

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 5 (District Meeting)

Date: June 5, 2017

Meeting Number: 10(for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Danielle Adams, Vice Chairman
David Harris, Supervisor
Raymond Eurquhart, Supervisor
Kathryn Spann, 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 Services Mngr.
Heather Dutra, Watershed Conservationist
Diana Lewis, USDA-NRCS
Clay Bordley, Landowner
Natalie Murdock, citizen

A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, June 5, 2017, and called to order at 5:33pm by the Chairman. The meeting was held at 721 Foster St, Durham, NC 27701.

Minutes/Financial Report– A motion was made by David Harris to approve the minutes from the May meeting and accept the financial report Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

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

- Gave UNRBA update

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

- Tabled until the July meeting.

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

- **Exceptional Service Planning**- Staff will be sending out a doodle poll for the board to pick 3 to 4 dates that they can meet over the next 3 months.
- **County Manager FY18 Budget Recommendations**- The County Manager has made a recommendation for the Soil and Water Department to receive \$25,000 for the "Small Farmer Grant Program". He didn't recommend the additional ISIP funds.
 - All other items from last year will be the same as FY17 budget.
 - Farmer Food Share- the County Manager is recommending that they receive \$20,000. The Soil and Water staff will be over seeing the program.

D. CCAP- Heather Dutra reported on the following:

1. Request for Application for Assistance Approval (AFA) - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the six AFA below as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **32-107-563:** Birchwood Heights HOA for a cistern and rain garden, Little Lick Creek, Cape Fear, score 185.
- **32-2017-557:** Hutchins for streambank stabilization, Little Lick Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 205 (signed ISIP eligibility paperwork provided with Application for Assistance).
- **32-2017-562:** Barron for impervious conversion to grass, permeable pavement, and cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 155.
- **32-2017-560:** Tullo for Rain garden and grass swale repair, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 200.
- **32-2017-561:** River of Joy Worship Center for streambank stabilization, Little Lick Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 195.
- **32-2017-558:** DPS for various projects at school sites, including Club Blvd Elementary for a rain garden and critical area planting, Ellerbe Creek, Cape Fear, score 180.

2. Request for Contract Approval- A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the four contracts below as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **32-2017-563:** Birchwood Heights HOA for \$3,042 for a cistern and rain garden, Little Lick Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 185.
- **32-2017-555:** Kirkpatrick for \$2,000 for a 750 gallon cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 165.
- **32-2017-554:** Myer for \$15,000 for streambank stabilization and critical area/riparian buffer, New Hope Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 200 (CCAP Regional Allocation).
- **32-2017-558:** Club Blvd ES for \$3,516 for rain garden and critical area planting, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, score 180.

3. Request for Contract Extension for 32-2017-519 – A motion was made by David Harris to approve the 6 month contract extension for Porter rain gardens and cistern as presented. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

4. Request for Payment (RFP) - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the two RFPs below as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **32-2016-524:** \$3,131 for the EK Powe Bioretention Project, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 185. Note: (for information only) anticipating supplemental contract and RFP at next Board meeting; not all necessary signed paperwork received by June 5 deadline.
- **32-2017-550:** \$319 for Tuck rain garden, Northeast Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 180

5. Letter to Mr. Pocinki- A motion was made by Danielle Adams for staff to reach out to Michael Pocinki in person and to follow-up with a letter. The Board would like to have a response back from the landowner in three months or sooner. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

6. CCAP forms

The discussion about CCAP-like projects and use of the Division CCAP forms was brought up at the CCAP Advisory Board meeting. Vernon Cox and Julie Henshaw requested that the forms be submitted to the Division for review and a decision as to whether or not Durham SWCD can use Division CCAP forms and name for their grant-funded projects.

7. FY16 EPA 319 Targeted watershed expansion

EPA 319 is allowing Durham SWCD to use FY16 319 grant funds in project locations within Little Lick Creek in addition to Ellerbe, Third Fork, and Northeast Creek.

- 8. George Watts Montessori Elementary** - Lisa Marochak and Eddie Culberson will be attending the ribbon cutting at George Watts Montessori Elementary on June 7th at 9am. The ribbon cutting is to celebrate the George Watts Leo Bortiri playground project. Members of the PTA and school community, including current 5th graders, will be on hand to thank donors and partners that have made this project possible. Durham SWCD provided funding to install two raingardens for the project.

E. Ag Cost Share and AgWRAP- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- Tabled until next meeting

F. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following: that since the last meeting they have had 5 plans and all were adequate as follows: Triangle Business Center-Lot 2; Sheetz at Davis Park West; Sarah Avenue Extension; RTI Multi-Purpose Field; Brightleaf-tract 7 (lots 404-409, 429, 438-440, 442-443, 445-449, and 451).

