

MINUTES

Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
721 Foster St.
Durham, NC 27701
(second floor conference room)

Meeting Number: 4 (District Meeting)

Date: April 6, 2015

Meeting Number: 9 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Ray Eurquhart, Financial Officer/Supervisor
Danielle Adams, Vice Chairman
David Harris, Associate Supervisor
Mark Dewitt, Associate Supervisor
Melissa Rooney, Associate Supervisor
Kathryn Spann, Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Senior Administrative Officer
Jennifer Brooks, Soil Conservationist/EE Coordinator
Mike Dupree, Ag Development/Watershed Conservationist
Matthew Kinane, NRCS- District Conservationist
Louise Harte, Division of Soil & Water- Regional Coordinator
Kelly Hedgepeth, Division of Soil & Water-ACSP Manager
Laura Webb-Smith- City of Durham
Ken Reckhow- citizen

The regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, April 6, 2015, and called to order at 5:36 pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street.

1. Minutes and Financial Report – A motion was made by Danielle Adams to accept the financial statement and approve the minutes. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

2. Old Business

A. City of Durham- Laura Webb-Smith passed out an update from City Stormwater and GIS Services to the board and staff. Smith reported the following:

- **Infrastructure Group-** The City's consultant, Wildlands Engineering, Inc., continues to work on the design and construction documents for the third Fork Creek Stream Restoration project. The project web page will be updated throughout the course of the project.
- **New Engineer/Development Review Group-** New engineer begins today. Service was delayed due to vacant position.
- **SWCD Contract-** Waiting to hear back from Soil and Water on the project for the remaining \$400 from the installation budget. The inspection of the retrofits will continue under the contract for 5 years.

B. Director's Report – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **Budget Hearing-** FY15-16 department budget hearing will be held on April 17 at 11am.
- **BOCC Meeting-** On April 13th the Soil and Water Department will have an item on the consent agenda to purchase a new vehicle and purchase software.
- **Practice Keepers Demonstration-** On April 4th Practice Keepers will do a demonstration. The City of Durham, NRCS, County Engineering, Environmental Health and other Soil and Water Districts across the state have been invited to see the demonstration.
- **NC Water Resources "Excellence Award"**- Durham Soil and Water received an award from the NC Water Resources during a luncheon on March 18th that Ray Eurquhart, Curtis Richardson, Eddie Culberson and Jennifer Brooks attended.
- **NJAA/District Land-** The County is in the process of hiring an Attorney (Real Estate).

C. Upper Neuse River Basin Association Issues Update- David Harris reported on the following:

- Passed out papers on the March 18 UNRBA meeting to board and staff
 - Resign FY 2016 Executive Director Services Contract- was tabled until next meeting on May 20
 - FY2016 Budget was approved
 - UNRBA discussed nutrient credits
 - UNRBA discussed the monitoring program that is still going on. The process is continually being trekked.
 - Potential Legislative changes to Chapter 160D
 - June 17 meeting- Mr. Harris needs another Durham Soil and Water supervisor to attend in his place. Danielle Adams agreed to go in his place.

D. Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update – Mark Dewitt reported on the following:

- Work session – May 6
- Presentation on May 6 on tree report to the City Council
- **Soil and Water Rep-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to appoint Mark Dewitt as the Soil and Water representative to the EAB. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Annual Retreat-** was held on April 1 at Satisfactions.
 - Came up with list of items they want to work on

E. Agricultural Cost Share Program- Jennifer Brooks reported the following:

- **6th month extension approval** –
 - a. **Contract-** A motion was made to acknowledge a 6th month extension on contract # 32-2014-002 for grassed waterways. The contract extension will end on May 25th. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - b. **Contract-** A motion was made to acknowledge a 6th month extension on contract # 32-2014-003 for grassed waterways. The contract extension will end on August 21. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - c. **Application for Assistance-** Has 1 application for assistance on contract #32-2015-007 for Long Term no-till. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the application as presented. Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - d. **Approval of Contract-** Has 1 contract 32-2015-007 for Long Term no-till on 166 acres. The contract is in the amount of \$5,060 now with a supplemental contract for \$19,940 in the fall. This contract had a ranking score of 70. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Remaining funds** \$65
- **Spring Allocation-** received \$4,228

F. AgWRAP

- **Cost Share Cap-** received \$12,475 for FY15 but in 2012 the Durham SWCD Board voted to set a 50% cost share cap. Staff would recommend the Board to change it to a 75% cap with \$5,000 max per pond. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to remove the 50% cap and change it to a 75% cap. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent
- **Pond Application**
- Pond application got approved by the NC Soil and Water Commission for South Wind Farm, LLC.
- **Application** - A motion was made to approve the application for 2 pond sediment removals for contract # 32-2015-802. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Contract-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract for 2 pond sediment removals for contract # 32-2015-802 in the amount of \$10,000. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

G. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans Jennifer Brooks reported that since the last meeting they have had 8 plans. 7 were adequate and 1 was inadequate as follows: Liberty Ridge; Fairway Townhomes @ Croasdaile; Seminary Ave Self Storage; Waffle House; Waffle House @55; 539 Foster Street; Duke University Science Cameron parking Garage. 1 was inadequate due to no seeding plan as follows: Duke University R. David Thomas Conference Center.

