water has had to be purchased in the past. Cory introduced Kate and Amber the new Vista and AmeriCorps personnel for 2016/2017.

At 12 noon, Council President, Craig Hartsock adjourned the Council Meeting for the lunch break.

At 12:45 PM Craig then reconvened the council meeting for Council Business Meeting.

Council Member Business Meeting:

Craig Hartsock called the roll of voting members and determined a quorum was present in order to conduct council business. The following Council Members were present;

Craig Hartsock
Ed Null
Jeff Barclay
Willie Lantz
Paul Shogren

Minutes from the June, 2015 Quarterly Council Meeting were approved without any changes.

Old Business:

No old business.

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New Business:

A discussion was initiated regarding sponsorship for the National Envirothon to be hosted by the State of Maryland in July, 2017. This week long Envirothon will be located at Mount Saint Mary's College in Emmetsburg, MD. President Hartsock read a letter from Southern Maryland RC&D Council pledging \$2,500 towards the 2017 Envirothon. A motion was made to donate \$2,500.00 to help host the Maryland Envirothon for the 2017 Envirothon. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Council Quarterly Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 15th, 2016 at the University of Maryland's Western Maryland Research and Education Center in Keedysville, MD. The Executive Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 9th, 2016 at the RC&D Office in Hagerstown, MD.

There being no further business, President Hartsock adjourned the council business meeting at approximately 1:25 P.M.