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

- **Walker Project-**A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to enter into the Engineering agreement with Civil and Environmental Consultants, Inc. for the Walker Project. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Grant Funds paid-** Lisa Marochak reported that since the last board meeting \$52,200 in grant funds have been paid to Civil Environmental Consultants, Inc.

H. Administrative Officer- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **Supervisor-** David Harris is officially a Durham SWCD Supervisor. He is fulfilling the term of Katie Locklier until 2018.
- **PCC Contract Amendment-** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the amended contract between the District and PCC as presented. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Smith Richardson Foundation Contract-** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to enter into the contract between the Durham SWCD Board and Durham Public Schools/Career and Technical Education Department. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Awards Banquet-** Will be held June 1st 6:15pm at the Bahama Ruritan. Please RSVP if you are planning to attend.
- **Supervisor Travel (per diem) -** An email was sent out to all Supervisors from David Williams with the Division of Soil and Water Conservation regarding changes to Supervisor per diem. I forwarded the email from David Williams to the Durham SWCD Board last week. There will be a teleconference on June 7th at 9am or 7pm to discuss the changes.

I. Education- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- **Area IV Envirothon-** Durham Soil and Water will be hosting the Area IV Envirothon in March of 2018 at the NC State Cattle Research Farm (Bahama). We will need everyone that can to volunteer at the event. More details will be shared in the coming months.

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

1) Farmland Board

- The FPAB held a farm tour on May 18th from 8am to 2:30pm. The tour began at the DPS Hub Farm, drove by and visited several Durham farms highlighting the farming community and the variety of challenges the farmers face. Some of the issues discussed included; the Present Use Agriculture rules, Good Agricultural Practices Certification, farm labor and possible student internships, market opportunities, buying local and the impact on the Durham economy.
- The FPAB voted to donate its remaining funds to support the following Agriculture programs: The Jordan High FFA, Northern High FFA, Lowes Grove Middle FFA and the Southern High OCS program. Each of the schools are to report how they used the funds from the FPAB. Each program will receive \$500.
- The next meeting will be Thursday June 15, 2017 from 8am to 10am in the second-floor conference room 721 Foster Street.

2) NACD Grant

- The next training opportunity for farmers is scheduled for June 29th from 9am to 1pm at the DPS Hub Farm. This workshop will be led by Mitch Woodard with CES. Upon completion of the training, the students and teachers will have the opportunity to take a test on rain garden design and installation. Those individuals that receive a passing grade will receive a Residential Rain Garden Certification for Professionals by NC State University.
- A subcommittee is scheduled to meet June 6th at 3pm at the second-floor conference room 721 Foster street, to plan family-friendly early evening event this August that would celebrate the role of minorities in our local food system, including farmers, makers of local food products, chefs, restaurant owners, FFA students and community gardeners.

3) Smith Richardson Foundation Grant

- Dr. Kevin Curry of the BETC research team has been selected to present the BETC program to the 24th Annual Conference of the American Association for Teaching & Curriculum October 5-7, 2017 in Denver, CO.
- The BETC Summer work program begins June 19th and will end July 28th. The six teachers and 21 students will work at 15 schools and complete installations of BMP's at three community sites. This year's program will have 3 student field trips designed to expand student perceptions of careers in agriculture.

4) Reinvestment Partners listed the DSWCD as a reference for their recent grant application to the NC Tobacco Trust Fund Commission (NCTTFC). The project is titled "**Geer Street Greenhouse**"

K. NRCS Report- Diana Lewis gave an update on NRCS to the board and staff.

- **NRCS Program Training-** the USDA-NRCS will hold a training on June 16, 2017 at Earthseed in Durham at 9:30am.
- **EQIP-** Durham County had a total of 4 eligible EQIP applications of which 3 were funded for a total of approximately \$27,000. These were all for High Tunnels.

New Business

- A. Bordley Contract-** Clay Bordley spoke to the Durham SWCD Board on behalf of his daughter Eliza Bordley's regarding her EQIP contract being canceled by USDA/NRCS. Diana Lewis was not the Conservationist for Durham when the contract was written, so she is going to review the contract and contact Eliza and Clay Bordley with her findings.

- B. **FY 18 Durham SWCD Budget**- Lisa Marochak presented a copy of the final FY18 budget for approval by the Durham SWCD Board. A motion was made by David Harris to approve the FY 18 Budget as revised. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- C. **NC Minority Farmers and Landowners Conference**- David Harris reported that the NC Minority Farmers and Landowners Conference will be held June 20-22 at NCCU. Eddie Culberson, Ray Eurquhart and David Harris are planning to attend on June 20th.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 10, 2017 at 1:00pm at 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

7/10/2017
Approval date