

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 10 (District Meeting)

Date: December 11, 2018

Meeting Number: 5 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
David Harris, Supervisor
Natalie Murdock, Supervisor
Danielle Adams, Supervisor
Laura Marie Davis, Associate Supervisor
Raymond Eurquhart, Associate Supervisor
Mark Dewitt, Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Senior Administrative officer
Mike Dupree, Agribusiness & Environmental Services Mngr.
Jessica Perrin, Watershed Conservationist
Lauren Parker, Soil Conservationist, USDA/NRCS
The Honorable Doretta L. Walker, District Court Judge,
14th Judicial District,

A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018, and called to order at 1:04 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 David Harris to approve the minutes from the November 13 meeting and accept the financial report. Natalie Murdock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

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

- Gave EAB update from the last meeting
- City/County accepted goal on Clean Energy Proposal
- Next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 6 at 6 pm.

B. Upper Neuse River Basin Issues and Soil and Water Commission- No report

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

- **Budget for FY2020**
 - The department has a new Budget Analyst, Matt Hunt.
 - Possible budget request- 1) new employee (receptionist/educationist), 2) increase training funds for Stream Restoration training for staff. 3) new Engineer to be shared with Engineering and Soil and Water.
- **Natural Resources Conservationist Position-** Kyle Gentry has accepted the Natural Resources Conservationist Position. His first day is January 2, 2019.
- **Drone-** Supervisor, David Harris suggested for a white paper to be written.
- **NCASWCD 2019 Resolutions-** Supervisor David Harris will email out a copy of the resolutions that will be voted on at the NCASWCD Annual Meeting.

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

- **Applications for Assistance:** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to batch and approve the two applications for assistance as presented below. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- 1) 32-2019-519 for streambank stabilization, critical area planting, downspout disconnect, Northeast Creek, Cape Fear, 319, ranking score 180.
 - 2) 32-2019-520 for streambank stabilization, Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, 319, ranking score 180.
- **EPA 319 Grant Contract for CCAP-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams for the District to enter into the contract with EPA 319 from January 1, 2019-December 31, 2021. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
 - **ISIP Program-** Mike Dupree asked the Board if an HOA would qualify for 100% Cost Share Assistance with the ISIP Program. A motion was made by David Harris to not support allowing 100% Cost Share Assistance to HOA's. Natalie Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

E. Agriculture Cost Share Program- *Eddie Culberson*

- **Hurricane Disaster Relief Funds-** Durham is one of the counties that are eligible for the funds. Staff submitted for funding on three projects for Ronald Russell (Farm road culvert blowout), Neil Frank (Farm road culvert blowout), and Steve Shephard's old pond. Mr. Shephard no longer owns the property, but there are still two years remaining on the ten-year contract, that is still in his name.

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

- **Riverside High School Project-** We received the \$200,000 grant from DWR and will apply for a \$325,000 grant from CWMTF.
- **Walker-** Landowner Aaron Walker has signed the easement. A motion was made by David Harris 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-** landowner has several questions pertaining to the easement for the project and Culberson is working with the landowner to answer his questions.
- **Ward Project-**Walk through was scheduled for today but it has now been rescheduled to next Monday at 10 am.
- **FEMA funds- Will pay 75% on streams** (don't have to be on Ag land). Eddie has gone out with the FEMA representative to Ellerbe Creek and other sites. The NC Division of Soil and Water will pick-up the remaining 25%. A motion was made by David Harris to support the sponsorship through FEMA and the NC Division of Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Natalie Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

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

- **NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Annual Conference Registration-** Will be held January 6-8 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in RTP.
- **NACD Stipend-** Lisa Marochak reported that she received a \$1,000 stipend from the National Association of Conservation Districts to help pay for her trip to the 2019 NACD Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX.
- **Donation request from Bull City Robotics-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to donate \$100 to the Bull City Robotics team with a stipulation that they recognize us on their robot. Natalie Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **Plaque from the NCASWCD-** Talmage Layton and Eddie Culberson presented the 10yrs length of service award from The NC Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to Supervisor, Danielle Adams.
- **Supervisor Professional Photos-** Will be taken for those that can attend on Thursday, December 13 at 6 pm.
- **Supervisor Disclosure Forms-** All Supervisors are required to sign and return the forms by the 1st of the year.

H. Education- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **Durham Big Sweep-**Final totals for the 2018 Big Sweep Clean-up are as follows: 33 groups, 539 volunteers and 16,975 pounds of trash collected.
- **Teacher of the Year-** Jack Brown from Northern High School will receive the Teacher of the Year award during the Education Dinner on January 7th at the NCASWCD Annual Meeting.

I. Ag Development/Farmland Protection Advisory Board- Mike Dupree reported on the following:

- **Ag Economic Development Grant Program-**
2018-2019 grant recipients- all have turned in their vendor forms and are now in the contract phase.
2017-2018 grant recipients- Demetrius Thompson (farmer) lost his greenhouse due to the snow.
- **BETC curriculum and program**
 1. **Piedmont Conservation Council-** PCC's Grant Regional Research Project with NIFA will kick-off at the NCASWCD Annual Meeting (January 7-8). Nine additional districts will be asked to implement the BETC Program.
 2. **BETC will be shared with the Alliance for Innovation Webinar in February.**
 3. **NSTA-** The curriculum was shared during a one-hour presentation in Charlotte on November 30 at the National Science Teachers Association.
- **FPAB/Breakfast Series:**
 - **January 10th-** Silviculture and Forest Management Panel Discussion
 - **February 7th-** Creating Opportunities for Minorities in the Local Food System Event. The Farmland Protection Advisory Board has pledged \$300 and the Land Loss Prevention Project has pledged \$250. The next planning meeting is scheduled for December 19th at noon.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Installation of Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor, Talmage Layton-** The Honorable Doretta L. Walker, District Court Judge 14th Judicial District, administered the Oath of Office to Chairman, Talmage Layton.
- **Associate Supervisor-** A motion was made by Danielle Adams to appointment Raymond Eurquhart to be an Associate Supervisor for the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board. David Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Supervisor to sign forms between meetings-** A motion was made by Natalie Murdock to authorize David Harris to sign forms for the district between meetings. Talmage Layton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **Election of 2019 Officers-** A motion was made by David Harris for the Durham SWCD Officer position for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer to remain the same for 2019. Natalie Murdock seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
A motion was made by Natalie Murdock to make David Harris the Financial Officer for 2019. Talmage Layton Seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 3:11 pm.

Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting – January 8, 2019 at 4:00 pm

The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel (4700 Emperor Blvd, Durham, NC 27703).

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

1-8-2019
Approval date