

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 6 (District Meeting)

Date: July 10, 2017

Meeting Number: 1 (for State reporting purposes)

**Supervisors Present:**

Danielle Adams, Vice Chairman  
David Harris, Supervisor  
Raymond Eurquhart, Supervisor  
Curtis Richardson, Secretary/Treasurer  
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 Services Mngr.  
Heather Dutra, Watershed Conservationist  
Diana Lewis, USDA-NRCS  
Danielle Purifoy, citizen  
Natalie Murdock, citizen

*A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, June 10, 2017, and called to order at 1:00pm by the Vice 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 David Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

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

- Gave UNRBA update
  - Shared 2016 UNRBA Annual Report with the board

**B. Environmental Affairs Board update**- Mark Dewitt reported the next EAB meeting will be August 2.

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

- **Piedmont Conservation Council**- PCC is having a retreat today from 4pm-9pm in Hillsborough. Keep PCC in mind if you have any regional projects.
- **Hydrilla treatment**- Started July 1<sup>st</sup>. Installed two applicators.
- **New Soil and Water Office**- The construction is moving along on the building. A meeting is scheduled on July 17th to look at furniture options. The estimated move in date is August 2018.
- NC Ag Development and NC Farmland Preservation Department received an additional 2 million this year.

**D. Administrative Officer**- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **Annual Audit**- was done on June 22. Lisa thanked Ray Eurquhart & David Harris for conducting the audit
- **Supervisor per diem forms**- Per diem forms are due to the Division by 7/14/17.

**E. CCAP- Heather Dutra reported on the following:**

**1. Paid RFPs (between June 5 and July 9)**

- **32-2016-519:** Hernandez for \$1,318 for 800 gallon cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 165.
- **32-2016-517:** Horton for \$1,425 for 300 gallon cistern, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 170.
- **32-2017-529:** Manibo for \$3,258 for riparian buffer, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 195.

**2. Request for Application for Assistance Approval-** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to batch and approve the following 3 Applications for Assistance. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **32-2018-511:** Melragon for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 195.
- **32-2018-513:** Baumgart-Getz for impervious conversion to grass and permeable pavement, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 170.
- **32-2018-514** Curran for cistern and rain garden, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 165.

**3. Request for Contract & Contract Supplement Approval:** A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to batch and approve the following 2 contracts and 1 supplemental contract as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **32-2018-513:** Baumgart-Getz for \$2,640 for impervious conversion to grass and permeable pavement, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 170.
- **32-2018-515:** EK Powe Supplement for \$535 for bioretention, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 185. Costs came in higher than anticipated when funds were originally encumbered: \$3,131 reimbursed last month.
- **32-2018-512:** North St. Community Association Supplement for \$1,691 for bioretention and stormwater structural conveyance, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 165. \$5,000 allocated in FY16.

**4. Request for Payment Approval-** A motion was made by David Harris to batch and approve the following 2 contracts and 1 supplemental contract as presented. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

1. **32-2017-559:** EK Powe for \$535 for bioretention, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 185.
2. **32-2016-518:** Levine for \$1,416 for 800 gallon cistern, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, ranking score 170.
3. **32-2017-551:** Castoe for \$5,492 for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 195.
4. **32-2017-515:** Quammen for \$1,983 for 1100 gallon cistern, Northeast Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score 190.

**5. Updating the following identifying #s** for Fy17-Fy18 applications for assistance (pending contracts): (FY17)32-2017-527 to (FY18)32-2018-500; (FY17)32-2017-534 to (FY18)32-2018-501; (FY17)32-2017-542 to (FY18)32-2018-502; (FY17)32-2017-543 to (FY18)32-2018-503; (FY17)32-2017-546 to (FY18)32-2018-504; (FY17)32-2017-549 to (FY18)32-2018-505; (FY17)32-2017-553 to (FY18)32-2018-506; (FY17)32-2017-557 to (FY18)32-2018-507; (FY17)32-2017-560 to (FY18)32-2018-508; (FY17)32-2017-561 to (FY18)32-2018-509; (FY17)32-2017-562 to (FY18)32-2018-510

**F. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans-** Jennifer Brooks reported on the following: that since the last meeting they have had 7 plans and 6 were adequate as follows: Meadows at Colony Park; The Towns at SoutPoint; Durham Academy Science Building; Duke University Hollows Residence Halls; Family Dollar Store #715698; Cree Materials Expansion and Wendy's Durham @ Hillsborough Rd. 1 was inadequate for no seedling plan as follows: Rodriguez Residence.

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

- **Southern /Phase I-** The leaky riser has been fixed
- **Southern/Phase II-** mobilizing this week. Southern High students will be growing most of the plants. We are trying to work around the paving of the bus parking lot at Southern High School. Have a call out to DPS maintenance.
- **Ward Project-** Received Army Corp permits this past Friday. Construction should start soon.
- **Walker Project-** survey completed and moving to design phase
- **Grant Funds paid-** Lisa Marochak reported that since the last board meeting \$10,800 in grant funds have been paid to Civil Environmental Consultants, Inc.

