



1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
Phone: 301-671-1800 • Fax: 301-671-1800
Website: www.wmrcd.org

**Western Maryland Resource Conservation and Development Council Meeting
Quarterly RC&D and Council Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2017**

Council President, Craig Hartsock called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Garrett College's Garrett Information Enterprise Center (GEIC), Room 103 in McHenry, MD. Council members in attendance were Roger Troxell (Frederick Soil Conservation District), Ed Null (Carroll SCD), Willie Lantz and Paul Shogren, Garrett County. WMRC&D employees in attendance were Stacey Kahler, Laura Michael, Daniel Kirby and Mark Goldbach (WMRC&D).

Guests included, Maryland Senator George Edwards, Mr. Kevin Dodge, Natural Resource and Wildlife Technology Program, Department Chairman, Garrett College.

Council President, Craig Hartsock welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Craig reviewed the meeting agenda with the meeting participants. Craig also discussed Thank You letters the Council received for monetary donations to the Envirothon, and the Maryland Natural Resources Career Camp.

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

Craig introduced Mr. Kevin Dodge Professor at Garrett College. Professor Dodge then gave a verbal presentation on the Natural Resources and Wildlife Technology Program at Garrett College. This program focuses on learning skills required to work in the outdoor environment in the fields of forestry, wildlife, outdoor recreation, soils, and wetland natural resources. This program is based upon the actual knowledge, skills and abilities required for a technician to be successful within this profession. Mr. Dodge ended his presentation with performing a variety of owl and frog species calls. Several attendees had follow-up questions to Mr. Dodge about his presentation.

Willie Lantz, Frostburg Grows gave an update on the Frostburg Grows project. Willie reported that the Farm to Harvest Program (a joint program with FSU) went very well. The Community Gardens were very successful as well with considerable community support. Willie stated that Dan is working on a grant proposal to Delta for funding for another high tunnel hoop house. Willie reported that produce sales to FSU's Chartwells Food Service Provider have been going very well. Frostburg Grows is still planning the formation of an Advisory Committee with additional actions slated for next month. An USDA Veterans Program for Agriculture grant funding program is also being explored. An October Food Council Meeting is also planned to finish the Bylaws for the 3 county Council. Craig inquired about how the Multipurpose Building was being utilized and the new tractor was being used. Willie was very thankful for both of these new assets and reported on how they are benefiting the Frostburg Grows project.

1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
Phone: 301-671-1800 • Fax: 301-671-1800
Website: www.wmrcd.org

Willie also made some announcements regarding his work with the University of Maryland, Garrett County Health Department, and the local Farmers Market.

Craig adjourned the meeting at 11:45 AM for a catered lunch provided by Garrett College. The meeting was resumed at 1 PM.

Craig reconvened the meeting at 12:30 PM and passed out back ground information regarding the “10 Percent De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate Agreement” sent to us by the USDA NRCS for signature approval by the WMRC&D Council. Extensive conversation and discussion ensued regarding this request. There were a lot of questions that came up from the Council about this agreement. Concerns were expressed as to why that this was brought to our attention at this late hour. In the end, the Council voted to approve the agreement with the stipulation that WMRC&D could at some future date receive a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA).

Council Member Business Meeting:

At 1:15 PM, 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;

Roger Troxell
Ed Null
Paul Shogren
Willie Lantz
Craig Hartsock

Minutes from the June 2017 Quarterly Council Meeting were approved without any changes.

Old Business:

No old business.

New Business:

Craig distributed a proposal from the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership for the Western Maryland RC&D Council to become formal partners. The Council unanimously approved this proposal to become partnership members to the Maryland Bird Conservation Program.

Craig also discussed the recent Mid-Atlantic RC&D Conference call that he and Mark attended, and the survey proposal by WMRC&D to host a Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting/Conference

1260 Maryland Avenue, Suite 103 • Hagerstown, Maryland 21740
Phone: 301-671-1800 • Fax: 301-671-1800
Website: www.wmrcd.org

during the Fall 2018 at the Rocky Gap Casino/Resort near Cumberland MD. Discussion followed regarding the workload, staffing and funding necessary to host this conference. This Regional Conference was tabled for additional discussion at the December 2017 Quarterly Council Meeting.

The next scheduled Executive Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 10 AM at the WMRC&D Office in Hagerstown.

The next Quarterly Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 20, 2017 at 10 AM in Keedysville, MD. Mark will check on the availability of meeting facilities.

There being no further business, President Hartsock thanked Council members for their attendance and adjourned the council business meeting at approximately 1:15 P.M.