

MONTGOMERY SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING
MINUTES
June 12, 2020

Approved
7-10-20

Due to COVID-19 meeting restrictions, the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Montgomery Soil Conservation District (MSCD) was held remotely through GoToMeeting. The meeting was called to order at 8:59 a.m. and the following persons were present for the June 12, 2020 Board of Supervisors Meeting: Chair, Robert Buttz, Vice-Chair, Robert Butts, Treasurer, Pam Saul; Member, Tim McGrath, Associate Supervisors: Joe Lehman, Tom Linthicum, and Chris Miller, Adam Lyon, MDA, Kelly Nichols, Extension. Jeremy Criss, Office of Agriculture, Mike Scheffel, Office of Agriculture. Karen Walker, MSCD, Brandy Gibbons, NRCS/MSCD, Charlotte Brewster, NRCS/MSCD and John Zawitoski, MSCD District Manager. At the direction of the Chair, Adam Lyon presented the report for MDA.

AGENCY REPORTS

MDA-Adam Lyon reported that with respect to the State's Covid-19 protocols, MDA is on Level 2. Under level 2 State staff continues to operate under a mandatory telework requirement. On June 8th, Secretary Bartenfelder announced that the next step is to have State employees unable to telework, return to their customary work locations. Employees that are currently teleworking will continue to telework. Adam shared the requirements of the Department of General Services to reopen the state office. Adam will coordinate with John and Charlotte on phasing Paul back into the office. Adam recognized that MSCD may need some resources to provide safe working environments for field operations. He also noted that social distancing will limit face to face meetings with cooperators. Adam then reported on the budget and noted that due to Covid-19 the State's General Fund has taken a hit. For FY21, MDA has decided to extend both the General and Trust Funds agreements to Soil Conservation Districts. This will involve Districts receiving a lump sum that will cover 3 of 4 MDA quarterly payments. The 4th Quarter payment will be considered later in FY21 as the State accesses their budget situation. During the meeting, it was acknowledged that the MSCD had received this first lump sum payment and a formal agreement that will memorialize the FY21 Budget is forthcoming.

Adam then informed the Board that MDA's 2019-2020 Cover Crop program is completed, and he thanked J. Harne for all he does in providing excellent support to our farmers who participate in this program. This year, farmers were able to self-certify kill down acres which went well. MDA will be utilizing some type of remote sensing capability to verify certified kill down acres. Adam went on to explain that in preparation of return to work protocols, that he would be delivering PPE and sanitizing supplies for State staff to the District office and will be working closely with John on office re-entry policy and procedures.

Office of Agriculture Jeremy Criss was then provided the opportunity to give his report and he reported on the following items.

- The Office of Agriculture continues to update our COVID-19 Agricultural Business Resources page published on the OAG website. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ag-services/boards-committees/guidance-for-ag-business.html>. Jeremy explained that these resources provide financial relief opportunities to farmers impacted by COVID-19 and that some farmers have received financial assistance. In summary, Michael Protas received \$6,000 through the MCEDC Local Production Fund and a total of 39 Agricultural business owners applied to the Public Health Emergency Grant Program-PHEG. The following is a breakdown of the 39 Agricultural business owners applied through this program:

14 Agricultural businesses received grant funding totaling \$113,526 PHEG
19 of the applicants did not meet the 50% reduction in revenues requirement.
3 applicants were non-responsive and/or did not provide the required/requested documentation.
3 applicants are not in Good Standing with the State of Maryland.

