

MINUTES

**Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
721 Foster St.
Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 1 (District Meeting)

Date: February 1, 2016

Meeting Number: 7(for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Danielle Adams, Vice-Chairman
Ray Eurquhart, Financial Officer/Supervisor
Katie Locklier, Treasurer/Secretary
Curtis Richardson, Supervisor
David Harris, Associate Supervisor
Melissa Rooney, Associate Supervisor
Mark Dewitt, Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Senior Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Natural Resources Coordinator
Mike Dupree, Agribusiness & Environmental Svc. Manager
Heather Dutra, Watershed Conservationist
Matthew Kinane, NRCS- District Conservationist
Mike Sturdivant- NRCS
Louise Hart, NC Division Soil & Water - Regional Coordinator

The regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, February 1, 2016, and called to order at 5:30pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Minutes/Financial Report– A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the minutes from the November meeting and accept the financial report. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Old Business

A. District Issues

- a. **Watershed Commission/GS139** –Ray Eurquhart gave an update on the Watershed Commission/GS139. City Manager, Tom Bonfield would like the Board to talk to JCCPC and the City Council.

B. Upper Neuse River Basin Association Issues Update-

 David Harris reported on the following:

- a. Gave update and showed the ppt. from Bobby Tucker that was presented at the last UNRBA meeting.

C. Environmental Affairs Board Update-

 Mark Dewitt reported on the following:

- Thanked Curtis Richardson doing a presentation on the Watershed Commission/ GS139 at the EAB meeting.
- EAB is looking into animal waste issues in the City.

D. Environmental Education

 – Jennifer Brooks report on the following:

- a. **Area IV Envirothon** – will be held in Nash County and they are in need of volunteers.
- b. **NC Source Water Protection**- We will be receiving an award for the BETC Program on March 17th from the NC Source Water Protection.

- E. Administrative Report** – Lisa Marochak reported on the following;
- a. **Area IV meeting-** Durham Soil and Water will be hosting the Area IV meeting this year. The Spring meeting will be held on February 25, 2016. Please let me know if you are planning to attend by February 15th and bring \$25 to cover your registration.
- F. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** - Jennifer Brooks reported that since the last meeting they have had eight plans. Eight were adequate as follows: Mirage Medical Office; 308 So. Alston-Family Fare Store; 102 W. Cornwallis-Family Fare Store; Duke University Brooks Practice Field Utility; Hopson Road Self Storage Center #1527; Brightleaf Tract-Phase 7; Del Webb Erosion Control Phase 5 & 6; Aramark Durham Building Expansion.
- G. Director’s Report** – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:
- a. **District Land** – Eddie Culberson met with Durham County Attorney, Willie Darby and NJAA Attorney, Jamie Clark on January 29th to discuss the District land, construction, liability & maintenance agreement that will need to be drawn up. The subcommittee has agreed to let NJAA use the level spreader. NJAA is planning to attend the Durham Soil and Water Board meeting on March 7.
 - b. **Pre-Budget Hearing-** Lisa Marochak and Eddie Culberson attended a pre-budget hearing on January 26. The Farmland Board would like us to ask for a full time Ag Economic Development Coordinator and \$25,000 to provide small grants to farmers. We will be also, asking for money to fund a contracted services position to help enter data in our new software (Practice Keepers) and money to pay for two seats for the Practice Keepers software.
 - c. **Practice Keepers software-** We finished up training on the new software last week.
 - d. **Alliance for Innovation-** They are a group that the County asked us to be a part of. Staff submitted an application to speak about the BETC/Stormwater Program at the 2016 Transforming Local Government - League of Minnesota Cities Conference. There was only two applications selected out of 60 and we were one of the two. The conference will be held June 14-18 and we are going to have 30minutes to give a presentation.
 - e. **NC Agricultural Development & Farmland Preservation Trust Grant for No-till Drill**
 - We are going to start getting prices on the No-till drill.
 - Jennifer has been checking with other districts to see how much they charge to use their drill and what kind of drill they purchased.
- H. Agricultural Cost Share Program-** Jennifer Brooks reported the following:
- a. **Application for Assistance- Application for Assistance** - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the following 3 Applications for Assistance. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - 32-2016-004, Rougemont Sport Horses for a repair
 - 32-2016-006, Angie Raines for a grassed waterway
 - 32-2016-2007, Neil Frank for 12.8 acres cropland conversion to grass
 - b. **Approval of Contract-**
 - Has 1 contract 32-2016-004 for a repair using 319 grant funds. The contract repair is in the amount of \$5,000. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- Has 1 contract 32-2016-006 for grassed waterway. The contract amount is \$4,167. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent
 - Has 1 contract 32-2016-007 for 12.8 acres of cropland conversion to grass. The contract amount of \$2,880. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent
- c. **Conservation Plan-** A motion was made by Curtis Richardson to approve the conservation plan for Ellen Ziemer as presented. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- d. **Remaining Funds:** \$6,508 for FY2016

