

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 6 (District Meeting)

Date: August 14, 2023

Meeting Number: 1 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors and Associate Supervisors Present (In-person): Talmage Layton- *Chair*; David Harris- *Financial officer*; Ken Browning- *Secretary/Treasurer* and Mark Waller- *Supervisor*.

Others Present (In person): Eddie Culberson- *Director*; Lisa Marochak- *Senior Administrative Officer*; Sherry Scully- *Ag Development Coordinator*; Dustin Brewer- *Natural Resources Coordinator*, Saad Masood – *Agri-business & Environmental Services Manager*; Dillion Simpson, *2023 RCW student*; Bendetta Cheek, *Guest*.

A regular meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Monday, August 14, 2023, and called to order at 5:41 pm by the Chair, Talmage Layton. The meeting was in person, and they met at 1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham, NC.

- 1) **Conflict of Interest**– (*Read by Sherry Scully*) No conflicts of interest.
- 2) **Statement of Professionalism** – was read by Supervisors in attendance.
- 3) **Minutes**– A motion was made by David Harris to approve the minutes from June 5, 2023, meeting (regular meeting). Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- 4) **Acceptance of the Financial Report**- A motion was made by David Harris to accept the financial report as presented. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- 5) **Approval of Agenda**- David Harris motioned to approve the agenda as printed. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- 6) **New Business**
 - A. **2023 Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW) attendee**- Dillion Simpson a rising senior at Riverside High School thanked the board for sponsoring him to attend the Resource Conservation Workshop this past summer at NC State University. Also, he talked about his experiences as RCW students.
- 7) **Old Business**
 - A. **Environmental Affairs Board (EAB)**- No Report
 - B. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update**- David Harris reported on the following:
 - Provided update on UNRBA.
 - C. **Directors Report**- Eddie Culberson reported the following:
 - **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**- has hired a full-time Soil Conservationist to work out of the Durham SWCD office. Her name Angela Dobbins and she has worked with NRCS since 2010. Also, Olivia Plant is the new Team 10 Supervisory Soil Conservationist.
 - **Beaver Management Assistance Program (BMAP)**- this program has been reinstated in Durham County and will be administered through the Soil and Water Department.

D. Administrative Report- Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **FY2023 Annual Report-** will be ready next week.
 - **Breakfast/Presentation for BOCC and Upper Leadership-** will be held on August 31st in Admin II.
- **Farmer Appreciation Dinner** – The board picked November 14th to hold the 2023 Farmer Appreciation Dinner.
- **Area IV Fall Meeting-** Will be held in Vance County on November 16th. registration information will be sent out in October.

E. Community Conservation Assistance Program- Saad Masood reported the following:

Applications for Assistance (AFA):

- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-501, ranking score 140. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-502 pending ISIP contract approval, ranking score 150. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 and ISIP funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-503 pending ISIP contract approval, ranking score 155. Stormwater Conveyance and Swale. Cape Fear, Jordan, City and ISIP funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-504 pending ISIP contract approval, ranking score 180. Stormwater Conveyance and Riprap. Ellerbe, Neuse, City, 319 and ISIP funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-505, ranking score 145. Stormwater Conveyance and Swale. Cape Fear, Jordan, City and 319 funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-506, ranking score 130. Stormwater Conveyance and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- A motion was made by David Harris to approve 32-2024-507, ranking score 135. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 funding. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Contracts:

- A motion was made by David Harris to batch and approve the following contracts as presented pending ISIP contract approval. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
 - 32-2024-501, ranking score 140. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 funding; \$7,500.
 - 32-2024-502, ranking score 150. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 (\$6,000) and ISIP (\$9,000) funding.
 - 32-2024-503, ranking score 155. Stormwater Conveyance and Swale. Cape Fear, Jordan, City (\$4,500) and ISIP (\$5,000) funding.
 - 32-2024-504, ranking score 180. Stormwater Conveyance and Riprap. Ellerbe, Neuse, City (\$6,000), 319 (\$6,000) and ISIP (\$6,000) funding.
 - 32-2024-505, ranking score 145. Stormwater Conveyance and Swale. Cape Fear, Jordan, City (\$3,700) and 319 (\$3,800) funding.

- 32-2024-506, ranking score 130. Stormwater Conveyance and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 (\$6,500) funding.
- 32-2024-507, ranking score 135. Stormwater Conveyance, Swale and Riprap. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 (\$7,125) funding.

Payments (Informational Only):

- 32-2023-506, ranking score 155. Stormwater Conveyance and Downspout Disconnect. Eno, Neuse, 319 funding (payment amount \$2,250).
- 32-2023-508, ranking score 145. Swale. Cape Fear, Jordan, 319 funding (payment amount \$7,500).
- 32-2023-509, ranking score 145. Rain Garden. Ellerbe, Neuse, 319 funding (payment amount \$825).