- The Telework Assistance Program has received an additional appropriation \$1,250,000 from the County Council and MCEDC is administering the program. You can find all the necessary information here: <https://thinkmoco.com/telework-assistance-fund>. Jeremy reported that Linda Lewis received a \$2,500 grant from MCEDC Telework Assistance Program
- Pick Your Own Operations have started for the 2020 season, this includes Butlers Orchard, Homestead Farm, Rock Hill Orchard. All employees and customers are required to wear cloth face coverings including all customers age nine and older. Incorporated into the minutes is a link to frequently asked questions and guidance for Maryland Pick-Your-Own Operations During COVID-19 State of Emergency. https://mda.maryland.gov/maryland_products/Documents/Maryland-Pick-Your-Own-Operations-During-COVID-19-State-of-Emergency-FAQs.pdf. It was noted that some operations have opted not to utilize an on-line farm visit registration as it turned out to be too cumbersome and people did not follow the directions. It was also noted that the Waredaca Equestrian Competition for June 13-14, 2020 was approved by the County Health Officer Dr. Travis Gayles.
- Regarding the 2020 Maryland Legislative Session - HB 848-passed the legislative session and the Governor allowed the bill to become law without his signature. The HB 848 directs proceeds from the County Agricultural Transfer Tax for ag land preservation easement purchases and other ag programs. It was noted that County action on this bill will likely be delayed due to the fiscal crisis from the COVID-19 pandemic. A link to this approved legislation is incorporated into the minutes as follows: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2020RS/bills/hb/hb0848F.pdf>

HB 805- also passed legislative session and the Governor allowed the bill to become law without his signature as well. The HB 805 creates a new occupancy of 100 people under Public Safety Section 12-508 and allows Montgomery County to use agricultural buildings for agricultural tourism for occupancies up to 100 people. The OAG is coordinating with the DPS to adopt a new policy. Jeremy explained that there is a new Director for DPS and they will be working together to revise some of the policies. A link to this approved legislation is incorporated into the minutes as follows: <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2020RS/bills/hb/hb0805F.pdf>

MC 6-20: Deer Hunting-Rifles used with Deer Management Permits. Jeremy informed the Board that he was contacted by Delegate Luedtke's office for the purpose of scheduling a special committee meeting on June 10, 2020 to discuss this legislation that was assigned to summer study by the legislature. The DNR Representatives announced they are proposing a new straight walled-25 caliber cartridge will be allowed for all counties that allow rifles and this may include Montgomery County. This cartridge has a range of 250 yards, and it is more accurate than a shot gun. Both Jeremy and Mike participated in this event and acknowledged that the new cartridge could be a really good tool in managing deer populations.

- Jeremy briefed the Board explaining how the Office of Agriculture is continuing to work with the Montgomery County Food Council and Food Security Task Force to develop plans for expanding local food production. Approximately 8 farmers are willing to participate in this new Pilot Program with Food Assistance Providers like Manna Food Center and the Capital Area Food Bank to distribute food to people in need.
- Hans Riemer is scheduling a joint PHED/T&E County Council Committee Work Session on July 9 and 16, 2020 to discuss the Solar ZTA 20-01. All agricultural groups reaffirmed their opposition to the Solar ZTA as introduced. Amendments to the ZTA are pending.
- Jeremy sought confirmation from the Board concerning an email message from him about pigs in the custody of Animal Services that are up for adoption. If you are interested, please contact Animal Services.
- The County is finalizing the Agriculture and Horticulture Contract with Chuck Schuster. The UM-Extension has announced they will continue to move forward to replace Chuck's UME full time faculty tenured position. Ideally, Jeremy would like Chuck to shadow his replacement once onboard to mentor and help acclimate them to Montgomery County agriculture and our producers.