H. CCAP – Mike Dupree reported on the following:

- **Applications for Assistance-** Has 3 applications for assistance on the following contracts #32-2015-539 for impervious conversion and rain garden installation; 32-2015-540 for rain garden, cistern and critical area planting; 32-2015-541 for rain gardens. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the 3 applications as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Approval of Contract** - Has 1 contract 32-2015-537 for cistern and rain garden. The contact amount is \$2092 with a ranking score of 180 using Durham SWCD 319 funds. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Request for Payment-** contract #32-2015-508 for \$365 for a rain garden. Danielle Adams made a motion to approve the RFP as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Duke Energy Grant-** Letter of inquiry was submitted to Duke Energy requesting \$100,000 for CCAP.
- **ISIP-** Saturday, May 2nd is the Hope Valley North HOA Annual Spring Plant Sale and garden tour. This year the garden tour will highlight BMP's that have been installed in the neighborhood. The students with School of Science and Math created a video and designed five rain gardens. The students from Southern will be installing rain gardens each Wednesday this month starting on the 15th.
- **319 Grant-** The first quarterly report and request for reimbursement was submitted on April 2.
- **Blue Waters Day-** Saturday, June 6- Southern High School, collaboration between Durham Soil and Water Conservation District and RBC Centura Bank and the Southern High School BETC program. Volunteers are going to Southern High School to do a stream cleanup and install a rain garden.

I. Administrative Officer– Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **'Dig It' campaign-** The NCASWCD is collecting contributions from across the state to help support the 'Dig It' campaign. Their goal is to raise \$5,000. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to contribute \$100 contingent the NCASWCD reaches their goal. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Northern High School Media Event-** will be held on April 28th 9:15am to 10:15am. The event is sponsored by Durham Soil and Water and the NC Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation and will highlight the two handicapped accessible beds that were installed with funds from Walmart. There will be several dignitaries at the event. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to allow staff to spend up to \$400 on supplies to spruce up the beds and also to purchase snacks for the event. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

J. Environmental Education- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- **NC Envirothon-** will be held April 24-25 at Cedar Rock Park in Burlington. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Jennifer Brooks.
- **Area IV Envirothon-** Brooks thanked Eddie Culberson, Mike Dupree and Danielle Adams for helping out at the Area IV Envirothon. Durham had 4 teams to qualify to go onto the State event, but only 3 teams are going due to schedule conflict.

K. Durham Farmland Protection- Mike Dupree reported on the following:

- **Next meeting** is scheduled for April 16 at 8am.
- **Northern High-** have been trying hard to help out the new Ag Ed teacher
- **Jordan High-** new horticultural program
- **Food Distribution Center-** has two tenants
- **Durham Public Schools-** is allocating \$150,000 of their food budget to buy local food.
- **Durham Farm Food Network-** Working toward building food policy council for Durham.

- **Farmland Board subcommittee-** meeting Tuesday to discuss forming Durham Curb Market

L. Stream Restoration and Stormwater Projects – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **Southern High School Stormwater Project-**
 - Reuse pond is saving the school \$15,000 annually
 - EEG and CWMTF grants both require an easement
- **Sandy Creek Phase V-** all funds have been released from CWMTF
- **Ward Farm-** submitted 2 grants totaling \$760,000

M. NRCS – Matthew Kinane reported on the following:

- **Staffing-** NRCS is moving to 18 units across the state and doing away with Conservationist in each district.
- **Computer-** will need a letter if you want an NRCS computer.
- **EQIP**
- Received two applications from March 20, 2015 ranking period. Kinane has ranked them and they are now waiting for approval.
- Two applications from the January 16, 2015 ranking period from Durham County have been approved.
- **Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program-** Wendy Seddon and Matt Kinane need to go visit FRPP sites.
- **Civil Rights and Equal Opportunities Responsibilities-**
 - Receipt of Request for Benefit or Service Offered by USDA (aka Receipt for Service): NRCS personnel will be providing Receipt for Service (using a web-based tool) to customers who call, email, or visit the field office.

New Business

A. Program Review- Kelly Hedgepeth passed out a copy of the program review. Program reviews are done every 5 years.

B. Closed Session

At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made by Danielle Adams to adjourn to Closed Session pursuant to G.S.143.318.11(a)(3) to discuss a personnel issue. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Reconvene to Open Session at 8:10 p.m.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 8:12pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 4, 2015 at 5:30pm- 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Katie Locklier
Secretary/Treasurer

Approval date