

Allegheny County Forestry Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Western Regional Forestry Office
14110 Pleasant Valley Road, Flintstone, MD 21530

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm by Chair, Marie Miller.

Members Present: Marie Miller, Champ Zumbrun, Bernie Zlomek, Juls Wood, Darrell Williams, and Adam Miller

Members Not in Attendance: Deborah Landau, Anne Stark, Steve Resh, and Brad Metzger

Special Guests: Ted Hoxie

Goals and Annual Work Plan for the Board to meet for 2025

- **Completed** Develop the 2025 Goals and Annual Work Plan
- **Started** Raise funds to support Allegheny County Forestry Board
- **Started** Maintain current membership and welcome new members as appropriate
- **Started** Hold at least 6 local Forestry Board meetings and 4 special events
- **Started** Complete all financial disclosure forms and update Volunteer forms as needed
- **Started** Find, interview, approve and financially support 2 students for NRCC
- **Started** Promote outreach for NRCC
- Support NRCC at camp with volunteers
- **Started** Facilitate the Forestry portion of the Envirothon
- **Started** plan and co-sponsor with Allegheny Arts Council the photo contest at the Allegheny County Fair
- **Started** Facilitate 2 PLT Workshops
- **Started** Facilitate Liberty Tree Program and implement a Liberty Tree planting at the Allegheny County Courthouse to be coordinated with July 4th event.
- **Started** Support Big Tree Program
- **Started** Support Cumberland Watershed Plan Implementation
- **Started** Facilitate both webpage and Facebook links and keep them active and adaptive
- **Completed** Conduct a county-wide 5th grade Arbor Day poster contest
- **Started** Review and approve urban tree planting grants such as MDOT & MUCFC
- **Started** Initiate planning to commemorate celebration of our nation's 250th anniversary with a representative big tree and public outreach event for 2026
- **Started** Support Real World Forestry program at Evergreen Heritage Center

Note: Goals will be listed for the Forestry Board to track their success and act as a reminder of needed accomplishments for the 2025 Annual Work Plan. The word "completed" will be placed in the front of each goal once it has been accomplished.

Old Business:

Review of Minutes:

Approval of the January meeting minutes was completed. Darrell made a motion to approve, and Bernie seconded the motion. The vote to approve passed.

Volunteer Hours (Since last meeting): 48hours total Bernie – 20, Champ – 16, Steve – 8 and Juls – 4

Financial Activities:

Bernie provided a copy of the updated financial report. He reported that all accounts were balanced and up to date. The board discussed the idea of creating a separate bank account for strictly PLT related items. The vote passed to create a new bank account.

PLT:

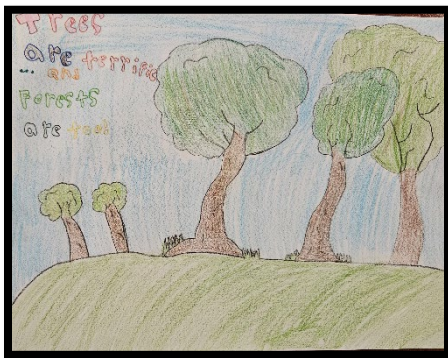
Bernie and Adam provided a recap of the Spring PLT workshop and stated that it was a success and that it was attended by 18 elementary ed major students from FSU. Student reviews were very high as the workshop was well-received among students. Juls made a motion for the board to approve Bernie buying PLT books for future workshops and Champ seconded it and it passed.

Financial disclosure forms:

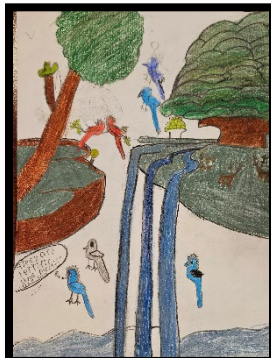
Adam reminded the board members to complete these forms at their earliest convenience and provide confirmation. So far only 4 members have provided confirmation.