- Jeremy explained that the Agricultural Advisory Committee will need new farmer and non-farmer representatives. Replacements are needed for Michele Cropp who passed away and Ben Allnutt and Linda Lewis who are finishing their 3rd terms. It was noted that Doug Lechlinder is completing his 2nd term and that he is eligible for 3rd term. Aliza Fishbein, Debra Tropp, Leonard Yourman are the committee's non farmer representatives that will need to be replaced.
- Jeremy indicated that the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee will need a new farmer representative to replace Todd Greenstone who is completing 2nd term and not eligible for reappointment. He is asking Board members to brainstorm to see who a good nominee from the ag community for this group would be. Jeremy suggested that since Wade Butler is off the District Board, that we encourage Wade to be a part of this Committee. Jeremy further explained that the County Executive, and his Chief of Staff, Dale Tibbets are interested in meeting concerning trimming trees on rustic roads. Both Mike and Jeremy will participate in the meeting.
- Preliminary Draft Report Thrive 2050. Jeremy explained that the agricultural groups will need to review this report and provide comments back to MNCPPC in July. Jeremy indicated that MSCD should review the report and look particularly on the section on climate change. Robert Butz asked when the data for 2019 would be available and noted that this data will detail the work agriculture has been implementing that represents positive approaches impacting climate change. A link to this report is incorporated into the minutes as follows:
<https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Final-staff-report-vision-goals-policies-and-actions-for-6-11-20-PB-.pdf>
- As a follow up to the conversation on MC 6-20, Tom asked about the possibility of getting land open to hunting that Montgomery County owns. Jeremy provided the details on the policy for Montgomery and it does not allow hunting on property that Montgomery County owns. Jeremy shared the details on the RFP for hunting.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors-June 12, 2020

Agricultural Advisory Committee-June 16, 2020

Montgomery County Farm Bureau Board of Directors- July 7, 2020

Montgomery Soil Conservation District Board of Supervisors-July 10, 2020

Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board-July 14, 2020

Extension -Kelly Nichols of the UMD in Frederick County provided her report

- **Pre-Side dress Nitrogen Test (PSNT).** Kelly informed the Board that the nutrient management advisors will still be conducting Pre-side dress Nitrogen Tests (PSNT) this year. The PSNT is a tool for determining how much nitrogen the corn needs at side dressing. For corn fields that have had manure, a fair representation can be shown. Before submitting a sample, please contact Natalia Salazar, Montgomery County Extension Nutrient Management Advisor, at nsalazal@umd.edu or 301-590-2840. Natalia's preferred method of contact is email; however, if you call and leave a message, she will get back to you.
- **Dicamba Update:** Kelly informed the Board that on June 3, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals issued an order vacating EPA's pesticide registration for the following three herbicides which contain dicamba: Xtendimax with Vaporgrip Technology, Engenia, and FeXapan. On June 8, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) cancelled the registrations for Xtendimax with Vaporgrip Technology, Engenia, and FeXapan. EPA also issued guidance for the distribution, sale, and use of existing stocks as follows: **1.** Distribution or sale by any person is generally prohibited except for ensuring proper disposal or return to the registrant. **2.** Growers and commercial applicators may use existing stocks that were in their possession on June 3, 2020, the effective date of the Court decision. Such use must be consistent with the product's previously approved label and may not continue after July 31, 2020. For more information, see EPA's full [statement](#) and [cancellation order](#). The [Xtendimax website](#) also has information. (Note that this ruling does not include Tavium, which is dicamba + metolachlor [Dual].)

- **Chlorpyrifos Ban Vetoed:** Kelly explained that in early May, Governor Hogan vetoed Senate Bill 300, which would have banned the use of chlorpyrifos. The Maryland Grain Producers has a nice [article on their website](#).
- **Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Agriculture Workers and Employers:** Kelly shared with the Board, information from the CDC and U.S. Department of Labor concerning released guidance for reducing the spread of COVID-19 among workers. The guidance can be found on the [CDC's website](#).
- **Research Updates**

Corn Earworm Trap: This trap was set up on May 21. So far, no moths have been caught.

Western Bean Cutworm and Fall Armyworm Traps: These traps were set up on June 11.

Soybean Population: Soybeans will be planted at 5 different populations (80,000 to 160,000) at 9 locations across the state. This is the second year for this project. All soybean plots have been planted.

Pumpkin Weed Control: Residual herbicides will be applied at various timings on pumpkins to determine the weed control achieved by overlapping residuals. Pumpkins will be planted on June 15. Information on previous and current research can be found at <http://www.go.umd.edu/FCagresearch>.

- **Upcoming Events**

Crop Talk – New! Friday, June 19, at 12:00pm via Zoom. Join Extension Agents and Specialists as they discuss current crop conditions and timely crop production topics. [To register, visit this website](#). During registration, you will have the opportunity to submit questions.

