

MINUTES

Durham Soil and Water Conservation District 201 E Main St/floor 5, Durham, NC 27701

Meeting Number: 9 (District Meeting)

Date: November 13, 2018

Meeting Number: 4 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
David Harris, Supervisor
Ray Eurquhart, Supervisor
Danielle Adams, Supervisor
Laura Marie Davis, Associate Supervisor
Natalie Murdock, 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.
Jessica Perrin, Watershed Conservationist
Lauren Parker, USDA/NRCS

A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2018, and called to order at 12:20 pm by the Chairman, Talmage Layton. The meeting was held at 201 E Main St, 5th floor (Soil and Water Conference Room), Durham, NC 27701.

Minutes/Financial Report– A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the minutes from the October 1 and October 11 meetings and accept the financial report. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

A. EAB Update- *Laura Marie Davis reported on the following:*

- Gave EAB update from the last meeting
- Next meeting is scheduled for November 7 at 6 pm..

B. Upper Neuse River Basin Issues and Soil and Water Commission- David Harris gave an update on the UNRBA and handouts were shared with everyone in attendance.

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

- **Sustainability Report-** Our department was highlighted in the Durham City/County Sustainability Report. Eddie Culberson will share the report with the board.
- **Watershed position-** Eddie Culberson officially welcome the new Watershed Conservationist for the department, Jessica Perrin. Her official first day was November 5.
- **Natural Resources Conservationist Position-** We hope to have the vacant position posted by the end of the week.

D. Community Conservation Assistance Program- Jessica Perrin reported on the following:

- **Applications for Assistance:** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the application for assistance as presented for 32-2019-510 for streambank stabilization, Eno River, Neuse, ISIP, ranking score 195. Raymond Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Contract**
32-2019-515: for \$7,640 for 140 ft streambank stabilization, Eno River, Neuse, ISIP, ranking score 195. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the contract as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **Request for Payment (RFP)**
 - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the RFP for 32-2018-516 for 4,527 for a rain garden and impervious conversion, Ellerbe Creek, Neuse, CCAP Regional. Raymond Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the RFP for contract 32-2019-515 for 4,374 (remaining balance of 2016 319grant) for critical area planting, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, Ranking Score 190. Raymond Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the RFP for contract 32-2019-515 remaining balance of \$547 to be paid in 2019 with the new EPA 319 grant funds. The contract is for critical area planting, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, Ranking Score 190. Raymond Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Contract for CCAP Regional Funding-** The District didn't receive funding for 32-2019-505 for Pebble Creek Condos. The projected ranked 5th and only two projects were funded per region.
- **State Allocation-** Commissioner, Brenda Howerton is pushing to have more funds allocated to CCAP from the State.

E. Agriculture Cost Share Program- Jennifer Brooks

- **RFP-** since the last meeting an RFP for 32-2018-005 (Mathew Eagle) for a Heavy Use Area in the amount of \$4,534 was signed
- **Hurricane Disaster Relief Funds-** Durham has been added to the counties that are eligible for the funds. Staff submitted for funding on three projects.

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

- **Riverside High School Project-** Two out of six of the floating wetland cells are up and running. We received the \$200,000 DWR grant and we are still waiting to hear back from CWMTF on \$325,000 grant. CWMTF is meeting on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.
- **Potential future projects:**
 - **Ellerbe Creek-** Citizens along Farthing St. are interested in the district pursuing a section of Ellerbe Creek as a restoration project.
 - **Hope Raines-** crossing
- **Walker-** Landowner Aaron Walker has signed the easement. A motion was made by Raymond Eurquhart to enter into an agreement to hold and monitor the 2.5acre easement. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Marbrey Jackson Project and Walker Project-** We received the \$110,000 from Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative (UNCW*I). Total of \$760,000 in funding for this project. Staff is planning to ask for an extension from DWR on the \$200,000 grant. The Marbrey-Jackson contract has been awarded to Land Mechanic Design. Construction should begin mid-December (weather permitting).
- **Ward Project-**Walk through is scheduled for December 11 at 9:30 am.

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

- **Area IV Fall Meeting –** November 15th in Halifax. Please let Lisa know if you planning to attend and ride with staff.
- **NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Annual Conference Registration-** December 1 is the deadline to register online.

H. Education- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- **Durham Big Sweep-**As of now the totals for the 2018 Big Sweep Clean-up are as follows: 35 groups, 489 volunteers and 9,000 pounds of trash collected. Still waiting on final numbers.
- **Contest-** Lisa Marochak passed out copies of the conservation contest flyer. She will email the flyer to all the Supervisors to help promote the contest.

I. NRCS Report- Lauren Reported on the following:

- **Equip Applications-** NRCS has received three Equip applications for High Tunnels from Durham for Dig IT Farms, Hope Raines and Taz Walker.
- Lauren will be in the Durham office every week on Wednesday and Thursday

NEW BUSINESS

- **Ray Eurquhart and Jennifer Brooks-** Board and Staff thanked Ray Eurquhart and Jennifer Brooks for their years of service. This is Ray's last official meeting as an elected Supervisor and Jennifer's last meeting as a Durham Soil and Water staff member

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting/potluck luncheon- December 11, 2018 at 12:00 pm
The meeting will be held in the Soil and Water Conference Room.

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

December 11, 2018
Approval date