5th grade poster contest vote

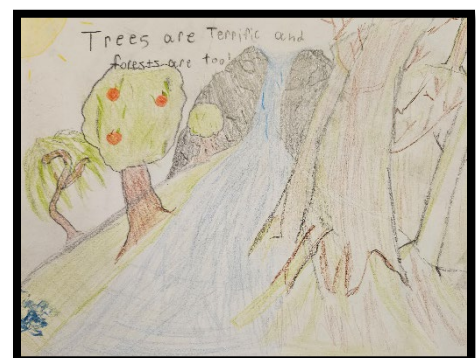
Members voted on the poster contest and selected the top 3 county winners. Monetary prizes will be presented at a later date.



*1st - Anastasia Rae
Westernport Elementary*



*2nd - Honesty Williams
West Side Elementary*



*3rd - Natalie Shearer
West Side Elementary*

New Business:

NRCC

Adam and Champ informed the board that the Allegany Soil Conservation District and the LaVale Lions Club will each donate \$500 to sponsor a total of 2 students to attend camp in 2025. Marie informed the group that we have one application and that an interview date will be scheduled soon. All are encouraged to attend the interview as available.

Big Tree Program:

The board tentatively plans to have a big tree measuring field day during the week of May 12-16. Adam informed the board that we need to re-measure 25 big trees since it's been 10 years. Adam will create a list of new big trees that need to be measured. ACM work study student will be compiling a list of big trees that need to be re-measured. The idea was mentioned to use students to make a map of current big trees.

Forestry Photo Contest 2025

The board voted on removing the film type as a requirement on submissions. This update will be given to the Allegany Fair board so they can make the adjustment. Adam said that the location of the Allegany Arts Council has changed but they still wish to co-sponsor this event.

Ag Awareness Day

Washington Middle School will be hosting a career day for 6th graders. This will expose them to various career opportunities in agriculture and natural resources. Adam, Marie, and Sarah all plan to attend and have stations. This event will be April 8th from 1:30 to 2:45 pm.

High/Middle School Art Poster Contest:

The board decided to cancel this event for this year and potentially try again next year.

Liberty Tree:

Champ provided an update on the Liberty Tree Program and stated that all available trees were accounted for. He also has a backlog of interest for future years. Hoping for successful germination from the state nursery and still waiting on the count. Champ and Brad will plant a Liberty Tree at the Allegany County courthouse and hope to have a public event in combination with the Library near Arbor Day. This event is scheduled for June 14th, 2025.

Envirothon

Adam reminded the board about helping with the Envirothon at Rocky Gap on April 23rd. He encouraged all who were able to attend. Prizes will need to be purchased in advance for the first-place team in forestry.

Statewide Forestry Meeting:

Adam provided a recap of the statewide forestry board meeting. He provided some details on the new re-structuring of the forestry boards moving forward.

Upcoming Events:

Ag Career Day - April 8th

Envirothon - April 23rd

Big Tree Measurement Day – May 16th

The meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

Attended Events: (note, members need to attend at least 50% of yearly meetings to be in good standing)

- **January 15, 2025:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley. **Brad Metzger, Steve Resh, Darrel Williams Juls Wood, Sarah Llewellyn, Francis Zumbrun, Marie Miller, Bernie Zlomek and Adam Miller**
- **January 13, 2025:** Brad and Champ attended a virtual meeting with MD 250 group to talk about getting Liberty Trees. **Brad Metzger and Champ Zumbrun**
- **February 2025:** Sarah reached out to 5 schools promoting the arbor day poster contest. **Sarah Llewellyn**
- **February 28th, 2025:** PLT workshop at FSU for 18 elementary ed major students. **Bernie Zlomek, Francis Zumbrun, Steve Resh, and Adam Miller**
- **March 5th, 2025:** Allegany County Forestry Board Meeting at Pleasant Valley. Voted on 5th grade Arbor Day posters. **Darrel Williams Juls Wood, Francis Zumbrun, Marie Miller, Bernie Zlomek and Adam Miller**
- **March 6th, 2025:** Attended statewide forestry board meeting at Greenbriar State Park. **Steve Resh and Adam Miller**
- **March 28th, 2025:** NRCC student interview with Abigail Squire at Pleasant Valley. **Juls Wood, Brad Metzger, Champ Zumbrun, and Adam Miller**
- **April 8th, 2025:** Attended Ag Awareness Day at Washington Middle School for 6th grade students. **Marie Miller, Adam Miller, and Sarah Llewellyn**