**H. 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 are looking to raise money to put on the event. If you know any business that would be willing to donate to the Area IV Envirothon please let staff know. We will need everyone that can to volunteer at the event. More details will be shared in the coming months.
- **Livestock & Pasture Management Field Day-** September 14<sup>th</sup> 8am-noon
- **Big Sweep-** Kicks off on October 1<sup>st</sup>
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Environmental Field Days-** will be held October 3-5.

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

- **Farmland Board-** The Farmland Board is planning a retreat in September to review the Farmland plan and determine the priorities for the FPAB moving forward in the 2017-18 FY. The subcommittee will be meeting in July to select possible dates for the retreat. The FPAB would like to include members of the DFFN Coordinating Circle and staff from Cooperative Extension.
- **NACD Grant-** The NACD approved a no cost grant extension to the end of September. There are two more training events being planned.
  1. Celebrating Minorities in the Local Food System. The planning meeting for the August event is scheduled for 1pm Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> at Northern High. No date for the event has been set.
  2. Livestock & Pasture Management Field Day, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 8am to Noon. The next planning meeting for the September event is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am.
- **BETC Program**
  1. **Smith Richardson Foundation Grant-** The final report for the grant is due August 1<sup>st</sup>. The findings from the research project (BETC Rain Garden curriculum) will be submitted to the Smith Richardson Foundation by August 1, 2017.
  2. **The Longleaf Collective Grant**

The Grant from the Collective is supporting teachers extended employment and paying for transportation and materials for the summer program.

### 3. **UL Award application**

The District had received an invitation to resubmit the BETC program for a potential monetary award. Top Prize is \$100,000. The BETC program was a 2016 Finalist. The application was submitted on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The committee is scheduled to make announcements of the finalist this month.

### 4. **Community Events**

- **Birchwood Heights Community Event July 10 & 11th, 9am-3pm-** A new rain garden/critical area planting and a 1,000-gallon cistern will be installed to intercept stormwater from the Birchwood Heights Community Center's piped rooftop downspouts
- **Club Blvd Elementary School July 18 & 19, 9am-12pm** - A new rain garden and zoysia sod critical area planting will be installed in the school's playground area to reduce erosion and treat polluted stormwater flowing to a storm drain (connected to adjacent Ellerbe Creek).

### 5. **Field Trips to introduce students to Ag related career paths:**

- **Plantworks Nursery (Horticulture Production)** Date/Time: July 12<sup>th</sup> 9am to 11am.
- **Endless Sun Produce (Hydroponic lettuce & tomato production)** Date/Time: July 13<sup>th</sup> 9am to 11am
- **Farm Visits in Durham County (Livestock & Produce production)** Date/Time: July 20<sup>th</sup> 9am to 12pm. Various farms (Owens, Heeks, DeWitt, Ziemer, Okal). Starts at Southern High School.
- **NC Botanical Garden (Green Infrastructure & BMP review)** Date/Time: July 28<sup>th</sup> 9am to 12pm

6. **Duke Energy Grant-** A letter of Interest was submitted to Duke Energy requesting \$26,500 in financial assistance. The letter was accepted and an invitation to apply was granted. The application is due July 20<sup>th</sup>. The funding would support the 2018 BETC Summer program and would be used to purchase materials for the installation of 15 to 20 BMPs in the community. The BMPs would be installed by teachers and students during the summer Green Infrastructure Program.

7. **EEG Grant-**The District applied for \$328,200 to assist the DPS Hub Farm with the removal of one pond, the retrofit of the dam for the main pond and to install an innovative wetland. \$50,000 was also requested to cost share BMP's with the Summer Green Infrastructure program over a two-year period.

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

- **Compliance Status Reviews-** Durham has 2 that need to be completed by the end of July.
- **FY 17 EQIP-** Durham County had a total of 3 applications/contracts for a total of \$24,295 funded. These were all for High Tunnels.
- **Local Work Group meeting-** deadline August 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Last month Jackie Davis-Slay, USDA National Headquarters Director of Public and Private Partnerships visited several farms and one of them was Tierra Negra Farm in Durham (owner Tahz Walker). Most of her visit was focused on funding opportunities for small farms.
- **Request for JAA-** Jennifer Brooks reported that she is requesting Engineering Job Approval Authority for Roof Runoff Structure. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve for Jennifer Brooks to get JAA as requested. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

**New Business**

- A. Associate Supervisor-** Danielle Purifoy introduced herself to the Soil and Water Board. Danielle is an Environmental Attorney inquiring about becoming an Associate Supervisor.
- B. NC Minority Farmers and Landowners Conference-** David Harris reported that the NC Minority Farmers and Landowners Conference was held on June 20-22 at NCCU. Eddie Culberson, and David Harris attended the conference on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Lisa Marochak asked the board to reimburse David Harris for his registration cost. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to reimburse David Harris \$20 for the registration cost if the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation is unable to. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

**Adjourn:** The Vice Chairman adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Monday, August 14, 2017 at 5:30pm** at 721 Foster St Durham, NC 27701

Talmage Layton  
**Chairman**

Lisa Marochak  
**Senior Administrative Officer**

8/14/2017  
**Approval date**