



# CALVERT COUNTY FOREST CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD

*Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chair*

*Jill Lee, Vice Chair*

*Dawn Balinski, Treasurer*

*David Campbell*

*Kenneth Johnston*

*Amalia Pleake-Tamm*

*Steve Stadelman*

The Calvert County Forest Conservancy District Board met on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at the Phillips House in Prince Frederick, MD. Members in attendance included Dawn Balinski, Steve Stadelman, Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Jill Lee, David Campbell, Ken Johnston and Brian Stupak. Guests included Caroline Trossbach and Therese Johnston. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Autumn Phillips-Lewis, Chairperson.

## **Treasurer's Report**

- Current balance - \$2,416.00
- Expenditures
  - \$426.00 pass through for MUCFC grant tree planting at the Tidewater School in Huntingtown, MD
  - \$864.00 for Envirothon shirts

## **Old Business**

- 2025 seminar event – The board decided to hold an invasive ID tour at ACLT on September 27, 2025. Logistics, planning and advertising will be worked on during the spring and summer.
- Envirothon – t-shirts purchased and have been delivered to CHESPAX, along with the instructor gifts.
- Annual financial disclosure – All members have completed their disclosures.
- Big Tree Program – 4 trees remeasured. 7 trees remain and all permissions have been obtained.
- Website update – Steve still working with the web designer to get the site up.

## **New Business**

- Calvert Co. Ag Development presentation - The Board heard from Caroline Trossbach, Ag Development Specialist with the Calvert Economic Development Dept. She gave a description of her program and solicited ideas from the board on how she can assist forest landowners in the county. Ideas included, increasing the number of consultant foresters, educating landowners on the various tax reduction programs, cost-share programs, Woods in your Backyard and management practices available to them.
- Forestry Board reorganization – Brian and Dawn briefed the Board on the proposed reorganization of the forestry boards. Members were concerned with how the financials would be handled, having reduced input on Critical Area timber harvest approvals, approval timelines for timber harvest plans and legal affiliation with regional boards for the purpose of securing grant funding. They also had questions about who could serve on the regional board (chair or any member) and how often they could rotate the position. The Board was also concerned about the proposed dismantling of the website currently under construction and the loss of funds spent on the project.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. The next regular meeting will be April 9, 2025, at the ACLT office in Prince Frederick, MD. **The meeting will start at 6:00pm.**