I. **AgWRAP**

- **New Pond Applications-** due February 12th
 - **Submitting an application was Ellen Ziemer for a new pond.** The pond will be used to water live stock.
 - **2 Conservation Plans-** A motion was made by Katie Locklier to approve a the following conservation plans: Micro Irrigation for Danny Page and Pond Sediment Removal for Kevin Healy. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

J. **CCAP** – Heather Dutra reported on the following:

- a. **Application for Assistance** - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the following 3 Applications for Assistance. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 32-2016-536 for Jordan High School PTA for rain gardens, New Hope Creek, Jordan.
 - 32-2016-538 for Cassie Conner streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek/Jordan.
 - 32-2016-539 for Henry (Hal) Summerson streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek/Jordan.
- b. **Contracts Durham Duke Energy Grant Funds** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the following 3 Applications for Assistance. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 32-2016-533, Mike Sullivan for \$5,000 for a rain garden and cistern, Sandy Creek, Jordan, ranking score 195
 - 32-2016-534, Moorehead Montessori PTA for \$1053 for two rain gardens, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 185
 - 32-2016-502, John Bucala for \$3720 for a grass swale with tip rap plunge pool, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 170
 - 32-2016-529, Rebecca Slaughter for \$626 (contract Supplement) to cut driveway and install drain and pipe to rain garden, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 165
 - 32-2016-536, Jordan High PTA for \$5,000 for six rain gardens, New Hope Creek, Jordan, ranking score 210
- c. **Request for Payment-** 32-2016-523 for \$499 for the DSWCD 319 grant fund
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- d. **Duke Energy Grant-** Discussion with Wake SWCD
- **Duke Energy Funds** - 70/30 split of the Duke Energy Funds, \$70K for Durham. A motion was made by Katie Locklier to approve the 70/30 split as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Lisa Marochak reported that Durham Soil and Water Conservation District will managing the finances for the Duke Energy grant funds.

- **Wake SWCD-** Wake staff will come to the March 7 Board meeting and present projects approved by the Wake SWCD Board.
- **Duke Energy Award-** Lisa Marochak reported that Indira Everett, Duke Energy District Manager will present award from Duke Energy to Danielle Adams, Vice Chairman; Eddie Culberson, Director and Mike Dupree, Agribusiness & Environmental Svc. Manager during the Durham County Board of County Commissioners meeting. The award is for the \$100K received from Duke Energy to implement a Community Conservation Assistance program (CCAP) for best management practices installation in the Jordan Lake Watershed.

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

- Walker Project-** submitting application to CWMTF for \$400,000 for a 2,200 linear ft. stream restoration project. The stream is on the 303d list. Applications are due to CWMTF by February 8th. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to support staff submitting application to CWMTF for the Walker Project. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Ward Project-** Received CWMTF grant for \$400,000 for a stream restoration on the Ward farm.
- Mabry/Jackson Project-** Piedmont Community Council is submitting a grant application to CWMTF for a stream restoration project in the amount of \$596,380. The stream is on the 303d list.
- Southern High School Stormwater Project-**
 - We have received three large grants on the Southern High School Stormwater Project. Two of the grants are currently underway. The survey and design are completed.
 - Lisa Marochak reported that \$3,000 was paid to CEC on 12/18/2015

