



**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Hanover, Virginia    November 10, 2009**

**Board Members Present:**

Donald L. Wells – Chair / Director  
Joe Stepp – Vice Chair / Director  
Bill Orrock – Director  
Park Dodd - Director

Bruce Cauthorn – Treasurer / Director  
Mac Saphir – Secretary / Director  
Tim Etheredge – Associate Director

**Staff Present:**

Sharon Conner – District Manager  
Jim Tate – Conservation Specialist  
Ann Edmonds – Administrative Assistant  
Rebecca Jones – Educational Specialist

**Others Present:**

Wayne Davis – Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Mike Flagg – Hanover County Director of Public Works  
Brian Wooden – NRCS

**Absent:**

Marian Moody - Conservation Specialist  
Rose Bradshaw – Associate Director  
Dave Terwilliger - Department of Forestry  
Leigh Pemberton – Associate Director  
David Nunnally – Caroline County Senior Environmental Planner

**Call to Order:**

The November 2009 meeting of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District was held in the Hanover USDA Service Center Conference Room on Tuesday, November 10, 2009. Mr. Wells called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**Secretary Report:**

The minutes of the November 2009 meeting were presented as e-mailed to the Directors. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir and duly seconded by Mr. Orrock to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report for October 2009 was presented. Ms. Edmonds reviewed the report. Mr. Orrock made a motion which was seconded by Mr. Dodd to file the Treasurer's Report for audit. The motion was approved.

**Agency Reports:**

**Department of Conservation and Recreation:**

Mr. Davis' report was provided in the packet.  
Mr. Davis reviewed his report noting that the nominations for the York Grand Basin Clean Farm Award and the Area III Outstanding District Challenge will be reviewed on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Davis expressed the importance of entering cost share data into the tracking program in an effort to produce the correct figures for funding request. A discussion followed concerning the tracking program.

**NRCS:**

Mr. Wooden distributed his written report and reviewed Mr. Wells referred to a letter from NRCS regarding an evaluation of how NRCS and USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) programs can collaborate to help communities meet the demand for long term availability of water supplies. For the district this would involve modifying the existing watershed structure at Site 52-B.

Mr. Flagg informed the Board of a plan for Hanover County to take over the Martin Marietta Rock Quarry as a source for off site water storage.

The board agreed that no project was necessary to increase the water supply capacity of Site 52 – B.

**Hanover County:**

Mr. Flagg reported the County could experience a mid year budget cut due to a current deficit projected to be around 4 million dollars.

CBLAD audit visit of Hanover County is scheduled for December 11, 2009.

Mr. Flagg referred to the amendment to the E & S control law on the VASWCD legislative agenda, noting the provision for a management plan developed by a professional forester was the less important of the two proposed amendments affecting land conversions.

Hanover County suggest that if there is resistance to the amendments that the requirements for a professional forestry plan could be given up in favor if the requirement for a conservation plan approved from the Soil and Water Conservation District based on the experiences in Hanover. This may be met with less resistance and it is the land conversion from forestry to agricultural cropland or pasture that are of primary concern.

Mr. Flagg reported that the county will test the signal strength of the monitoring system which will be incorporated into the county emergency system. The results of this test will aid the district discussion in the consideration to bring site 52-B on to that system.

Mr. Flagg noted changes being made to Hanover County Ordinance to come into conformance with State Law regarding State Dam Safety Regulations and inundation mapping. The County proposes to adopt an ordinance which mimics the requirements of state law. Currently, state law does not protect dam owners from the construction of individual single family homes. The inundation mapping provisions only affect subdivision of 3 lots or more. Following a discussion a motion was made by Mr. Saphir to send a letter from the district to the Hanover Planning Commission to see if there is any possibility of local protection regarding the construction of single family or individual homes, in the adoption of the ordinance. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

**Cooperative Extension:**

Mr. Saphir reported:

Mr. Saphir will hold recertification training sessions for private applicator certification December 3rd and 10th.

Winter Grain workshop is scheduled for January 29, 2010.

Mr. Saphir mention the possibility of his early retirement, however he wants to continue his work as director of the district.

Ms. Bradshaw was unable to attend the meeting however she provided a written report.

**District Business:**

**2010 Cost-share Program**

Mr. Stepp reported that the Ag committee has met and recommends moving the late planting date to November 22, 2009. A motion was made by Mr. Stepp to approve the recommendation the motion was by Mr. Saphir and the motion carried.

