



Southwest Project Grass
6024 Glades Pike, Suite 103
Somerset, PA 15501

PROJECT GRASS MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2017
Hoss's in Somerset, PA

Meeting called to order at 10:08 am by Jason McGinnis

In attendance: Dan Griffith, JB Harrold, Rich Huether, Dan Komarinski, Tom Ulrich, Mike Martin, Don Williams, Pierce Willson, Curtis Swiantek, Mike Molnar, Richard Voytko, Susan Moon, Jason McGinnis, Virgil Wilford, Dave Steele, Laurel Hoffman, Cody Waltemire

Conservation Districts represented: Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland

Agencies represented: NRCS, Penn's Corner RC & D and WVU

Reports

- Brief reports were given by the Counties present.

Treasurer's Report: Sue gave treasures report.

Treasurer's report filed subject to audit.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

- ❖ **Motion to approve the minutes from past two meetings. First Rich, second Tom. Motion carried.**

Old Business

- **Grassland Evaluation Contest – October 12, 2017**
 - 8 teams competed at the contest this year
 - Discussion on how to get more teams, more help from around the state, more sponsorship from around the state, presently SW PG does all the work and raises all the money. Maybe consider moving contest to SW PA in future.
 - Date selected for 2018 contest October 11 at same location.
- ❖ **Motion to host 2018 contest at State College Ag Progress Days site on October 11. First Rich, second Dan. Motion carried.**
- **Advanced Grazing School Wrap up**
 - JB report almost 90 people attended the Grazing school at the Merle Stutzman Farm. Troy was a hit and did a good job. Thanks to Merle and Fayette CD for all the work. Pierce and Sue need to finalize the money end.
- **Greene County CD grazing stick update**
 - Greene was not in attendance, JB had no updates from them.

- **SWPG Conference- Kim Miller's Kananga Farm**
 - Dan reported that the day was well attended. The afternoon pasture walk was well received, and the cows looked really good. The event did run over budget by \$344.10.
 - Discussion on how to cover the over run.
- ❖ **Motion to amend the Project grass 2017 budget by moving \$144.10 from the Water Pumps line item and \$200 from the Field Day mini-grant line item not used by Somerset CD to cover the over run. First Rich, second Pierce. Motion carried.**
- **RMA grant**
 - Jason and JB reported that the grant was not funded. NCAT will continue to seek funds so that we can partner with them on outreach.
- **Date for next meeting**
 - February 8, 2018 at Hoss's in Somerset

New Business

- **2018 Grazing Calendar**
 - GLC and others did a 2018 calendar, JB distributed some to the group. Contact Susan Parry if you want more.
 -
- **Nominating Committee**
 - Jason appointed Pierce and Tom to the nominating committee. Terms up are Jason McGinnis, Dan Komarinski, Lou Kopczyk, and Jim Cowell.
- **Proposed Budget for 2018**
 - Sue presented a proposed budget for the group to review
- **Potential Bus Tour**
 - Discussion on a bus tour to West Virginia University Farms. They are converting to a grass based dairy and doing a lot of grazing work.
- ❖ **Motion to look into a spring bus tour to WVU. First Dan K, second Dan G. Motion carried.**

Dan G, JB, Jason and Pierce are to organize the tour.
- **New Web Site Manager**
 - Genny is leaving Cambria CD for a new job and can no longer manage the web site. Jason ask Tom to do this on a temporary basis until a new web site manager can be found. Tom said he would do it if his boss is ok with that.
 -

Post Lunch Agenda

Curtis Swiantek, Manager of West Virginia University's Farm gave an over view of the operations at the farms and layouts. A bus tour is currently being planned to visit this operation.

Upcoming Events & Dates to Remember

2018

October 11 - Grassland Contest

TBD - WVU Tour

Southwest Project Grass Committee Members

Executive Committee

- Chair: Jason McGinnis⁽²⁰¹⁶⁾, Vice Chair: Dan Komarinski⁽²⁰¹⁶⁾, Secretary/Treasurer: Leya Ramer ⁽²⁰¹⁷⁾, Financial Secretary: Sue Moon, Advisors: JB Harrold, Laurel Rush
- Don Williams ⁽²⁰¹⁷⁾, Jim Cowell⁽²⁰¹⁶⁾, Lou Kopczyk⁽²⁰¹⁶⁾, Rich Huether⁽²⁰¹⁷⁾

Grassland Evaluation Contest

Dan Griffith, Jason McGinnis, Lou Kopczyk, Carl Rohr

WVU Bus Tour

Dan Griffith, JB Harrold, Jason McGinnis and Pierce Willson

SWPG 2018 Conference

TBD