



Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board

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Minutes of the Garrett County Forest Conservancy District Board Meeting (Virtual Meeting) April 12, 2021

Call To Order:

The Garrett County Forestry Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Monday April 12, 2021 via Google Meet. Those Board members in attendance were: Fred Eggleston, Bill Buckel, Mike Minnick, Bill Aiken, Ken Fisher and Larry Tichnell. Gary Aronhalt also attended.

The agenda was approved following a few additions and a motion by Fred and 2nd by Larry.

Minutes of the previous virtual meeting were approved following a motion by Fred and 2nd by Larry.

The treasurer's report was given by Bill B.

Forestry Board	\$6,650.15
MUCFC	\$0
NRCC	\$2,255.26
Workshop/Ed	\$543.11
Scholarship	\$1,680.00

The only change since the last meeting was the purchase of trees for the 3rd grade students from the State Nursery. The treasurer's report was approved following a motion by Larry and second by Bill A.

Volunteer Hours:

The Board's hours since the last meeting were as follows:

Wayne – no report	Ken – 5
Glenne – no report	Mike K – no report
Derek F.– no report	Mike M – 18
Fred – 3	Larry – 3
Will – no report	Bill B. – 6
Bill A. – 3	Derek B. - 4
Mike F. – no report	

TOTAL: 42 hrs.

OLD BUSINESS:

NRCC

We have received 3 applications for Garrett County. Two have been interviewed so far and one of those accepted. One is waiting to see if he will have a conflict attending the entire week. The third was just received last week. The Forestry Board Foundation may be able to assist with funding if we accept all 3 students.

Library

Melissa set up a display highlighting Arbor Day and tree planting.

Hickory Planting

Approximately 50 trees were planted at Hickory on April 7th. Mike M. assisted along with staff from Hickory and MD Forest Service. They have started installing numbered posts for some of the existing trees in the arboretum area.

Scholarship

Ben Burris was our only applicant. His declared major is criminal justice, but he has demonstrated a focus on becoming an NRP officer through internships and summer employment in natural resources fields. Fred made a motion, 2nd by Melissa to award him the scholarship. The motion passed.

Statewide Meeting & Awards

Mike M. & Melissa attended the virtual statewide meeting. Mike gave an overview of the meeting. Everyone should have received the minutes from Anne Gilbert. Mike M. was recognized with a MEL award for contributions to the Forestry Board. Melissa was recognized as being selected as the MD Forester of the Year. She has also been recognized as the Northeastern Area Forester of the Year. Mike Kozier is in the running for a Lifetime Forest Advocate and Leadership Award. Each board has been asked to cast one vote for the candidate of their choice. Melissa made a motion, 2nd by Ken to cast our vote for Mike. The motion passed.

Fair & Autumn Glory

Plans are moving forward for both events. Larry expects to have a full fair with masks required. A discussion was held on whether to have a manned, unmanned, or selectively manned booth. There are still many unknowns, but be thinking about it for future meetings.

Chestnut Cleanup

Melissa will take care of the Swan Meadow trees. Mike M. & Fred will schedule a time to clean up the Accident, Friendsville & Rt. 40 trees.

DCL Watershed Foundation

Mike M., Melissa and the folks from the Watershed Foundation have talked briefly about ideas for possible programs for small acreage homeowners. They will work on setting

up a meeting in the near future to work on more details. PA has a watershed-based program to promote healthy landscapes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Watershed Update

Gary reported that the Administrative Council is partnering with the University of MD and will be releasing their aquatic invasive report soon.

There will also be a virtual Brunch & Learn May 12th at 10am sponsored by the DCL Watershed Foundation where anyone can learn about the various organizations and agencies involved in management of the lake area. (Please note this is a different date than was announced in the meeting – an updated notice was sent shortly after).

Mountain Loggers

The next Mountain Loggers meeting is April 13th at 6pm at Pine Lodge.

Meeting Policy & Minutes

DNR policy requires our meetings to be posted to the DNR calendar and our minutes to be posted online as part of the Open Meetings Act. DNR is working on a web page where Forestry Board secretaries, contact and minutes will be posted. They have asked for minutes to be approved and finalized within 30 days of meetings. Melissa asked to do an e-mail approval following meetings. After some discussion, it was determined that the current process would continue as our meetings are generally within 30 days of one another. We can post the link to the DNR site on our webpage once it is available. She will take care of updating the DNR calendar and sending minutes in for posting on the website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be May 10th at 9am. We will plan on a blended meeting, at the Accident Town West Pavilion. You will have the option to attend in person or call-in via the Google meeting.

Melissa Nash
Secretary

Upcoming Dates

April 13th – Mountain Loggers
April 30th – National Arbor Day
May 10th – Next regular meeting
July 25-31 – NRCC

July 31-Aug 7 – Garrett County Fair