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

- **Farmland Report-** draft has been presented to the board for approval. Tentatively scheduled to present the report to the BOCC on March 7. The report will highlight the progress on the implementation of the farmland goals
- **GAP Training-** Bull City Cool sponsored a panel discussion on GAP certification and held a training on January 21st. There were four farmers that attended the training event Fast Track GAP. About 40 people attended the meeting.
The next farmer training is scheduled for April 6th at the Bull City Cool site. This will be a 5 hour workshop (9am to 3pm) on how to grade produce and review of the FDA recommendations for post-harvest handling and storage.
- **NCSSM Students-** will be conducting the Miniterm the first week of March. We will be working with Southern High and Lowe’s Gove Middle School to design rain gardens for the LGMS campus.

M. NRCS – Matthew Kinane reported on the following:

- North Carolina NRCS Service Delivery Model:**
 - NRCS in North Carolina is now operating under the “new” NRCS Service Delivery Model
- NRCS Conservation Practice Spotchecks:**
 - **Non-Engineering Spot Checks:** The Non-Engineering Spot-checks were conducted by Brian Short, Area Resource Conservationist, on November 2 and 3, 2015. Brian also reviewed conservation plans, applications, ranking forms, and compliance requests (CPA-026e). NRCS

staff are currently reviewing the action items that will need to be addressed. Additional information will be provided to the SWCD Board as those action items are corrected.

- **Engineering Spot Checks:** A spot-check on the Engineering practices was conducted on Thursday December 03, 2015 by Gowon Goode, NRCS Area 2 Acting Civil Engineer. At this time, Mr. Goode has not provided the Durham Delivery Point Field Office with his report.

c. Durham Delivery Point Office Program Appraisal

- a. The Raleigh Field Office received a Program Appraisal on Thursday December 03, 2015. The appraisal was conducted by Angela Little, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations –Salisbury and by Rhonda Ferguson, Program Assistant – Salisbury Area Office. At this time, the Durham Delivery Point Office has not received a copy of the report.

d. Annual Review of the Acknowledgement of Section 1619 Compliance

The Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board agreed to complying with section 1619 at your November 04, 2013 Board Meeting. A copy is available for your review.

EQIP 2016

1. 1st Batching Period for Applications –closed on Friday November 20, 2015. The Raleigh Field Office received 6 applications for this batching period for the following Funding Pools:
2. Seasonal High Tunnel Systems – 3 applications
3. Forestry – 1 application
4. Organic Transition – 1 application
5. Irrigation Efficiency- Micro-Irrigation – 1 application
6. The Eligibility closing date was extended 1 week and closed on Monday January 11, 2016. As of the close of business, all 6 applicants met the eligibility requirements
7. Field Office staff is working to complete conservation planning for the Ranking of each application. All applications were ranked by close of business on Friday January 22, 2016. Only applications that are eligible and have been ranked will be considered for funding.
8. The total amount of financial assistance requested for EQIP 2016 Batch 1 in Durham County is \$47,162.00. Hopefully we will know by mid-February which applications will be elevated to “Pre-Approval” and move to contract development.

e. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):

i. Prior Year EQIP Contracts:

1. All contracts with unapplied practices received a “Practice Reminder” letter during the month of January 2016.
2. All Active contracts will be receiving a status review during the month of February 2016.

f. UPCOMING EVENTS:

- a. The Agribusiness Breakfast at the 2016 Southern Farm Show on Wednesday February 03, 2016 at 7:00 am. The breakfast is \$10.00 and will be held at the Hunt Horse Complex.
- b. The North Carolina Forage and Grassland Council – 2016 Winter Conference Series will be held at three locations within the state. February 16 – Kenansville; February 17 – Statesville; and February 18 – Canton. Register at the following website <http://www.nccattle.com/fgcwinterconferenceregistration.aspx> See handout for more information.
- c. February 25, 2016 NCASWCD Area 4 Spring Meeting – Durham SWCD hosting

New Business:

Mike Dupree passed out a copy of the City of Durham's quarterly report

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 7:20pm

Next Meeting: Monday, March 7, 2016 at 5:30pm - 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

3/7/16
Approval date