

BOARD MINUTES

RANDOLPH COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Asheboro, North Carolina

April 11, 2005

Supervisors Present:

Craig Frazier, Chairman
William Alston, V. Chairman
Richard Canoy, Secretary
Amy Hughes, Treasurer
Shaun Hayes, Member

Others Present:

Barton Roberson, DC
Jenny Parks, Adm. Sec.
Kelly Whitaker, S&W Engineer
Jerry Dorset, Area Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 a.m. Frazier welcomed everyone to the meeting. Travel vouchers were signed and returned.

ACTION ITEMS:

The March 14, 2005 Minutes were reviewed and corrections were made. Canoy moved, seconded by Alston, the board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of March 14, 2005.

Parks presented the Treasurer's Report. Hayes moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to accept the Treasurer's Report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Parks presented the Requested Soil and Water Budget for 2005-2006. This information has already been to the County Finance Office due to a deadline of March 31, 2005. Canoy moved, seconded by Hayes, the board voted unanimously to accept the Requested Budget as presented.

Roberson gave the NRCS Report as follows:

- Roberson discussed Civil Rights. Discussion was had as to how to reach out to more minority producers in the county, providing equal services to all.
- Roberson reported that Randolph County has been allocated \$303,818 in EQIP to fund eight contracts.
- Roberson presented the NRCS 2004 Accomplishments Report for information.
- Roberson reported that the EQIP Status Reviews have now begun.
- Roberson reported that the office has received a new color printer and a new scanner from NRCS.

Operational Reviews were discussed. Kelly Whitaker needs to become designated to perform these reviews. More information will follow.

Alston gave the RC&D Report as follows:

- There will be a Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, April 12, 2005 in Burlington across from the RC&D Office in the library.

Whitaker gave the NCACSP Report as follows:

- Whitaker reported the following allocations for NCACSP for Randolph County:

Initial Allocation	\$60,654
September 2004	\$ 9,013
November 2004	\$ 3,780
March 2005	\$21,038
TOTAL	\$94,485 as of 4/11/05

- Gary Caviness' contract will be funded with additional allocation received

-Three NCACSP applications were funded through EQIP, Donald Chriscoe's application will be cancelled and he will be notified; and contact would be made to Adam Beeson and Alan Coble regarding their NCACSP application due to EQIP funding as well. Their applications would need to be cancelled.

-Discussion was had regarding the NCACSP Spot Checks for this year. The board picked #5 to start with, then every 20th. The board picked number 2 as an alternate number in case #5 was used in the most recent years. This will allow for 5% spot check of the NCACSP contracts.

Whitaker gave the Community Conservation Report as follows:

-Three rain barrels have been sold/accounted for so far. The Rain Barrel sale will be in the Wal-Mart parking lot in Asheboro on Thursday, April 21, 2005 from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Ten dollar deposits are being taken from those who wish to purchase one. Three have been ordered so far.

-The Urban Cost Share Grant was discussed. Whitaker met with Nancy Guthrie of CWMTF and she recommended completing application with specific target areas. She recommended Back Creek and Sandy Creek. She said to contact homeowners associations and get a good idea of BMP's that can be installed. Contact municipalities for matching funds. Discussion was had on doing 2 separate applications, one for Back Creek and one for Sandy Creek for the December deadline. Hughes moved, seconded by Alston, the board voted unanimously to apply for this grant with two separate applications (one for Sandy Creek and one for Back Creek) and meet the December, 2005 deadline.

-Frazier signed the two Foundation grants received for the two lagoon closures.

-Whitaker presented a letter for review and comments regarding the Environmental Grants Program. This letter is requesting funding (\$500,000) from Smithfield Food's Environmental Enhancement Grant Program to help the District in developing a Farmland Conservation Easement Program. Alston moved, seconded by Hughes, the board voted unanimously to approve the support letter presented as above. Frazier will sign the letter on behalf of the District.

A letter was presented to the board for review and comment regarding the District's support for the Piedmont Land Conservancy's application for the Davis Farm located in Chatham and Randolph Counties toward the Environmental Enhancement Grants Program. Canoy moved, seconded by Hughes, the board voted unanimously to approve the support letter presented as above. Frazier will sign the letter on behalf of the District.

A DRAFT Copy of the Cape Fear River Basin wide Water Quality Plan was presented for review/information.

There will be a Stormwater Workshop in Nash County on May 11, 2005 for supervisors and staff.

The NC Division of Water Quality has scheduled a Nutrient Management Strategy and TMDL Public Meeting on May 2, 2005, 6:00 p.m. in Building 1 of Alamance Community College in Graham. Those interested should attend.

An application for Nicholas A. McPherson was presented to the board for approval of him attending the 2005 Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW) that will be held at NC State University June 26 – July 1, 2005 in Raleigh. Hughes moved, seconded by Alston, the board voted unanimously to approve McPherson's application for him to attend the RCW and pay the workshop fee of \$295, plus a \$15 parking pass, and \$140 towards his meals and mileage. McPherson will be sent a letter stating that he was accepted to attend the RCW.

Parks announced that the State Envirothon will be held at Cedar Rock Park in Burlington on April 22 and 23, 2005. Those wishing to volunteer should complete a volunteer sign up sheet and return to the appropriate persons. Everyone was encouraged to volunteer.

Hayes presented the Conservation Farm Family information. The District will not be nominating a farm at this time.

Discussion was had regarding office space being sought. Due to GSA requiring a fire escape be put at each ends of the Farmer's Mutual Insurance building, the District will only have 345 square feet available to lease in this building. Alston moved, seconded by Hughes, the board voted unanimously for the District to seek office space elsewhere due to the limited amount of square feet available. Parks will be contacting Frank Willis, County Manager, to let him know of this action.

Roberson reported that Ken Cox wishes not to construct his pond through EQIP on his previously approved contract and we are waiting on word from Jonathan Brubaker on whether or not he wishes to construct.

Parks read a thank you note from Justin Lowe thanking the District for their support and allowing him to come during March and give an update.

Discussion was had regarding the Proposed Farm Bill – Farm preservation. Dorsett reported that there is currently not a spot on the board for a SWCD Supervisor and if anyone felt like it was needed they should contact Steve Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture, and let him know their comments. Alston moved, seconded by Canoy, the board voted unanimously to draft a letter to Commissioner Troxler regarding the need for a SWCD Supervisor on the board.

Parks shared with the Board that the Soil and Water Office is in need of another vehicle. Parks has spoken with the County Purchasing Agent, Audrey Alexander, about whether or not there is a county vehicle available that is not being used or if a department would be replacing any existing vehicles. Prices of a new vehicle were discussed and Parks was advised to ask County Manager Frank Willis if the Soil and Water Department would be allowed to carry over \$17,000 from this budget year into 2005 to pay for a new vehicle. Currently all of the vehicle contracts have expired and will not be renewed again until fall of 2005; therefore no vehicle can be purchased right now. More information will follow as it becomes available.

Information on “Subchapter 2T – Waste Not Discharged to Surface Waters” was presented for information. If anyone has any comments they should let Frazier know.

The following consent items were approved:

- Employee weekly logs
- April & May Calendars
- NCASWCD 2005 Program Objectives
- ENOTES – NACD (3/15/05; 3/22/05; 3/29/05; 4/5/05)
- Area 3 Envirothon Score Sheets (SAMS placed 7th in the Middle School competition)

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Chairman Signature

Date of Approved Minutes

The Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting will be May 9, 2005 at 7:30 a.m.
Federal Building, 241 Sunset Avenue
Asheboro, NC 27203