Food Safety Fridays: A monthly webinar series on various food safety topics starting May 22. The next webinar is June 19, and the topic is How to Make Water Risk Assessments. These webinars are free, but registration is required. Visit <https://foodsafetyfridays.eventbrite.com> for more information and to register.

Farm Services Agency -Although, Missy Donnelly was not available for the meeting, she wanted to share some information with the Board. John presented the report for FSA and noted that there are two factsheets about two huge workload items for FSA right now. One is the new Coronavirus Food Assistance Program which stems from COVID-19. Missy noted that they have had several producers in to sign-up so far and payments are issued rather quickly. When regarding commodities FSA is stressing that the program only pays on commodities that were subject to price risk as of Jan. 15th. Therefore, if the producer had a forward contract or sold their crop right out of the field, the commodity would not be eligible under this program.

Livestock producers will be paid on inventory and sales that occurred during the specified times. The funds for this program are coming from two different sources which has allowed them to be paid on both inventory and sales. One thing to keep in mind, for dairies they are only paying on those intended for slaughter so this would be any of a producer's bull calves and culled cows. Milk is also eligible for this program which is why the milking cows are not included in the livestock totals.

Missy noted that the second reminder is acreage reporting. The deadline is still July 15th and since we are in this unique situation, active producers in Howard and Montgomery counties were emailed or mailed their maps to complete their reporting requirements. Producers can return their maps by mail or email and we will load that information into our software.

Lastly, as always with the local FSA office, there have been some personnel changes, both Becca and Lindsey are now in the Frederick FSA Office. Danielle Jackson is coming back to Montgomery as a permanent program technician and she was recently able to hire a temp. Her name is Skyler Sanders. Both are currently working in the Frederick FSA office until FSA can resume activities in the Derwood office.

SECRETARY/ TREASURER'S REPORT

The Minutes for the May 8th meeting were received and reviewed and there were no noted changes. A motion was made by Robert Butts, and then seconded by Pam Saul and passed approving the May 8th Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes.

Karen then presented the Financial Statements and noted that the checkbook and bank statement have been reconciled. Karen explained that she has mailed the Supervisors their 1st quarterly payment and that the focus now is to close out the MDA accounts for FY20. Karen also confirmed that the MSCD has received the 3 MDA Quarterly payment advance as detailed in Adam's report and it has been deposited. John shared more details on the MDA Budget and the Water Quality Protection Charge Operating Funds. Karen noted that there are no anticipated expenses and with the cancellation of the Summer MASCD Meeting, Karen provided \$10 Walmart gift cards for the three entries that participated in the program. There was a short discussion about potential carryover of State resources. While the District endeavors to utilize all State funding provided within a given FY, this year represents challenges due to COVID-19 and John asked Adam to discuss with MDA, the ability to carryover any remaining FY20 funds and allow them to be used in FY21 in the event funding for the 4th Quarter becomes problematic. Adam indicated he would investigate this option. Jeremy informed the Board that operating funds provided by the County through the WQPC, both John and Karen have done a good job of managing those resources. With no further questions on the financial reports, Karen recommended the Board approving to file the financial report. A motion was made by Robert Butts and seconded by Tim McGrath and passed approving to file the May MDA Financial Report.

APPROVALS, RATIFICATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

Charlotte Brewster, District Conservationist then presented the District Activities Report. Charlotte shared some announcements before discussing Conservation Plans and Request for Assistance. Charlotte explained that she is in the middle of a deadline for completing the ranking for EQIP applications. Two applications were pre-approved for Montgomery County. One preapproval is for a high tunnel and the other one is for a micro irrigation system. Brandy is working with both producers on formulating a contract. Both Sam and Mel have worked together on micro irrigation and more folks are interested in micro irrigation. Charlotte noted that EQIP deadline is next Tuesday (June 16th) for funding this year, but we can always accept applications for future funding cycles. The deadline for the Conservation Stewardship Program was May 29th and we received 3 applications for Montgomery. It has been a busy time for MSCD staff and very challenging having the new planning tool and new stuff coming out of the state office.

Charlotte then addressed the approval of conservation plans and explained that she had 5 conservation plans for the supervisors to approve. She informed the Board that there are still numerous conservation plans in the pending approval queue. Today's plans for approval are all equestrian operations planned by Travis. In the planning approval queue, J. Harne has 3 conservation plans and Brandy has 6 conservation plans completed. Covid-19 has created challenges in securing cooperators signatures on these plans. We will get them signed ASAP and have them ready for approval during the July meeting. Charlotte then reviewed with the Board, the details concerning the first plan being presented and the information on one of the conservation plans with the details on recommended BMPs. Before addressing the other conservation plans, John reminded the Board on the process decided upon during the May meeting for supervisors approving plans remotely. It was decided that the Board would review and approve all plans during the meeting and then following the meeting affix a supervisor's electronic signature. Robert Butz then proposed, that since his e-signature was readily available, that for the purpose of approving plans, that staff affix his e-signature on conservation plans at this time. A motion was made by Pam Saul and then seconded by Tim McGrath and passed approving the use of the chair, Robert Butz, electronic signature for conservation plan approvals. After the motion passed, Charlotte presented the remaining conservation plans for approval and shared the details of each plan. One of the operator's conservation plan is an update for EQIP Cost share and Charlotte recommended approval of the five plans. Tom asked Charlotte if there is a cost share for roof design to handle snow? Charlotte said no if it is an existing structure, but it could be considered for cost share for heavy loads with new constructions. A motion was made by Robert Butts and then seconded by Pam Saul and passed approving all conservation plans.

Charlotte then reviewed with the Board, several Request for Assistance (RFA) and shared details on each request. It was recognized that Travis has been out in the field doing conservation planning and that the RFA's that have come in is a direct result of his efforts. Robert Butz acknowledge Travis work effort especially during Covid-19. John shared that

Travis's work effort performance has been reflected in the employee performance appraisal process as exemplary. John also conveyed to the Board, that he is pleased and proud of MSCD staff. The staff is doing a great job and are getting things accomplished during Covid-19. John expressed his gratitude for J.'s effort in covering the changes in the cover crop program with our cooperators. MDA extended self-certification process until June 3rd and J. took the opportunity to work one on one with producers to make sure that they remained eligible and complied. Charlotte also commented on the continuity of service and is proud on how things are going. She noted that yesterday, J., Chuck, John and she had a great meeting with a new cooperator that was conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams. Pam inquired about how the new conservation planning system was working and how staff were doing adjusting to the new platform and data conversion? Charlotte explained that no new system is not without its issues, but staff is adjusting to the new system and the information archived from Toolkit has mostly transferred to Conservation Desktop. The planners have saved information on hard drives just in case and training is going well.

NEW BUSINESS

COVID-19 and the Office – John explained to the Board, that as we approach the summer months, the County has begun the process of Phased Openings. He explained that certain critical benchmarks to reduce the spread of COVID-19 have been achieved, which will allow the County to begin a gradual reopening. John shared the details on each phase and provided by way of attachments, documents from the County outlining the protocols. John confirmed that why many in the office remain in telework situations, staff is also coordinating with him, both in office and field visits to keep the District work moving forward.

AHFP COVID-19 Pre Office-Visit Protocol – John explained that he has been coordinating with the OAG and Extension with developing a procedure that will be required for all staff and visitors before they can enter the building. This procedure will be implemented as employees' transition from teleworking to in office work environments. On May 29th, John attended remotely, a countywide teleconference with the County Executive, Chief Administrative Officer and other Department Heads to discuss the Phase I openings. What is clear from the discussion is that decisions will be made on the best available data. The first order of business will be directed at resuming the work for County employees who have been on administrative leave because their work cannot be performed remotely. Employees who have successfully performed their job functions while teleworking will be allowed to continue teleworking until further notice. The County is also looking to expand teleworking beyond the current crisis.

New COVID-19 Producer Programs -John reviewed with the Board, guidance from FSA regarding programs directed at producers experiencing hardship as result of COVID-19. This information and fact sheet were provided under FSA Report. Applications will be accepted through August 28, 2020. Through CFAP, USDA is making available \$16 billion for vital financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities. MSCD has also received guidance from MARBIDCO regarding programs directed at producers experiencing hardship as result of COVID-19. John shared some details and noted that the fact sheet was also included in the handout packet.

Update on MDA Budget-John noted that during this time of year, the District is normally, finalizing MDA budget requests and supervisors are executing General Fund (GF) MOU's and Chesapeake Bay (CB) Trust Agreements. COVID-19 has interrupted this process. It appears that for FY21, MDA is going to extend the FY20 agreements. What this means is that our State Budget will be flat, and MDA will be fronting to Districts 75% of their allocation in advance. This represents 3 quarterly payments for the GF and remaining 4th quarter allocation will be evaluated later in the year. A copy of the transmittal from MDA has been received by the District and has been included in the meeting packet. Karen noted that on Monday, the District had received the payment. As indicated earlier, John would like Adam to see if the remaining FY20 funds can be carried over and the District not be penalized for not utilizing all funds for FY20.

Annual Report and Newsletter published - John was pleased to report that both our annual report and June newsletter have been published. The report is also published as a standalone report on our website and within our June newsletter.

A copy of our June Newsletter was included in your packet. The staff worked very hard in pulling this together and he believes the June edition is one of our best newsletters. It should arrive in the mail to our subscribers within the next few days. Electronic copies are available on our website.

SSCC District Self-Assessment-John explained that this item was addressed during last month's meeting and as directed, John coordinated the assessment with the District Conservationist and staff to complete the survey. The chair Robert Butz said that the report looks comprehensive and that he is relying on the MSCD Staff input. A copy of the completed assessment was included in the supervisor's packet. John reviewed with the Board any score within the assessment that was below the maximum score of 4 and provided explanations as to how each score was evaluated. John explained that the staff took a critical look at each item to be scored and the completed assessment represented a fair assessment as to how we are meeting those item goals. John reminded the Board that the purpose of the assessment was for the SSCC to assess training needs for Boards and Districts. John then recommend the Board of Supervisors support the staff recommendation to approve the self-assessment and submit to the SSCC before June 30th. A motion was made by Robert Butts and second by Tim McGrath and passed approving to submit the SSCC District Self-Assessment.

MASCD Coloring Contest Finalist-Just as an FYI, MSCD staff selected the finalist for our local entries in the MASCD Coloring Contest and the entries were included in the handout packet. Because the Summer MASCD Meeting has been cancelled, Karen did not forward the finalist to Bruce Young. Karen returned the 3 coloring contest entries received and explained that the event for final judging and been canceled. She provided the participants with a \$10 Walmart gift card and thanked them for participating. The Board, while wanting to be supportive to MASCD programs, recognized that the ability and efforts of the District to get young folks interested in participating in the Coloring Contest continues to be a challenge. COVID-19 just made the effort even harder to promote. The District looked to County 4-H program leaders to help promote the coloring contest, but this too proved not to yield additional entries or interest. It was the recommendation of the Board to discontinue promoting the annual coloring contest.

Melissa Steed's Retirement – Recognition- John informed the Board of Supervisors that Melissa Steed of the County's Office of Agriculture will be retiring on July 1st. John explained that Melissa has been a very important part of our Agricultural Assistance Team here at the Agricultural History Farm Park and she has been extremely helpful to the Soil Conservation District. John indicated he would like the support of the Board to approve a recognition and gift (\$50.00) for Melissa as she is well deserving of this recognition for her 30 years of service to the ag community of the County. The Supervisors wanted to wish Melissa well and endorsed providing Melissa a recognition certificate and a corresponding gift valued at \$50.00.

FHB RISK ASSESSMENT MD Small grains – John presented to the Board, final FHB RISK ASSESSMENT received from Nidhi Rawat, Small grains Pathologist with the UMD on June 1. His report states: "Flowering is all finished across all counties of Maryland now, except for a few late planted fields in the northern part of MD that may still be flowering. Currently the risk of FHB is high in these areas and so FHB fungicides (Prosaro/ Miravis-Ace/ Caramba) should be applied here. For most parts, wheat is now in the grain filling stage and should be ready for harvesting in next couple of weeks.

WIP Briefing Update to SSCC–Slides- John explained that during the May SSCC meeting there was a presentation from Jason Keppler involving WIP Update. Copies of the slide presentation were included in the handout packet. In short: Nitrogen 1.91 million lbs. decrease from 2018 Currently 57% of the way towards 2025 goal. Phosphorus – 343,000 lb. increased from 2018 • Roughly half is from a data error, the rest may come from wet weather increases in the wastewater sector – Currently 26% towards our goal, 72% with a data fix. Sediment – 17 million lb. decrease from 2018 – 100% of our goal for 2025 has been met (currently).

John explained to the Board of his continuing concern about our WIP goals and how they were based on getting additional resources and now with the impact COVID-19 on budgets, the reality of getting additional help any time soon will have a direct impact on our goals. Adam shared that he appreciates all the planning that MSCD has been done and

he knows of the need for a technician and that with regard to WIP goals, every District is going to have to do the best with the resources they have until the State is in a better position to provide additional resources.

Upcoming Meetings- Provided in the handout packets is a notice of the **SSCC meeting that will be held remotely on June 18th at 9:30 am.** John plans on sitting in on this meeting and he hopes to learn about details on the Cover Crop program. The chair, Robert Butz, noted that if the meeting link is provided, he may join in on the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

MDE Approval of New Forest Harvest Form - John informed the Board that the SSCC and MDE had approved an additional form that would provide DNR greater oversight for compliance with erosion and sediment control for Forest Harvest Operations. This additional form that must be executed by the landowner will be part of the documentation package the District coordinates with the County for E & S associated with the Forest Harvest Permit. In February, the Board voted to adopt the standard form. We then submitted to MDE for formal approval. The letter in the handout packet documents MDE's approval of the standard form document for Montgomery County. Also, not included in your packet but received over the weekend, was MDE's approval continued Delegation of Authority to the County DPS for non ag sediment and erosion control.

Cover Crop Program Update-This item was mentioned under MDA's report from Adam. No dates have been announced for 2020-21 program year. Given budgetary impacts of COVID, modifications of the program will more than likely include a payment reduction.

MASCD Summer Meeting and other events - John shared that the MASCD Summer Meeting for Aug 2-4 has been cancelled. However, the Board of Directors meeting will be held remotely on August 4th. Details will be provided later. MASCD is hoping to do the association awards sometime this winter. John noted that Farm Tour and Harvest Sale has also been cancelled and in July decisions will be made about the Montgomery County Agriculture fair and the MSCD Annual Cooperators Dinner.

MASCD Endowment Grant Contract-A copy of the MASCD Endowment Grant Contract was provided in the handout packet. MSCD was successful in submitting the Grant Application and was awarded \$1,500 in funds to support the Envirothon Program and a new equine educational outreach initiative. Because of COVID-19, MASCD gave the grant recipients options in utilizing the grant funds. MSCD has elected option 3, which is to accept the grant and hold for next year and we further understand that we are not eligible to apply in 2021. Our tentative start will be January 1, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

Before the meeting officially adjourned Pam inquired about Betsy Stabler. It was shared that she is not well, and it was believed that she is going to hospice. The meeting officially adjourned at 11:02 am and the next Board of Supervisors Meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2020.

Respectfully submitted.



Karen Walker, Administrative Assistant

<u>MEETINGS ATTENDED</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE</u>
Butz	90%
Butts	100%
Saul	100%
Stabler	90%
McGrath	100%
*Linthicum	30%
*Joe Lehman	70%
*Chris Miller	90%

*Associate Members