

September 22, 2015  
Tuesday, 9 AM

Those present on the teleconference included Melissa Merritt, President; Suzy Lucas, President-elect; Jamey Darlington, Treasurer; Becky Bowers, Secretary; Jason Dalrymple and Peg Reese

The meeting was called to order by President, Melissa Merritt at 9:05PM.

Treasurer's report was presented by Jamey. Jamey let the committee know that a cd will be maturing for the general savings fund and she would like to know what the committee would like to do. It was discussed that we split the amount of the cd into different time lengths and levels of a cd. This would allow more flexibility if we need to pull money before the cd matures. Peg made a motion that \$1,000.00 go into both a 6 month cd and a 12 month cd. The remaining \$1,674.31 would go into a 24 month cd. Seconded by: Suzy. Lots of discussion was made about interest rate for the different levels and if it was to be left in a straight savings. Placing money in a cd is the best option based on the interest rate; Motion passes. Treasurer's report was accepted Motion made by Peg and seconded by Suzy; motion passes.

Blue Jean Bash invite from WVU was discussed and it was decided that Peg would try to attend the event in Reedsville, WV. We have been invited because we are an endowment fund participant.

Combined Federal Campaign was discussed. If Federal fund donations were made then to try and donate to SWCS but it would go to the International Level not the local level.

The secretary report was presented from the teleconference held on August 18, 2015 and the Motion was made to accept the minutes as submitted motion made by Jamey and seconded by Becky; motion passes.

**Partnership Silent Auction-** The groups plan is to discuss with Jim Moore the \$300.00 room rental to be charged to the organization for use of the silent auction area. It was discussed by the membership that we would not have the funds to pay for the use of the room and this has never occurred in the past. The purpose of the silent auction is to provide scholarships to local students not for the profit of the organization.

At this point in the teleconference Jim Moore joined the teleconference. Melissa welcomed him and introduced those on the teleconference. Without further ado Jim Moore discussed that he had recently talked with John Sciencendiver a current Conservation District Board member and one of the officer's. John explained the purpose of SWCS and also explained how the funds of the silent auction are used to Jim. At this point Jim explained that we would not be charged a room fee to set up the silent auction just like in years past. He said we are on the agenda and we would have the same room as last year to use for the silent auction. The times of the silent auction were discussed and adjusted to extend the second day slightly. Times include 8am-6pm on Monday and 8am-1:30pm on Tuesday. Jim left the teleconference after no further questions were needing answers.

Melissa will now send a letter to members and conservation districts to encourage them to donate to the annual silent auction and our scholarship fundraiser. This letter will be sent out to these individuals very soon.

The participation of WVAPSS in the silent auction was discussed slightly and a motion was made by Jamie and second by Becky to not allow the WVAPSS to participate as a partner in the annual silent auction; motion passes. The president will write a letter to WVAPSS to explain this information.

**Website updating-** Peg is having some difficulty getting items loaded to the website. She was able to upload one document but it would not allow her to upload any further documents. Melissa will check to see if she can resolve this issue.

**GIS training-** There are still 8 spots available. The deadline has passed to RSVP but Melissa will extend the date to September 25, 2015 for people to register. Melissa will send out the invite again and we were encouraged to contact anyone we think would be interested in attending. Melissa will contact Jeff Skousen about potential attendees from WVU.

**Nutrient Management Training-** The date of November 17, 2015 has been selected for the training. The training will be held in Moorefield, WV. A draft of the agenda for the training was available. Web-soil survey- Tim Dilliplane, WV NRCS; Forest Conservation, Herb Peddicord, WV Division of Forestry; Barrier's on Organic Farms, Annie Stroud, Staff Food System Coordinator; Google Earth, Dennis Burns, Conservation Specialist, WVCA; Lewis Jett, High Tunnels, WVU Extension; and then a tour of a local high tunnel project at the Elwood Williams Farm. Credits will be available for conservation planning and nutrient management. A potential for 6 hours of each maybe available. Melissa is waiting on specifics of topics from each speaker to complete the NM request from WVDA. The location for the training is still not confirmed. If we have 40 people or less we can hold the training at the Eastern Regional College but if attendance will be greater we need to secure the South Branch Inn. The College classroom would have no charge but the Inn would charge a fee of \$120.00. At this time we will reserve both locations and once we become closer to the deadline we can decide the actual location. The cost will be \$5.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members to attend the training. The registration fee will not include lunch but will include a small refreshment during the morning sessions. The RSVP date will be November 13, 2015. We will have a business meeting and election of officer's will correspond with this meeting. It was discussed by Peg and Melissa if attendees could potentially use the website to register for the training. Melissa will look into this possibility. Another option would be to get your registration fee to Jamie to register for the training.

**Marcellus Shale Tour-** There were 18 people in attendance and as an organization we profited \$312.39 after expenses. Pictures and a write-up from Melissa will be given to Peg in the future for the newsletter.

**Election-** Everyone was encouraged to recruit for potential officers. Ballots will be mailed/emailed to members before October 13, 2015.

**Kroger Non-Profit Donation-** Peg discussed this possibility with the group. As a loyalty club member with Kroger members can register their information and SWCS could receive a kick back on their purchases. A card would have to be registered for the group which would correspond with the chapter. Jamie will review the information further and bring it back to the group at a later date.

Jamie asked about the awards luncheon at the Partnership meeting in October. Becky discussed that according to the agenda we have a spot to discuss our awards. During this meeting we will recognize

Jason Dalrymple for his award and also present the awards we received as a chapter to those in attendance. If Melissa is unable to attend Becky will complete this presentation.

Date for the next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 9:00AM**. Becky will see about getting the teleconference line again from WV NRCS.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Becky and seconded by Jamey; motion passes.