

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 8 (District Meeting)

Date: October 5, 2020

Meeting Number: 4 (for State reporting purposes)

**Supervisors Present:** Talmage Layton- *Chairman*; Danielle Adams, *Vice Chairman*; David Harris, *Financial Officer*; Mark DeWitt, *Supervisor*; Anjali Boyd, *Associate Supervisor*; Jillian Riley, *Associate Supervisor*; Sheena Mathews, *Associate Supervisor*; Terence Priestler, *Associate Supervisor*; Becky Emmons, *Associate Supervisor*; Jan Cromartie, *Associate Supervisor*.

**Others Present:** Eddie Culberson, *Director*; Lisa Marochak, *Senior Administrative Officer*; Jessica Perrin, *Watershed Conservationist*; Mike Dupree, *Agribusiness & Environmental Services Mngr.*; Emily Bateman, *Natural Resources Conservationist*; Allie Dinwiddie, *Central Regional Coordinator*; Diana Irizarry, *NRCS Supervisory Soil Conservationist*; Heidi Hannapel, *Land Matters*; Jeff Masten, *Land Matters*.

*A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, October 5, 2020, and called to order at 5:31 pm by the Chairman, Talmage Layton. The meeting was held Virtually via Zoom.*

**Minutes and Acceptance of the Financial Report** – A motion was made by David Harris to approve the minutes from the September meeting and to accept the financial report. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by David Harris to approve the agenda with the following changes: Move item I to above item A. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

**A. Bahama Community Park-** *David Harris & Danielle Adams* gave an update on the Bahama Park on behalf of the committee. The committee met today and looked over the third amendment to the easement. The committee's recommendation is to give conditional approval pending the Durham County Attorney's office doesn't have any problem with the easement changes.

- Land Matters would like to present the third amendment to the easement to NC Land and Water Fund (formerly, Clean Water Management Trust Fund) during the 3rd week of October.

**B. Environmental Affairs Board (EAB) Update:** No new update.

**C. Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update-** *David Harris* gave an update on the UNRBA and what they are working on.

- The next UNRBA meeting will be November 18<sup>th</sup>.
- The next Path Forward committee meeting will be October 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

**D. Directors Report-** *Eddie Culberson reported on the following:*

- **County Budget-** gave an update on the FY21 budget.
- **City/County Planning Director-** Sarah Young is now the Director of City/County Planning. She replaced longtime Director Patrick Young.

**E. Administrative Report-** Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- A. NCASWCD Annual Meeting registration** – The NCASWCD Annual Meeting will be held virtually January 4-5, 2021. Everyone that is planning to join the meeting will need to register by December 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$35 per person. Associate Supervisors should let Lisa Marochak know if you would like to attend so she can register you. The district will pay the \$35 fee for any associate that wants to attend.
- B. Area IV Fall Meeting-** The Area IV Fall meeting will be held virtually this year on November 19<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee to join the meeting, but you will need to register. Please let Lisa know if you are planning to attend by November 1<sup>st</sup>, so she can register you.

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

- **Applications for Assistance:** A motion was made by David Harris to approve the application for assistance listed below. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
  1. 32-2021-508 (Keedy) for streambank stabilization, rain garden, and cistern in Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score of 190.
- **Regional Application for Assistance:** A motion was made by David Harris to approve submitting a regional application for assistance if the District's 319 funds are not enough to cover the entire project listed below (within the Board's cap). Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
  1. 32-2021-508 (Keedy) for streambank stabilization, rain garden, and cistern in Third Fork Creek, Cape Fear, ranking score of 190.
- **Request for Payment:**
- A motion was made by Mark DeWitt to approve the \$808 RFP for 32-2020-505 as presented below. David Harris seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Contract 32-2020-505 (Rooney) for \$808 for cistern accessories package and base (already has cistern tank), Ellerbe Creek, Neuse River, ranking score of 165. FY19 City Interlocal funds. This completes the work under this contract and the remaining \$121 is returned to the district.
- **Spot Checks-** The 2020 CCAP Spot Check notification letters for the projects that required maintenance have been prepared and mailed.

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

1. **NC Land and Trust Fund (formerly Clean Water Management Trust Fund)-** Piedmont Conservation Council received \$400,000 for the Grove Park Project.
2. **Triangle JCOG-** Durham SWCD received \$460,500 for the Grove Park Project.
3. **EWP Training-** The training was initially scheduled to occur in September but moved to October 13th (virtual) and October 14th (Willowhaven on Constitution Drive). Supervisors can attend, but the Division of Soil and Water is asking everyone to sign-up online.

- H. Environmental Education Report- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:**
- C. Education meeting with some of the Associate Supervisors-** The committee met last week and they are going to assist staff with distributing and promoting our conservation contests.
  - D. OELC grant-** The Durham SWCD received \$2,500 OELC grant from the NC Foundation of Soil and Water Conservation. The grant funds will help complete the Outdoor Education Learning Center (OELC) at Carrington Middle School.
  - E. Project Food, Land, and People (FLP)-** A motion was made by David Harris to pay \$100 to NCASWCD to support the FLP Program. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- I. Ag Development/Farmland Protection Advisory Board-** Mike Dupree report the following:  
*(Provided handout and gave update)*
- 1. Agriculture Economic Development (AED)Grant -** Durham County allocated \$50,000 that will fund 12 farm projects and one school project for fiscal year 2021. All the applicants received letters and are in the process of signing their contracts.
    - The AED grant committee will meet October 7, 2020 to review the FY2022 AED application and ranking system.
  - 2. Farmland Protection Advisory Board (FPAB)-** The September meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2020 at 8:00 am via Zoom.
- J. Central Regional Coordinator-** Allie Dinwiddie provided a NC Division of Soil and Water update to the board and guests.
- All reappointments need to be submitted to the Division by October 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - JAA draft comments are open until November 2.
  - The Area 4 Fall Meeting will be held virtually 9:00 am-11:30 am.
  - Rick McSwain has shared the Managerial Guidance Document.
- K. NRCS Update-** NRCS Supervisory Soil Conservationist, Diana Irizarry presented a report to the board.
- **Local Workgroup Meeting (LWG)-** Team 10 will now do the LWG meetings together instead of doing them individually. The meeting will be held in October or November. Chatham SWCD will be the host for this year.
  - **EQIP Applications-** One of the two applications from Durham for seasonal high tunnels got funded.
    - The 2020-2021 EQIP Application deadline is November 13<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Associate Supervisor Expectations Form-** A motion was made by David Harris to approve the document as presented. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- **Associate Supervisors**
  - **Committee's and boards-** David Harris made a motion to accept the committee's recommendation for Associate Supervisor and Supervisor appointments to Committee, Boards and Commission for 2020-2021.

- **Associate Supervisors Application:** A motion was made by David Harris to approve the application from Jan Cromartie to become an Associate Supervisor with Durham SWCD. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:** The Chairman adjourned at 7:27 pm.

**Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting – November 2, 2020 at 5:30 pm (ZOOM)**  
(Please check our website for login information)

Talmage Layton  
Chairman

Lisa Marochak  
Senior Administrative Officer

11-2-2020  
**Approval date**