

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 7 (District Meeting)

Date: July 6, 2015

Meeting Number: 1 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

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

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Jennifer Brooks, Soil Conservationist/EE Coordinator
Mike Dupree, Ag Development/Watershed Conservationist
Matthew Kinane, NRCS- District Conservationist
Louise Hart, Division of Soil & Water Regional Coordinator
Jessica Pope, Contract Worker
Makayla Butler, RCW Durham County student representative
Heather Riley, guest

The regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, July 6, 2015, and called to order at 5:30 pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster Street.

Minutes– A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Old Business

- A.** Upper Neuse River Basin Association Issues Update- David Harris reported on the following:
 - a. He attended a tour of 4 monitoring sites and participated in sampling above and below the monitoring stations
- B. Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** – Mark Dewitt could not attend the June meeting, but will attend the July meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 8.
- C. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** - Jennifer Brooks reported that since the last meeting they have had 10 plans. All were adequate as follows: City Barbeque, Triangle Business Park Lot 5, Lakewood Residential Subdivision, GFI Fiber, Davis Park West Infrastructure, Brightleaf at the Park Track 8 phase 4, Davis Parkwest Apartments, Hillsborough Rd Business Park, New Creation United Methodist Church, GSK Surface Parking Additions
- D. Board Business**
 - a. Whitepaper – The Board discussed the Whitepaper. At the BOCC Budget hearing in June Commissioners urged the board to bring the whitepaper to a worksession soon. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to get the Whitepaper on the BOCC's Aug 3rd worksession agenda. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Danielle Adams has agreed to talk to Commissioner Howerton about getting it on the agenda.

b. **Office Relocation** – The Board discussed the update on the SWCD, Forestry & USDA/NRCS proposed moved to the renovated Judicial Building. To date the SWCD Board of Supervisors and the Durham County Farmland Protection Advisor Board have both submitted letters of disagreement with moving Soil & Water, Forestry & USDA/NRCS from the Ag Building at 721 Foster St. The letters were submitted to the County Manager. A letter is also being submitted by the Durham County Farm Bureau stating their displeasure with this move. Danielle met with the Co. Manager on June 19th and gave an overview of the meeting in regards to the relocation. Ray reported that he has also reached out to invite the County Manager to a future SWCD Board of Supervisors meeting to discuss the matter. Kathryn Spann updated the Board on a Farmland Board project that the relocation would jeopardize: the Farmland Board’s effort to establish a “Durham farmers only” farmers market in the parking lot of the Ag Building. There is great interest in this new market but they are meeting resistance. Partly due to a plan to close the Washington St exit to increase the parking lot spaces. Eddie reported that he is meeting with his interim Deputy County Manager, Drew Cummings, this Thursday and will bring this matter up. Danielle asked all board members reach out to the BOCC to appraise them of this issue and ask them for assistance to reverse this decision.

E. Director’s Report – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **Co. Managers Budget**- FY15-16 department budget was passed, giving SWCD 1 additional FTE, Hydrilla funds for Eno River treatment and additional money for fuel. SWCD presented its proposed budget to BOCC at its worksession on Wednesday, June 3rd at 12:30pm. 4 Board Supervisors and two Associates attended and it was a great success. Eddie thanked the Board for their support and attendance.
- **Farm Bureau Meeting** – The SWCD staff prepare a meal for the June Farm Bureau on June 11th at 6:30pm at the Roxboro St Farm Bureau office to thank them for their past support. Rudy Langley fried fish on site as the main dish.
- **Practice Keeper software** – July 29th and 30th staff training on software.
- **Interim deputy county manager** – Drew Cummings has been appointed to this position and will be Eddie’s point of contact.
- **Interim HR Director** – Kathy Evertt Perry has been appointed to this position.
- **NJAA** – DCo attorney sent letter to lawyer of NJAA with Board’s request and questions, but has not heard back.

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

- a. Waiting on state budget to pass for FY 16 funding. SWCC will meet in mid-Aug to determine District allocations at that time.
- b. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the Request for Payment. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - i. RFP – 32-2015-001 Neil Frank, Cropland Conversion to Grass for \$739 (warm season native grasses).
- c. A motion was made by Curtis Richardson to approve the Request for Payment. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - i. RFP – 32-2013-003 Hidden Hill Farm, Ag Well for \$4,191.

