

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 7 (District Meeting)

Date: July 11, 2016

Meeting Number: 1(for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Ray Eurquhart, Financial Officer/Supervisor
Katie Locklier, Treasurer/Secretary
David Harris, 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
Jessica Pope- Wake SWCD
Becky Emmons- Citizen
Doug Anderson- City of Durham/Water Resources staff

The regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, July 11, 2016, and called to order at 5:32pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

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

Old Business

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

- Passed out a copy of the Legislative updates to the Board attendees

B. Environmental Affairs Board Update- Mark Dewitt gave an update on EAB

- **Presentation from Duke Grad students**- The students looked at where the trees are in Durham and gave their conclusions.
- **Durham's Urban Forest: Living in the Shade of Social Justice**- sent in application for continued replacement of trees.
- **Work session**- Wednesday, June 8
- No July meeting

C. Sediment & Erosion Control Plans- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following: that since the last meeting they have had 8 plans and they were adequate as follows: The Lodge at Croasdaile Farm; Triangle Dermatology; Garrett Road Apartments; Duke University New East Campus Dorm; Gateway Center Mixed Use-Tract 1; Patterson Place Phase 2 Building G5; Royals Contracting; Chick-fil-A site improvement Westgate & Hwy 15-501.

D. Environmental Education – Jennifer Brooks report on the following:

- **Educators Workshop**- will be held July 18th-21st.
- **Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW)** – The two students the Board sponsored are planning to attend the August Board meeting.

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

- **FY16-17 County Manager Budget Recommendations** – On June 16th Eddie Culberson spoke to the BOCC about the FY16-17 budget request for Durham Soil and Water.
- **Piedmont Conservation Council** – They will be the temp agency for the contracted services money for FY16-17.
- **NJAA**- Received correspondence back from NJAA and forwarded it on to the subcommittee. Please send any comments in regards to the correspondence to Eddie Culberson.
- **NC Department of Public Safety**- David Harris and Eddie Culberson got invited to a meeting regarding flood insurance on houses.

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

- **No-till Drill** – Final payment request has been submitted. The drill was rented to the first client this past Friday.
- **Request For Payment**- has two request for payments that have already been signed by Ray Eurquhart:
 - A RFP for contract 32-2014-005 for \$3521 was presented to the Board for alternate watering source (drinkers with pipeline). RFP was signed on 6/21 by Ray Eurquhart.
 - A RFP for contract 32-2015-005 for \$7396 was presented to the Board for alternate watering source (drinkers with pipeline and a well). A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the RFP as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

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

1) Southern High Project/Phase I- started today and will be completed in 3 months. They will layout BMP's next Tuesday.

Payments made to CEC for the Southern High Project since last meeting

- 6/16/2016- made payment to CEC for \$885 for NCEEG grant DSWCD-013

3) Ward Project- received \$760,000 for the Ward Project. This will be enough to complete the project in 2 phases.

4) Marbrey/Jackson- PCC submitted a grant for Marbrey/Jackson on 3,045 ft. of stream but the Division of Water Resources does not recognize PCC as a 501C3, but they will accept the application in the Durham Soil and Water Conservation Districts name. PCC would still act as the project manager and Durham SWCD could monitor the easement. A motion was made by Katie Locklier for the board to take on the Marbrey/Jackson project with DWR.

5) Walker Project- submitted an application with Division of Water Resources for \$100,000.

H. CCAP – Heather Dutra reported on the following:

- **Applications for Assistance-** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to batch and approve the following 3 Application for Assistance. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - a. 32-2017-502: Miller for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 190.
 - b. 32-2017-528: Myer for streambank stabilization, New Hope Creek, Jordan, ranking score 180.
 - c. 32-2017-529: Manibo for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Jordan, ranking score 195.
- **Contracts -** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to batch and approve the following 2 Contracts as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - a. 32-2017-503: Hitti for \$4332 for impervious conversion to grass, Northeast Creek, Jordan, ranking score 165 (Duke Energy)
 - b. 32-2017-519: Porter for \$2867 for rain garden and cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 170 (319)
- **CCAP Contract Number Revisions-** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to roll-over the following active contracts from FY16 to FY17. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent: 32-2016-515 (new # 32-2017-501); 32-2016-547 (new # 32-2017-503); 32-2016-542 (new # 32-2017-504); 32-2016-562 (new # 32-2017-505); 32-2016-561 (new # 32-2017-506); 32-2016-552 (new # 32-2017-507); 32-2016-546 (new # 32-2017-508); 32-2016-539 (new # 32-2017-509); 32-2016-538 (new # 32-2017-510); 32-2016-560 (new # 32-2017-511); 32-2016-541 (new # 32-2017-512); 32-2016-566 (new # 32-2017-513); 32-2016-516 (new # 32-2017-514); 32-2016-544 (new # 32-2017-515); 32-2016-554 (new # 32-2017-516); 32-2016-564 (new # 32-2017-517); 32-2016-556 (new # 32-2017-518); 32-2016-558 (new # 32-2017-519); 32-2016-565 (new # 32-2017-520); 32-2016-550 (new # 32-2017-521); 32-2016-540 (new # 32-2017-522); 32-2016-535 (new # 32-2017-523); 32-2016-525 (new # 32-2017-524); 32-2016-545 (new # 32-2017-525); 32-2016-549 (new # 32-2017-526) and 32-2016-563 (new # 32-2017-527).
- **Request for Payment-**
 - a. 32-2016-508 for Myer for \$5,000 for streambank stabilization, Jordan, ranking score 180 (Duke Energy). A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the RFP as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - b. 32-2016-507 for Stover for \$1,612 for a cistern, New Hope Creek, Jordan, ranking score 185 (Duke Energy). Returning \$228 to Duke Energy. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the RFP as presented. Katie Locklier seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