Other

- Received \$75,000 in grant funding for Reinvestment Partners Streambank Restoration project. Project total \$250,000.
- Green Infrastructure presentation- August 15th at 7:30pm
- Hosting an educational session on Cisterns installation and benefits in East Durham on August 19th.

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

- **Grove Park Stream Restoration Project-** The 6000 ft of Stream Restoration is completed for Ph1 and Ph2 (1.4-million-dollar project- 4 grants and the HOA).
 - Final walkthrough– on August 15th staff will do the final walkthrough with the Engineer, contractor, Grove Park HOA, Piedmont Conservation Council and representatives of some of the funding agencies.
- **Riverside High Project-** Project is completed and the final walkthrough is planned for August 15th.
 - NCSU will be doing water monitoring at the project site.
- **New Stream Restoration Project-** on the Eagles property along with their adjacent neighbor (Ellerbe Creek).

H. Ag Cost Share and AgWRAP- Dustin Brewer

ACSP

- **Application for Assistance (AFA) Contract supplement-** A motion was made by David Harris to approve the contract supplement AFA as presented below. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
 - Contract 32-2024-001 (Waste Application System) supplement to contract 32-2023-005, ranking score 95.
- **Contract (Contract supplement)-** A motion was made by David Harris to approve the contract supplement as presented below. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
 - Contract 32-2024-001 (Waste Application System) supplement to contract 32-2023-005, ranking score 95 (\$5,859).
- **Other**
 - Durham SWCD was allocated \$51,559 funds for ACSP in Fiscal Year 2024. A Motion was made by Mark Waller to allow staff to spend all the money as needed. David

Harris seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

- **Raking Form update-** A motion was made by Mark Waller to add Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Ordinance to the ranking form for a total of 5 points. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

AgWRAP

- **Other**

- Durham SWCD was allocated \$10,000 funds for AgWRAP in Fiscal Year 2024.
- **Raking Form update-** A motion was made by Mark Waller to add Minority and Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) Ordinance to the ranking form for a total of 5 points. Ken Browning seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- **Regional Ranking Application available-** cap is based off of FY2024 AgWRAP Average Cost List

I. Ag Development/Farmland Protection Advisory Board- *Sherry Scully reported the following:* **(Informational Items)**

- **Agriculture Economic Development (AED)**

AED Grant trainings were a success. There is a lot of interest in the \$250,000 available through the grant this year. Deadline for application is August 25th at 11:59 pm. Committee will rank and review the applications and meet to allocate funds on September 14th.

- **Farmland Protection Advisory Board (FPAB)**

- Chris Young joined the FPAB as business representative in June. He holds the seat previously held by William Sparrow.
- Annual Report completed and presented to FPAB. FPAB will share this with the BOCC at Work Session on September 5th.
- **Next Meeting** – The next FPAB meeting will be held on August 17th at 6:00 pm

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

- **2023 Environmental Field Days** – We plan to hold field days for 3rd graders at individual schools during September, November, and December.
- **Conservation Contests-** The 2023-2024 Durham SWCD Conservation Contests has opened. The deadline for entries is February 15, 2024 at 5pm.
- **2024 Tree Sale-** the board would like to continue selling trees and gave staff permission to preorder the trees from the nursery.
- **Booth door prize-** David Harris made a motion to approve up to \$50 for staff to purchase a door prize for the Durham Soil and Water booth and breakfast item for the 2023 Durham Public Schools Kick-off Event on August 22. Mark Waller seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.
- **Expo at the NCASWCD Annual Conference-** The Durham SWCD 'AR Sandbox' will be on display at the NCASWCD Annual Conference January 7-9, 2024.
- **Donation Request letter for an Environmental Education position for the NCASWCD-** David Harris motioned to pledge \$500 for 2023-2024 for the EE position with the NCASWCD

and 2024 and beyond review pledge amount yearly. Mark Waller seconded the motion. A roll call was done, and all voted yes in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

K. NRCS Update- Olivia Plant reported on the following:

- **New FY** starts October 1st.
- **EQIP-** 10 contracts in Durham and \$389,000 in obligated funds.

L. Regional Coordinator- reported emailed to attendees.

M. Other Committees/Board Reports

- Durham Coalition- *provided informational update.*

Adjourn: The Chair adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Next Meeting: Durham SWCD Board Meeting – September 11, 2023, 5:30pm. (1901 Hillandale Rd, Durham, NC 27701).

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Lisa Marochak
Senior Administrative Officer

9/11/2023
Approval date