G. AgWRAP

- No new business to report. Waiting on State budget to pass for FY 16 funding

H. CCAP – Mike Dupree reported on the following:

- a. **City RFP** was submitted on Friday the 19th. Requested \$70,000. Waiting to hear result.
- b. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the following 18 Applications for Assistance. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - i. 32-2016-501 Burton for stream bank stabilization, ranking score 185 Goose Creek Falls.
 - ii. 32-2016-502 Bucala for grassed swale, ranking score 170, Third Fork Creek, Jordan
 - iii. 32-2016-503 Boggs for a rain garden, ranking score 150, North East Creek Jordan
 - iv. 32-2016-504 Scrap Exchange for impervious conversion, ranking score 195, Sandy Creek, Jordan
 - v. 32-2016-505 Harper for two rain gardens, ranking score 170, Little Lick Creek, Falls
 - vi. 32-2016-506 Q Smith for a cistern, ranking score 165, Little Lick Creek, Falls
 - vii. 32-2016-507 Stover for a rain garden and a swale, ranking score 185, New Hope Creek, Jordan
 - viii. 32-2016-508 Myer for Stream bank stabilization and a cistern, ranking score 200, New Hope Creek Jordan
 - ix. 32-2016-509 Revere's Run for Critical Area Buffer installation, ranking score 175, Third Fork , Jordan
 - x. 32-2016-510 Fortman for Critical Area Buffer installation & cistern , ranking score 180, North East Creek ,Jordan
 - xi. 32-2016-511 Watt's Elem PTA for rain garden and swale, ranking score 175, Ellerbe , Falls
 - xii. 32-2015-512 Yarborough for stream bank stabilization, ranking score 195, Third Fork Creek, Jordan
 - xiii. 32-2016-513 North Street HOA for a cistern, ranking score 165, Ellerbe Falls
 - xiv. 32-2016-514 Silver for rain garden, ranking score 170, Ellerbe , Falls
 - xv. 32-2016-515 Warnes for grassed waterway, ranking score 180, Northeast Creek, Jordan
 - xvi. 32-2016-516 Goode for cistern and grassed waterway, ranking score 180, Northeast Creek Jordan
 - xvii. 32-2016-517 Horton for cistern, ranking score 165, Third Fork Creek, Jordan
 - xviii. 32-2016-518 Levine for cistern, ranking score 170, Ellerbe Creek, Falls
- c. A motion was made by Curtis Richardson to batch and approve the following 3 Contracts. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - i. 32-2016-506 for \$1464 pending availability of state funds
 - ii. 32-2016-511 for \$5000 of the DSWCD 319 funds
 - iii. 32-2016-513 for \$5000 of DSWCD 319 Funds
- d. A motion was made by Curtis Richardson to approve the Request for Payment. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - i. 32-2015-523 Sinclair \$2187 CCAP funds, mailed to division on June 29, 2015

- I. **Stream Restoration and Stormwater Projects** – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
- **Southern High School Stormwater Project**- received Phase II funding by EEG for \$435,000. Total grant funds to date for SHS Project = \$936.5K !
 - **Ward Project** – CWMTF Board meeting in August. Hope to receive word after that on funding.
- J. **Environmental Education**
- a. **Blue Waters Day** - Saturday June 6th- Southern High School and the District each received a check for \$1000. The Blue Waters Team at RBC would like to work with the District again next year on Saturday June 4, 2016. The more volunteers they have the more funding they give to the organization.
 - b. **Urban Conservationist Award** – Mike presented an overview on the Award presentation to North Hope Valley HOA. This neighborhood has been extremely active in the past several years in installing stormwater BMPs and education/outreach for nutrient reduction. The award was presented to them by Supervisor Danielle Adams and Mike at a neighborhood meeting on June 9th.
- K. **Administrative Report** – Jennifer updated the Board on the current cost of both rain barrels the District currently sales for its fund raising efforts for environmental education, what they retail for and if the board should consider an increase in what to charge. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to increase the cost of the Ivy rain barrel to \$85 and the Moby to \$120. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- L. **Durham Farmland Protection**- Kathryn Spann reported that the Durham County Farmland Protection Board has been primarily focused on the ‘Durham farmer’ only farmers market, but at their next meeting, Thursday, July 16th, they will be talking about future focus areas.
- M. **NRCS** – Matthew Kinane reported on the following:
1. **New Delivery Service Model** – listening session upcoming in Hillsboro, NC, July 7th at 12:30pm
 2. EQIP – FY15-16 applications have closed. Durham County received funding for 2 producers; one for development of a Conservation Activity Plan for Transitioning to an Organic System and the other for installation of Micro-Irrigation System.
 3. Local Work Group Sessions will be hosted by the District later this summer to prioritize resource needs for FY16
- N. **Regional Coordinator** – Louise Hart told the Board about the Area 4 District Issues meeting on Wednesday, July 8th in Franklin Co and urged the Supervisors to attend to hear about potential cost share rule revisions. The Division and SWCC is asking for comments and opinions on current rules and potential changes that could affect how cost share and technical assistance reimbursement is allocated to Districts in the near future.

New Business

- A. RCW student presentation – Makayla Butler, Durham District’s representative to the RCW, gave a brief Prezi presentation on her week at the Resource Conservation Workshop. She is a rising Jr at Kestrel Heights Charter School and wants to study environmental policy in college. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the RCW and their support.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 8:03pm

Next Meeting: Monday, August 3, 2015, Time TBD - 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marschak
Senior Administrative Officer

8/3/2015
Approval date