**MEETING MINUTES**

**Agriculture Water Quality Authority**

**Thursday, November 12, 2020 9:30 AM**

**Zoom Video Conference**

**Meeting ID: 830 0699 5620**

**Passcode: AWQA**

**Inattendance**: Mr. Larry Thomas, Chair, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. Joseph Sisk, Vice Chair, Member-at-Large; Ms. Paulette Akers, Division of Conservation; Mr. Chuck Taylor; Mr. Brian Lacefield, Kentucky Farm Service Agency; Mr. Ron Brunty, Environmental Groups; Mr. Todd Clark, Member-at- large; Dr. Amanda Gumbert, UK College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service; Mr. Brandon Howard, Division of Forestry; and Mr. Randy McCallon, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts.

**Also in attendance** : Ms. Johnna McHugh, Division of Conservation; Mr. Steve Coleman, Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts; Mr. Joe Cain, Kentucky Farm Bureau; Mr. John Pitcock, Kentucky Department of Agriculture; Mr. Pete Cinotto, United States Geological Survey; Mr. Josiah Frey, Division of Water; Mr. John Webb, Division of Water; Mr. Abe Nielson, Division of Forestry; Mr. Larry Taylor, Department for Environmental Protection; Ms. Renee Carrico, GOAP; Mr. Michael Froelich, Division of Water; Ms. Sonya Keith, NRCS; Ms. Stefanie Osterman, GOAP; Mr. David Chinn, Monty’s Plant Food; Ms. Mahtaab Bagherzadeh, Division of Water; Mr. Stewart West, Division of Forestry; Ms. Carole Catalfo, Division of Water; and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

**Meeting Called to Order** – 9:38 AM by Mr. Larry Thomas.

**Roll call of Authority members** – Quorum was met.

**Introduction of guests** – Introductions were made.

**Oath of office for new members** - Ms. Johnna McHugh began the swearing in process of Dr. Amanda Gumbert, Mr. Larry Thomas and Mr. Randy McCallon. Ms. Johnna McHugh spoke the oath of office and Dr. Amanda Gumbert, Mr. Larry Thomas and Mr. Randy McCallon accepted.

**Approval of previous meeting minutes from April 27, 2020** – A motion to approve with correction was made by Mr. Ron Brunty and was seconded by Mr. Joseph Sisk. **Motion carried**.

**Old Business** –

* Election, subcommittee chairs, Streams and Other Water – Ms. Paulette Akers stated that Mr. John Webb will talk to Mr. Paul Miller about who will be willing to serve.
* Biennial report submission – Ms. Paulette Akers reported that the biennial report was submitted to the legislature on October 26th.

**New Business** –

* Meeting dates – Decided dates are as follows:
	+ February 11th @ 9:30 AM
	+ April 8th @ 9:30 AM
	+ August 26th @ 1:30
	+ November 18th @ 9:30

Ms. Paulette Akers offered the Authority members state email accounts. Any that would like to participate will contact Ms. Paulette Akers.

* Identified AWQA plan issues – Silage leachate, GPPs – Ms. Paulette Akers discussed following with the Authority:
	+ Silage leachate is addressed in the current workbook in the same question as milkhouse wastewater, but the pertinent BMPs do not mention silage leachate. This question has been removed from the current version of the AWQA eWorkbook until leachate can be addressed in one of the livestock BMPs. BMPs say that you should do a groundwater protection plan, but Ag. is exempt
	+ Farmstead BMP #3 lists groundwater protection plan as a minimum requirement, but agriculture is exempt. Request to review all of the Farmstead section and move GPPs from required to recommend. Dr. Amanda Gumbert moved to accept and Mr. Joseph Sisk seconded. Motion carried.

**Subcommittee Reports**

**KASMC –** Mr. Pete Cinotto discussed the following with the Authority –

* Kentucky Agriculture Science and Monitoring Committee was held on September 2nd meeting
* Agenda discussion-
	+ Introduction of new EPA Nonpoint Source Coordinator Ms. Kamilah Carter.

**Farmstead** – Dr. Steve Higgins - Not attended.

**Pesticides Fertilizers and other Agriculture Chemicals** – Mr. John Pitcock stated currently everything is in good shape and no concerns.

**Livestock and Poultry** – No report was given.

**Streams and Other Waters** – No report was given.

**Crops** – No report was given.

**Silviculture** – No report was given

**Education and Outreach** – Ms. Paulette Akers discussed the following with the Authority:

* E Workbook – pilot run to start Dec. 7th and go through until Dec. 18th.
* Total of 25 Conservation District employees to join in on pilot.
* Asked if the Authority would like access or know of anyone that would like to participate in pilot.

**Quarterly update of AWQA related violations –** Ms. Paulette Akers informed the Authority of 7 violations of the Ag Water Quality Act since the last meeting. Six of the violations were from dairy operations (1 of those involved distillers grain), and 1 violation was for creek work.

**Updates from members** –

* Dr. Amanda Gumbert discussed the following with the Authority:
	+ SERA 46
		- (Mississippi Basin) More farmer involvement in watershed leadership.
* Virtual shop talks to be held in February and March. Dr. Amanda Gumbert will update the Authority when she has more advertising and link information.
* Conservation Economics first talk.
* Farm management of nutrients.
* Farm trials and field trials.
	+ Field Trials dates
		- Feb. 3rd
		- Feb. 17th
		- March 3rd
		- March 17th
* Larry Thomas Farm Bureau - annual meeting will be held in December, but will be delegates only.
* Joe Cain Farm Bureau announced that the next Water Management Working Group meeting will be held on Zoom December 9th at 10:00 am.

**Next Meeting** – Scheduled for February 11th @ 9:30 AM

Adjourn – 10:14 AM