

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 6 (District Meeting)

Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Number: 12 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors and Associate Supervisors Present (In-person): Talmage Layton- *Chairman*; David Harris, *Financial Officer*; Jillian Riley, *Associate Supervisor*. **(Virtual):** Mark DeWitt, *Vice Chair*; Laura Marie Davis, *Secretary/Treasurer*; Anjali Boyd, *Supervisor*; Jan Cromartie, *Associate Supervisor*; Terrence Priester, *Associate Supervisor*.

Others Present (In-person): Eddie Culberson, *Director*; Lisa Marochak, *Senior Administrative Officer*; Mike Dupree, *Agribusiness & Environmental Services Mngr.*; Emily Bateman, *Natural Resources Conservationist*; Allie Dinwiddie, *Central Regional Coordinator*. **(Virtual):** Diana Irizarry, *NRCS*.

A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, June 7, 2021, and called to order at 5:31 pm by the Chair, Talmage Layton. The meeting was held Virtually via Zoom and In-person at 1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham, NC 27705.

Conflict of Interest Statement– read by Laura Marie Davis

Minutes– A motion was made by David Harris to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Acceptance of the Financial Report- A motion was made by David Harris to accept the financial report as presented. Laura Marie Davis seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda- David Harris made a motion to approve the agenda as presented but amended the motion to add item “C) Board Supervisor Replacement” under New Business. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. The Chair did a roll call, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business

A. Central Regional Coordinator- Allie Dinwiddie with the NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation update to the board and guests.

- Discussed the May Soil & Water Commission updates.
- Supervisor Training- required to complete 6hrs per term.
- Went over the Closed Session Confidentiality Policy.

B. Environmental Affairs Board (EAB): Laura Marie Davis reported on the following:

- Gave an EAB update to the board.
- Next meeting- July 7th at 6:00 pm
- The EAB held elections and has a new slate of officers.
- Durham SWCD will need to appoint a replacement for Laura Marie Davis to serve on the EAB.

Jillian Riley volunteered to serve as the Durham SWCD representative on the EAB.

C. Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update- *David Harris* reported on the following:

- Provided an UNRBA update to the board.
- Next Path Forward meeting: July 6th

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

- **Durham County Budget update-** Eddie Culberson reported that Durham County Board of County Commissioners will approve the budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2021 on June 14th during the Regular Session. The BOCC received a request from a Durham Citizen to add \$96,000 in additional funding to support BETC and \$100,000 for Cost-Share programs and \$70,000 for a new position in Soil and Water to help implement these programs.
- **Job Posting-** We have started the recruitment process for the vacant Soil and Water position. So far, we have received 12 applications. Please share the job posting with anyone you think would make a good candidate.
- **PCC Job Opening-** The Piedmont Conservation Council has a job opening for a Project Manager. This is a part-time job. If you know of anyone that is interest please have them to contact the Executive Director, Ginell Rogers.
- **Engineering PE Stamp-** Emily Bateman and Mike Dupree have received approval to get their PE License.

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

- **Annual Audit** – The annual audit is scheduled for June 29th. Talmage Layton and David Harris will audit the District books this year.

F. Community Conservation Assistance Program- *Mike Dupree* reported on the following:

- **Special Requests:**
 - 1) 32-2020-516 (Evans/Braggtown Community Garden)- Contract deadline was April 6, 2021. Requesting 6-month extension to complete the project. The cooperater has not been able to proceed with installation due to delays from engineering requirements for the 10,000-gallon cistern system. A motion was made by David Harris to approve the 6-month contract extension as requested. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- **Contract Supplements/changes:** A motion was made by David Harris to batch and approve the six-contact supplement/changes as presented below. Anjali Boyd seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
 - 1) 32-2021-514 Smith- Change funds from 319 to ISIP (\$635) and approve a \$400 ISIP supplement for the rain garden & add downspout disconnect with City funds \$1313.
 - 2) 32-2021-515 James-Change funds from 319 to ISIP (\$515).
 - 3) 32-2021-516 Herron-Change funds from 319 to ISIP (\$155).
 - 4) 32-2021-517 Jenkins- Change BMP from rain garden to Downspout disconnect. \$1313 City funds and \$437 ISIP approve supplement of \$ 1375.
 - 5) 32-2021-523 Thompson-Add 2 BMPs (downspout disconnect and 300-gallon cistern). Change \$98 funding from 319 to ISIP. Approve supplement of \$4210 (DSD \$1750 + Cistern 2063 + Rain Garden \$397)

6) 32-2021-524 Brown-Change BMP from a rain garden to a downspout disconnect \$142 supplement change from \$127 from 319 funds to ISIP.

