



MINUTES OF MEETING
HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Hanover, Virginia December 16, 2008

Board Members Present:

Donald L. Wells – Chair / Director
Joe Stepp – Vice Chair / Director
Mac Saphir – Secretary / Director
Bruce Cauthorn – Treasurer/Director
Bill Orrock - Director

Park Dodd – Director
Leigh Pemberton – Associate Director
Rose Bradshaw – Associate Director
Tim Etheredge – Associate Director

Staff Present:

Sharon Conner – District Manager
Marian Moody - Conservation Specialist
Jim Tate – Conservation Specialist
Ann Edmonds – Administrative Assistant
Rebecca Jones – Education Specialist

Others Present:

Wayne Davis – Department of Conservation and Recreation
Brian Wooden - Natural Resource Conservation Service
Dave Terwilliger - Department of Forestry
Kathleen Ogilvy - Department of Forestry
David Nunnally – Caroline County Senior Environmental Planner
Kendall Tyree – Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservative Districts

Call to Order:

The December 2008 meeting of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District was held in the Hanover USDA Service Center Conference Room on Tuesday, December 16, 2008. Mr. Wells called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Mr. Wells introduced Kendall Tyree, the new Administrator of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservative Districts.

Secretary Report:

The minutes of the November 2008 meeting were presented as e-mailed to the Directors. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir and duly seconded by Mr. Stepp to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report for November 2008 was presented. Ms. Conner noted payment of PY09 SL-6 priority to Jane Ruffin. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to file the November 2008 Treasurer's Report for audit, the motion was seconded by Mr. Cauthorn and the motion carried.

Agency Reports:

Department of Conservation and Recreation:

Mr. Davis' report is included in the packet, along with the DCR report to the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
Mr. Davis reported:

Area III Vice Chair needs to be filled. Mr. Miller (Tri-County/City SWCD) and Mr. Wells serve as the Nominating Committee.

The Area III Spring Meeting will be hosted by James River SWCD in March.

Northern Neck SWCD won the District Challenge award. Mr. Davis encourages all districts to participate in the challenge.

NRCS:

Mr. Wooden presented a written copy of his report to the Board.

Mr. Wooden reviewed his report:

Open obligation audits are being conducted.

The monthly in-service training for December has been cancelled; the next training will be January 8th.

Cooperative Extension:

Mr. Saphir reported:

The private pesticide certification has been completed.

January 12th – Water Quality Clinic for Caroline and King George County. Homeowners will be able to get 15 tests on their water at cost of about \$45.00. This clinic will eventually be available to every county in the state.

January 30th – Grain Meeting. Participants can receive Category 10 credit

Mr. Saphir also reported that he is an alternate representative for the Rappahannock River Basin Watershed Commission. The commission supports the proposed change to the Code of VA to allow our appointed SWCD directors to serve and vote.

Mr. Wells stated that this proposal is part of the Virginia Association of Conservation Districts' legislative agenda.

Rose Bradshaw reported:

Ms. Bradshaw handed out a packet including calendar of events. Ms. Bradshaw reviewed the calendar:

January 13th 4-Rivers Ag Conference

February 10 & 11 Virginia Grains & Soybean Conference

Feb 21st Forage Conference in New Kent

February 25th Richmond Fruit and Vegetable Conference Meeting

Summer 2009 - VA Ag Expo will be held at J N Mills Farm on the Hanover/King William line.

Caroline County:

Mr. Nunnally handed out Caroline County's Planning and Development December Newsletter and reviewed.

Mr. Nunnally reported:

The results from the DCR review of Caroline County Erosion and Sediment Control Program are due in a few weeks.

Caroline County with the George Washington Regional Planning Commission is applying for grant to assist low income households in septic pump-out.

The County is partnering with the Friends of the Rappahannock to assist the county in complying with Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act, Phase III checklist.

Mr. Nunnally asked for ideas and suggestions that the county might implement to provide some relief to the financial burdens during economic situation.

Business:

2008 Ag BMP Cost-share Program Report:

Ms. Conner reviewed the payments to producers who have completed program certification.

The District along with Colonial Farm Credit will sponsor two Farm Program Meetings to be held in January at Michelle's in Hanover and the Golf Course in Caroline

The additional cost-share funds from DCR will be allocated for review at the January Ag Committee Meeting

State Ag BMP Cost-share Committee/Sub-committee Update:

Mr. Tate updated the board on the December 5th Ag BMP Committee Meeting:

The committee review of the status of projects.

Nutrient Management committee is reviewing the proposed program changes.

Several changes have been proposed to the CREP program including payment scale of buffers.

Annual Meeting:

Mr. Wells reported:

The Directors track was informative however the facility was not adequate

All in attendance agreed that the concurrent sessions were educational but the facility was lacking.

The VASWCD is now working on securing a facility for 2009 and 2010.