I. Administrative Report – Lisa Marochak reported on the following;

- a. **Annual Internal Audit-** Scheduled was done by Katie Locklier and Ray Eurquhart on June 28th.
- b. **Associate Supervisor video-** Eddie Culberson and Lisa Marochak will be doing a presentation at the 2016 Conservation Employees Training August 24 on Associate Supervisors. Katie Locklier is going to help staff produce a video on the board's Associate Supervisors. Katie will contact the Associate Supervisors to schedule a time to do the video.

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

- The Farmland Board met on June 23rd. There will be no meeting in July, the FPAB would like Marqueta Weldon to attend the next meeting to discuss Ag Economic Development opportunities.
- **Durham Farm & Food Network-** The network meets the second Monday evening of the month from 6pm to 8pm at Bull City Cool on Geer St. The Farming and Natural Resources Action Group has listed its priorities on the DFFN website.

Grant updates

- **Smith Richardson Foundation-**The District applied for \$50,000 to assist the BETC Program (5k for Teacher Travel & 15k for teacher summer employment) and 30k to fund half of an FTE to collect data regarding the effectiveness/impact of the BETC curricula on student achievement. The Smith Richardson Foundation Board of Trustees met recently and we are waiting to hear whether the grant will be funded.
- **National Association of Conservation Districts Urban Agriculture Initiative** technical assistance grant of up to \$50,000 for Urban Ag technical assistance. Farmer Food Share, Reinvestment Partners, Interfaith Food Shuttle, Piedmont Conservation Council, DPS Hub Farm are the partners that submitted letters of support.

BETC Program

TLG conference presentation was June 15th. We had about 70 people in attendance. The presentation was a success and was highlighted on the Twin Cities Blog and the Transforming Local Government Facebook page. Sally Burnett with the Alliance commented that the interactive role play was “incredibly good” .Danielle Adams, Mike Dupree were presenters with Amy Jenkins and Len Curington from Southern High.

BETC Summer Intern Program

Currently 17 students (Southern 7, 5 from Jordan, 5 from Northern) the students receive \$8.25 an hour 30 hours a week for six weeks. The teachers that will receive extended employment at their regular certified pay rate.

They will be installing rain gardens at Jordan, Lowe’s Grove, Morehead Montessori and this summer. 7 rain gardens two critical area planting projects.

- On June 30th Commissioner Reckhow and Mayor Bell were visiting Lowe’s Grove Middle school and they went out to see the students & teachers from Southern who were working on the rain garden.

K. NRCS – Matthew Kinane reported on the following:

1. Financial Assistance Programs:

- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP):**
 - It is time for district to host the Local Work Group Meeting. Since the Durham SWD has hosted several farmers (stakeholders) meetings during the winter and other various small group meetings during the past year, my recommendation is for the Durham SWCD to hold the Local Work group meeting during either your July or August 2016 board meeting. The SWCD has already adopted a strategy plan for FY-2017 and EQIP is a component of the strategy plan.

- As mentioned at previous board meetings, for FY-2016, the Durham Delivery Point Office received 6 eligible applications in four funding pools (Seasonal High Tunnel System (3); Forestry (1); Organic Transition (1); and Irrigation Efficiency- Micro irrigation (1)). The estimated funding request exceeds \$47,447 for these six applications.
 - As of Friday July 01, 2016, Durham County has two applications that have been approved and both applications have been funded. To date, these two applications represent the following for Durham County:
 - \$21,200.00 of federal financial assistance
 - 38 acres under contract
 - 2 applications funded (represents 33% of applications going to contracts)
 - 2 funding pools represented (Forestry and Irrigation Efficiency- Micro irrigation)
 - Currently, the Durham Delivery Point Office has 4 applications representing \$25,200.00 of unfunded financial assistance requests. These applications cover requests in two funding pools (Seasonal High Tunnel, and Organic Transition).
 - **Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP):** There have been no new updates regarding the status of the four submitted applications for FY-2016.
 - **Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP):** There have been changes to the Conservation Stewardship Program. Program staff have (or are in the process) of redesigning CSP tools to create a clearer and more logical process – from initial program eligibility, stewardship assessment to application ranking and payments. Attached is a information sheet, “Conservation Stewardship Program – Building Better Outcomes” for additional information.
- 2. Conservation Compliance Reviews:**
- The Field Office is preparing for the FY-2016 Food Security Act (FSA) Conservation Compliance Reviews. There is one Tract in Durham County on the Random Tract list, Tract 604. The compliance review was conducted during the first week of July 2016.

New Business:

A. Becky Emmons- Granddaughter of the late Becky Heron attended the meeting and voiced an interest in becoming an associate supervisor for the board. Lisa Marochak will email Becky an application.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 6:53pm

Next Meeting: Monday, August 1, 2016 at 5:30pm - 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

8/1/2016
Approval date