**State Cost-share BMP Committee Report / Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act**

Mr. Tate reported that the State Ag BMP committee has met.

New committees have been formed including a subcommittee to develop a definition of agriculture, and a subcommittee to review all programs for stream protection.

Mr. Tate reported on the cover crop subcommittee:

Chesapeake Bay Program model does not give credit for alternative cover crops. The committee requested a letter be sent to CBP modelers requesting consideration of inclusion of alternate species. The response has been that water quality benefit research must be demonstrated and reviewed before any new species can be included in the model.

**Education Program Report:**

Ms. Jones reported:

“Back to the Farm: Growing Your Own Vegetables” program was held October 24, 2009 at Mt Olympus Farm and 30 people participated.

Meaningful Watershed Experience Curriculum development is continuing. The staff, Kris Jarvis, staff from DEQ and 50 teachers attended a training session at the Meadow Farm on November 3, 2009.

Ms. Conner reported:

2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree – The conservation patch is being developed the estimated cost is \$2.00 a patch and the district will order 1000 patches. NRSC may help with the purchase of these patches.

The District and NRCS is working with Fort A.P. Hill on three conservation projects at Fort A. P. Hill. The district will be involved in two of these projects a rain garden at the low spot in front of Liberty Church and a perennial garden around the church. The projects will be used as demonstration sites at the Boy Scout Jamboree.

**Legislative (Budget) Update:**

Mr. Wells reported on the 2010 VASWCD legislative agenda:

The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts 2010 Legislative agenda is included in the directors packets. Mr. Wells reviewed the agenda, noting item #2 the request to provide dedicated funds to the Natural Resources Commitment Fund totals \$45.4 million for FY 2011 and \$44 million for FY 2012.

In addition there will be a request of \$350,000 for FY 2010 in the “Caboose” Budget request.

Mr. Wells reported that he and Ms. Conner attended a budget meeting with Hanover County and it is likely the district will receive a 5% reduction for next year.

**Tributary Strategies Reports:**

Rappahannock River:

Mr. Saphir reported that the Rappahannock River Basin Non-Point Source Work Group is hosting a symposium to introduce Eco-System Services on December 9, 2009. Mr. Saphir provided the agenda for the symposium.

York River:

Ms. Edmonds attended the meeting on October 27, 2009, which was held at Montpelier. The Scope of work for next year is being developed and will include trainings for rural land disturbers, some support for the VA Citizens for Water Quality stream monitoring annual meeting, another "river Celebration "event centered around the Pamunkey River, supporting 5 clean ups again, and support for our webmaster. The group will likely be expected to participate in a CB TMDL meeting or implementation planning session, so that will also be included in the budget.

#### **VASWCD Annual Meeting Registration:**

Ms. Edmonds asks everyone attending to review their registration. The check to the VASWCD will be mailed today.

#### **Other Business:**

Ms. Edmonds reports that Mr. Nunnally called stating he was unable to attend the meeting today; however he wished to remind everyone that the Stormwater Regulation comment period is open until 11/25/2009.

Ms. Edmonds asks for a motion to approve the donation several wildlife boxes:  
Bird feeder to Cindy Conner for speaking at the Back to the Farm program at Mt Olympus  
Wildlife box for Ken West as host of the Back to the Farm program  
Bird feeder for door prize at the SECDEA meeting Ms. Moody attended as president of the VACDE

A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the donations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cauthorn and the motion carried.

Mr. Wells requested a decision on the district paying for spouse's expenses to the Annual Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Orrock for the district to pay for spouses expenses to the Annual Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saphir and the motion carried.

Mr. Wells asks Mr. Etherege to head the nomination committee to elect the board officers for 2010. Mr. Dodd and Mr. Orrock will also be on the committee.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:25

#### **Correspondence in Packets:**

DCR Activity Report  
NRCS Report  
SWCD Staff Activity Reports  
2010 VASWCD Legislative Report  
VCE Report

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**District meetings** - December 15, 2009 January 12, 2010 February 9  
Annual Award Banquet – November 19, 2009; Doswell Ruritan Center  
PDR Managers Meeting – December 2, 2009  
VASWCD Annual Meeting – December 6-8, 2009; Richmond, VA

Respectfully submitted:

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Ann Edmonds, Administrative Assistant

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Date Approved

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Donald Wells, Chairman

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Date Approved

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Mac Saphir, Secretary

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Date Approved