At the Business Meeting the proposed budget was approved and the legislative agenda was approved adding the Associations support of the VA Storm Water Management Program.

Annual Report:

The Annual report is in the packets.

Ms. Conner reviewed the report.

Budget Meeting Report:

Ms. Conner reported:

Ms. Conner along with Mr. Cauthorn, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Dodd attended the meeting to present the Hanover-Caroline SWCD'S 2009 budget.

Ms. Conner has not received a budget package from Caroline County however she has prepared a budget using last year's guidelines and will deliver to Caroline County this afternoon.

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Plans:

Ms. Moody requested approval on Churchill Noland conservation plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Education Program Update:

Awards Program:

Ms. Jones reported:

MWEE Curriculum Development: Ms. Conner and Ms. Jones attended a meeting with Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum for Caroline County Schools, Becky Broaddus, and Hanover Lead Science Instructor, Kim Dye. Curriculum is being developed with the help of Kris Jarvis, DEQ. A survey of middle school teacher needs and subsequent strategic planning session with six teachers from each county will help to define the curriculum development.

State Soils Judging Competition:

The District hosted the FFA State Soil Competition on November 20th at Pleasant Hill Farm in Caroline County. Atlee High School won the competition.

Meadow Farm Project:

Ms. Jones and Ms. Conner met with Brian Moores, Randolph Macon College, Glen Martin, and Jim Gardner, State Fair of Virginia, to begin planning the planting of hardwoods in the wetlands at Meadow Farm. The project is will potentially be scheduled for March 7th and 14th.

Hanover Professional Day:

Ms. Jones, Ms. Conner and Ms. Edmonds presented a soils program for Hanover third grade teachers on December 15th.

Land Disturber Workshop:

Ms. Moody would like the District to host a breakfast meeting for landowners and excavators to educate them on the latest regulations for land disturbing. Partner agencies will be included to assist with the program.

Nominating Committee Report:

Mr. Dodd reported that the committee recommends that the current slate of officers remain. A motion was made by Mr. Dodd to retain the current slate of officers:

Mr. Wells as Chair, Mr. Stepp as Vice Chair, Mr. Cauthorn as Treasurer, and Mr. Saphir as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cauthorn and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to have Mr. Dodd remain as assistant treasurer with the authorization to sign checks. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cauthorn and the motion carried.

Other Business:

Mr. Wells informed the board of a proposed Economic Stimulus Package that would emphasize job creation while addressing our Nation's deteriorating infrastructure needs. Mr. Wells suggest that the District support this proposal by sending a letter to our representatives asking that they consider the unfunded and much needed work under the USDA Small Watershed program when selecting projects for stimulus funding. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to support the proposal; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Special Recognition:

Mr. Wells recognized and congratulated Mr. Cauthorn for his fifteen years service as a director of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation Board. Mr. Wells also recognized:

Ms. Conner as recipient of the Virginia Association of Conservation Districts Employees Outstanding Conservation District Professional Award

Ms. Edmonds' 5 years at the District

Ms. Moody as the President of the Virginia Association of Conservation Districts Employees

Mr. Tate presented Ms. Moody with a Buffer Cop Badge and recognized and congratulated Ms. Moody's accomplishment of Level III Training Certification.

There being no further business, Mr. Wells adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Correspondence in Packets:

- DCR Activity Report
- NRCS Report
- SWCD Staff Activity Reports
- Treasurer's Report

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | | |
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| District meetings - | January 14, 2009 | February 10, 2009 | March 10, 2009 |
| Farm Program Meetings – Hanover and Caroline; late January | | | |
| Water Quality Clinic – January 12, 2008; Caroline | | | |
| Area III Meeting Planning Meeting – January 15, 2008; JRSWCD at 10 am | | | |
| Farm Bureau Young Farmer Program – January 23-25, 2008 | | | |
| Winter Grain Meeting – January 30 th , 2008; Caroline | | | |
| BSA Conservation Committee Meeting – D.C.; February 4, 2008 at 10 am | | | |
| Eastern VA Forage Conference – February 21, 2008; New Kent Middle School at 8:30 am | | | |
| Richmond Area Vegetable Growers Conference – February 25, 2008 | | | |
| Agriculture Outlook Forum “Global Ag and Rural America in Transition” – Arlington; February 26 – 27, 2008 | | | |
| Area III Envirothon Training – February 2008; Henricopolis SWCD | | | |
| Meadow Farm Wetlands Project – Early March | | | |
| Area III Meeting – Week of March 16 th ; JRSWCD | | | |
| Area III Envirothon – April 30, 2008; Dorey Park | | | |

Respectfully submitted:

Ann Edmonds, Administrative Assistant

Date Approved

Donald Wells, Chairman

Date Approved

Mac Saphir, Secretary

Date Approved