

**DORCHESTER COUNTY FORESTRY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES FOR October 7, 2021**

The meeting was held at the DNR Forestry Office in Church Creek, MD and was brought to order at 6:35 p.m.

Dinner was prepared by Kathy Abend

ATTENDEES: Scott Daniels, Beth Hill, George Radcliffe, Mike Asplen, Rick Abend and Agnes Kedmenecz. Guest: Ryan Gallagan

Minutes of the previous meeting held on April 12, 2021 were read and accepted. Motion for approval made by George Radcliffe, 2nd by Agnes Kedmenecz. Approved.

A. Critical Area (CA) Timber Harvest Plans: There were no plans to discuss. Scott had one renewal for Chuck Hughes. There have been a few clearcut harvests and thinnings in the county. (not CA)

B. Budget:

- 1. Scott reported that the \$1000 that was requested from Dorchester Co. was approved and received. He reported a**

balance of \$3874.

C. Personnel:

- 1. Scott Introduced Ryan Gallagan as the new Ranger for the Lower Shore Project. Ryan moved from southern Maryland and is living in the Church Creek house.**
- 2. Scott is now Project Forester for Dorchester, Caroline, and Talbot Co. – Mid-Shore Project.**
- 3. Andrew Amoruso has filled Teri Batchelor’s position as Project Forester for Kent and Queen Anne Co.**
- 4. Dorchester Co. Forestry Board member Elton Cephus passed away in August.**
- 5. Dave Gailey will be retiring Jan 1, 2022.**
- 6. Jim Harris will be retiring March 1, 2022.**

D. Other:

- 1. There was no reforestation done in the county this year and only 10 acres of afforestation.**
- 2. There was no aerial spraying done for timber stand improvement in the county this year.**
- 3. Along with other seedlings, 40 Backyard Buffer Bundles were distributed at the Spocott Windmill Earth Day Celebration on April 17, 2021 by Scott, Beth, Agnes, and Rick & Kathy.**
- 4. Spocott Windmill will be celebrating 50 years at the next Arbor Day/Earth Day on April 23, 2022. It will be a much bigger event than normal. In addition to our seedling giveaway, there was discussion of how we might have some kind of interactive display. Tree cookies? ID animal scat? Further discussion needed as we get closer. Scott will contact Rich Turner to get some tree cookies. Agnes passed around a tree ID pamphlet -- “Maryland Forests – What Tree is That?”. She suggested a possible Tree ID walk in woods near Spocott. The Board will support for whatever is decided.**

- 5. There was a discussion of Project Learning Tree. It's been done in western Maryland for years. There is now an effort to get teachers on the Eastern Shore involved. Rick and Kathy are working with folks from the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education (MAEOE) who manage the PLT program in Maryland. They have offered their farm for teacher and student training. Currently, Amy Towers and Sandy Smith from Caroline Co. Public Schools are in the planning stages for possible field trips in the spring.**
 - 6. Scott reported that there has been no progress on the Church Creek Fire Tower Project.**
 - 7. After much discussion, it was decided not to do the poster contest for fourth grade this year. Participation has dwindled. Many teachers confuse it with the contest for fifth grade done statewide. Covid-19 is still wreaking havoc in the school system.**
 - 8. Agnes reported that she is doing a webinar called "Woodland Wildlife Wednesdays" 12-1 p.m., 3rd Wednesday of the month.**
 - 9. Beth reported that the Maryland Forests Assn. is presenting "Faces of Forestry" to promote forestry in Maryland.**
- The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.**

**Rick Abend
Recording Secretary**

**Scott Daniels
Executive Secretary**

Approved by the Board :
