

Frederick County SCD Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2025
Soil Conservation District Office

Supervisors in Attendance: B. Sowers, M. Shafer, D. Flickinger, J. Falkenstein, R. Black.

Associates in Attendance: M. Ahalt, S. Hipkins.

Guests in Attendance: District Manager, H. Hutchinson. Soil Conservation Coordinator, K. McAfee. S. Daubert, NRCS MD State Conservationist (joins at 11:34am). E. Hines, NRCS Assistant State Conservationist (joins at 11:34am). K. Potter, MDA RC District Operations Western/Central (joins at 11:41am). P. Heizer. Megan Downing and Luke Jolles (Scholarship recipients, arrive at 11am to receive check and leave meeting at 11:11am).

Meeting called to order by Chairman, B. Sowers at 9:02am.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved from May Meeting by motion: D. Flickinger motioned, second by M. Shafer. All in agreement.

Minutes approved from May Closed Session by motion: D. Flickinger, second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

Financial Reports

May Treasurers Report approved as filed by motion: M. Shafer motioned, second by R. Black. All in agreement.

Bank Account Reconciliation Report approved as filed by motion: R. Black motioned, second by J. Falkenstein. All in agreement.

Expenses for the Month approved by motion: M. Shafer motioned, second by R. Black. All in agreement.

Old Business:

1. MASCD: H. Hutchinson reported that K. McAfee made hotel reservations for everyone who noted they were attending. R. Black notes that he will be attending Monday/Tuesday and leaving after the banquet.
 - a. Proxy for Wednesday, 8/6: J. Falkenstein motioned, second by M. Shafer, to appoint D. Flickinger to serve as proxy in B. Sowers absence of the 2025 MASCD Annual Meeting on August 6, 2025. All in agreement.
2. Ag Complex: H. Hutchinson noted that J. Falkenstein retained Summers Agri Service to plant at the property. SCD has not received a bill yet.

New Business:

1. SSSC: The June meeting will be held at MD Farm Bureaus office in Davidsonville. The July meeting will be held in Wicomico County.
2. MASCD: H. Hutchinson noted that a Western Area Pre-MASCD Meeting will be held virtually on 6/24 at 1pm.

- a. Discussion points for Pre-MASCD Meeting:
 - i. New CAFO permit- no permits have been released as MDE is behind, but farms are required to meet deadlines.
 - ii. Associates to serve on committees.
3. Property Disposal: H. Hutchinson notes that the NRCS lease will be ending on 6/27 at the old space. Additional items will need to be disposed of. D. Stonesifer offered to bring a trailer to haul items to scrap.
4. MOU Montgomery County Small Pond Review: J. Falkenstein motioned, second by M. Shafer, to sign the MOU with Montgomery County SCD for Small Pond review.
5. Envirothon: H. Hutchinson reported that the MD State Envirothon was held on June 10th at the Western MD 4-H Park. Harford County placed first and Frederick County placed 5th.
6. Associates Policy: H. Hutchinson developed an associates policy based on those used in other SCDs and on the Supervisors Handbook. A discussion on the number of associate positions was held.
 - a. Max of five associates
 - b. Vote on associates each July
7. PIA Request: H. Hutchinson notes that FCSCD has received a PIA request from the Sugarloaf Alliance regarding communications related to the data center projects. H. Hutchinson has reached out to the MDA Attorneys to make sure all information can be given. The Sugarloaf Alliance would not like FCSCD to charge for gathering the PIA requested information.
 - a. J. Falkenstein motioned, second by M. Shafer, to follow the SCD PIA Request policy and charge for gathering the requested information. All in agreement.
8. Scholarship Recipients: Megan Downing and Luke Jolles attended the meeting to receive their 2025 George A. Nicholson Sr. Memorial Scholarship.
9. MASCD Coloring Contest Award: Johnsville Ruritan judged entries and has sent back the winners. Custom cups, like those awarded last year, were suggested as an award for the first-place winners.
 - a. D. Flickinger motioned, second by R. Black, to award custom cups for the MASCD Coloring Contest first place winners. All in agreement.
10. Banquet: H. Hutchinson notes that we need to start finalizing a place for this year's banquet.
 - a. R. Black suggests looking at Thurmont Event Complex. J. Falkenstein notes to reach out to New Midway as well.

Communications: No report.

Bylaws and Policy: No report.

NRCS Report: S. Daubert reports that priority funds could be coming back due to canceled contracts, but not sure. The lease at the old space will end on 6/27.

MDA Report: K. Potter notes that PEPs started on 6/17 and will finish up on 6/18. Healthy Soils Program selected 14 operations for a total of \$590k in grants. Cara Nelson has been reinstated from the FEDS as a regional planner.

Cooperating Agencies: No report.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 9:00AM at the Soil Conservation District Office.

Adjournment: J. Falkenstein motioned, seconded by M. Shafer, to adjourn the regular meeting at 11:49am and that the board meet in special closed session to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter as authorized by General Provisions Article Section 3-305(b)(13). The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED