



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

Officers:
Chairman: Larry Lohr
Vice Chair: Jason McGinnis
Secretary/Treasurer: John Hewitt

**Minutes from May 16, 2013
Southwest Project Grass Meeting Log Cabin Fence Co. 10:00 am**

Meeting called to order at 10:04 am by Laurel Rush

In attendance:

Dan Griffith, John Hewitt, Steve Gilkinson, Andrea Daniels, Jeff Leindecker, J.B. Harrold, Larry Chaikcic, Jim Resh, Jim Kennedy, Laurel Rush, Jim Cowell, Billie Cowell, Michael Hamilton, Tom Sierzega, Lou Kopczyk, Bill Clouser, Caroline Sinchar, Laura Smith, Pierce Wilson, Rodney Miller, Laurel Hoffman, Bob O'Brian and Bill Iams. Conservation Districts represented: Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Westmoreland, and Washington.

Public Comment: None

Reports –

- Reports were given by the Counties present.
- GLCI – Report given by J.B.- GLCI is not getting funds from NRCS next year. They are applying for a grant for operating money through NRCS. Discussions are being held on doing a mentoring program for farmers who have contracts and are struggling with management.
- Penn's Corner RC&D - Dan Griffith reported on the No-Till Conference, the Calendar and the Grassland Contest.
- SCC - Bill Clouser reported that at the last Commission meeting new REAP guidelines were presented. Discussion was held on the ACT 38 Administrative Manual update.
- PA Dept. of Ag - Jim Kennedy discussed the increase in grazing systems.

Treasurer's Report: Given by John and J.B. – Report by Sue Moon was handed out.

- ❖ **Motion by Jim Cowell second by Pierce to approve the treasurer's report.**
- ❖ **Motion approved.**

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were presented for review. There were no corrections or additions to the minutes.

- ❖ **Motion by Jeff second by Jim C. to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.**
- ❖ **Motion approved.**

Appalachian Grazing Conference: Laurel reported that there were 368 participants this year. There will be a reorganizational meeting in June. The next conference will be held in 2015.

NRCS Advisor Report: J.B. reported that there has been a big increase in the number of grazing system applications for the EQIP program. Mark Buckholtz has left the Somerset

engineering office. Tim Peters has come in from Bloomsburg. The northwest Grazing Conference committee held a wrap up meeting. Pasture/grassland NRI will be coming back this year. Two points in Allegheny County and one in Washington County.

Discussion was held on the next SWPG Grazing Conference. It appears that the fall of 2014 will be the time frame for this.

Next Meeting: September 19, 2013

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Submitted by: John Hewitt