- **Request for Payment**

32-2021-519 (Judd) \$4,174 of City funds and \$3,316 of ISIP funds for a total of \$7,310. Installed a cistern, two downspout disconnections and grassed swale. Ellerbe Creek, Ranking Score of 160.

G. Agricultural Spot Check Program (ACSP and AgWRAP)- Emily Bateman

- a. Will have applications and contracts for the next board meeting.
- b. **AGWRAP-** South Wind Produce was awarded a regional application for a new pond.

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

- **Grove Park Stream Restoration Project –** Gave update on project.
 - Completed watershed analysis
 - Next will start working on obtaining no rise and 401permits
 - DWR Extension request for funds received in 2018- A motion was made by David Harris to approve the DWR Extension for the Grove Park Project. Mark DeWitt seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- **Looking for new Stream Restoration Project sites.** Please contact Eddie Culberson if you have a potential site.

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

(Provided handout and gave update)

BETC Training Dates

- **SSCF Grant BETC Training** a. Trainings and installations were held on May 22nd, May 29th, and June 5th. The next trainings will be June 12th at the East Club Blvd. Community Center at 2415 Glenbrook Dr. and at 923 Waring Street. 25 students along with 6 teachers and community volunteers will install community gardens beds, rain gardens and a cistern. Southern High will be at the Club Blvd Community Center from 9am to 11am. The Northern team will be at the 923 Waring street from 10am to noon.
 - Additional dates will be advertised soon.
- **DPS BETC Operation Summer Learning** (8 schools, 75 students per school) The BETC stormwater curriculum has been selected as a focus for rising 8th grade students and freshman at participating schools. This curriculum will train students how to design and engineer rain gardens and cisterns. The DPS system has provided the District with \$5,000 to purchase supplies for demonstrations at the nine schools. Some important dates include
 - a) Teacher Training-June 9th to 11th (30 teachers)
 - b) 1st Rotation for students June 14th to July 2nd
 - c) 2nd Rotation for students July 12th to July 30th
- **AED Grant Committee-** met on May 25, 2021 to finalize the application for the 2022 fiscal year. The committee approved the grant program information sessions for August 10th, 12th, and the 17th. The application will be released in July with information sessions in August with the deadline for applications to be August 31, 2021.
- **Farmland Protection Advisory Board**

- The last meeting wasn't held due to technical issues.
- Next meeting scheduled for June 17th at 6:30 pm (Zoom)

J. Environmental Education Report- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **Community Engagement Award**- Mike Dupree and Lisa Marochak were presented the Community Engagement Award on June 2nd from the Carrington MS FFA.
- **Outdoor Environmental Learning Center Grant (OELC)**- This grant will be completed by the end of June. Signage for the project sponsors will be hung next week at Carrington Middle School.
- **NCF Diversity Grant**- We plan to order the remaining supplies needed by the end of June. We still need to calibrate the sandbox and hope to hold a demonstration for teachers later this week.

K. NRCS Update- Supervisory Soil Conservationist, Diana Irizarry gave an NRCS update.

- **New Soil Conservationist** started today.
- **EQIP**-Received 2 new application for sessional high tunnels. Now have a total of 8 applications from Durham.
- **CSP**
 - Received one application from Durham for 200 acres in Forestry
 - Deadline for applications is July
 - This is a five-year commitment.

L. Bahama Community Park update- David Harris reported that there was no new update.

- In the process of reviewing version 11 of the draft Joint Operational Agreement.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Board Retreat**- Lisa will reach out to Michelle Lovejoy to see if she can still help facilitate the board retreat.
- B. State Budget**- A motion was made by Laura Marie Davis to approve the FY2021-2022 Budget as presented. David Harris seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- C. Board Supervisor Replacement** – Tabled to the next meeting.

Adjourn: The Chairman adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting – June 28, 2021 at 5:30 pm

(Please check our website for login information)

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

8-2-2021
Approval date