



MINUTES OF MEETING
HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Hanover, Virginia October 13, 2009

Board Members Present:

Donald L. Wells – Chair / Director
Joe Stepp – Vice Chair / Director
Bill Orrock – Director
Rose Bradshaw – Associate Director

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

Staff Present:

Jim Tate – Conservation Specialist
Ann Edmonds – Administrative Assistant
Marian Moody - Conservation Specialist
Rebecca Jones – Educational Specialist

Others Present:

Wayne Davis – Department of Conservation and Recreation
Don Bagshaw - Area III Chair
Mike Flagg – Hanover County Director of Public Works
Brian Wooden – NRCS

Absent:

Sharon Conner – District Manager
Dave Terwilliger - Department of Forestry
Leigh Pemberton – Associate Director
David Nunnally – Caroline County Senior Environmental Planner

Call to Order:

The October 2009 meeting of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District was held in the Hanover USDA Service Center Conference Room on Tuesday, October 13, 2009. Mr. Wells called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Secretary Report:

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

Agency Reports:

Cooperative Extension:

Mr. Saphir reported:

Mr. Saphir is working with the District on the "Back to the Farm: Growing Your Own Vegetables" program to be held on October 24th at Mt Olympus Farm.

Mr. Saphir attended pesticide training in Roanoke. Mr. Saphir will hold recertification training sessions for private applicator certification in December.

Ms. Bradshaw reported:

Soy bean rust has been reported in Virginia.

Master Gardner's fall plant sale was last Saturday they made \$3,000.00 in sales.

Risk Management workshop will be every Thursday from October 15th to November 19th.

Beginning Farmer Workshop- October 19th

VCE is involved in their strategic planning.

Professional Development Day - November 7th

NRCS:

Mr. Wooden distributed his written report and reviewed

Mr. Wooden requested board signature on the computer Agreement due to difference in dates from previous one. The Board consensus was that the September action continues in effect.

The first round of EQIP funds had been awarded and allocated.

The Conservation Stewardship Program has one sign-up.

Mr. Wells informed the District board that the VA Association board requested NRSC to direct dedicated Chesapeake Bay funds to the unfunded cost-share request in eastern VA.

Department of Conservation and Recreation:

Mr. Davis' report was provided in the packet.

Mr. Davis reviewed his report noting the budget reductions.

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.

Hanover County:

Mr. Flagg reported the County is complying with state requirements putting into place dam monitoring system incorporating radio transmission in real time coordinating with the county emergency system. Mr. Wells suggested that the district consider bringing site 52-B on to that system at the same time. Mr. Wells indicated that funds should come from the reserve dam maintenance funds. While no action was taken the board agreed staff should work with Mr. Flagg to determine logistics. This will be discussed at the next meeting between district staff and Mr. Flagg.

Mr. Flagg reported on the budget cuts to the Public Works Department.

Mr. Wells introduced Mr. Bagshaw

Mr. Bagshaw reported:

The Outstanding District Award applications are due October 15th

The annual meeting will be Dec 6th through 8th in Richmond

2010 Area III meeting will be hosted by the Colonial District

2010 Envirothon will be hosted by the Tidewater District

Mr. Wells reported that because of travel expenses spent for Ms. Conner to attend SENACD meeting Ms. Conner's travel funds will not allow her to attend the annual meeting. Ms. Conner attended this meeting to promote the Boy Scout Jamboree in an effort to receive financial and volunteer support from the southeast region. Mr. Wells suggest that these expenses be put against the BSA account. This would free up Ms. Conner's travel funds enabling her to attend the annual meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to transfer the travel expenses spend for the SENACD meeting to the BSA account therefore freeing travel funds for Ms. Conner. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dodd and the motion carried.

District Business:

2010 Cost-share Program

Mr. Tate reported that the Ag committee has met, reviewed and recommends for approval a request from Ms. Conner to increase the previous approved cost share funding to \$27,993.27 for Debbie Colby. A motion was made by Mr. Orrock to approve the request. The motion was second by Mr. Cauthorn and the motion carried.

Mr. Tate reported that the staff has attended training on the new cost-share tracking program. This new program requires a considerable amount to data entry for the first year; however Mr. Tate feels that this new system will eventually work well for districts.

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

Mr. Tate reported:

The Ag Committee has reviewed and recommends the approval two Chesapeake Bay plans and one Conservation Plan.

Chesapeake Bay plans:

William Layne- (Hanover) Farm

Rob Johnson/Laura Berne- (Hanover) Farm

Conservation Plan:

Emmett Snead III- (Caroline)

A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the three recommended plans. The motion was seconded by Mr. Orrock and the motion carried.

Computer Purchase:

Ms. Jones reported:

Bids for two laptops have been secured, a state contract bid and an on-line bid from Dell.

Ms. Jones has also contacted Linda Terry seeking a bid from the Federal contract.

After a review of the packages and pricing contacts, a motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approval the purchase of the two laptops at Dell. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Drill Bird Box Quarterly Report:

The drill, rain barrel, and bird box reports were included in the packets.

Education Program Report:

Ms. Jones reported:

"Back to the Farm: Growing Your Own Vegetables" program will be held October 24, 2009 at Mt Olympus Farm. 40 people have signed up for the program

Meaningful Watershed Experience Curriculum development is continuing. Development of six stations is being completed. Teachers will attend a training session at the Meadow Farm on November 3, 2009.

2010 National Boy Scout Jamboree – Planning meetings have begun. The District and NRCS is working with Fort A.P. Hill on several conservation projects that will involve the scouts.

State Fair Event:

The district staff volunteered at the association's booth during the fair. The district's Good Farm/Bad Farm model was part of the exhibit.

Legislative (Budget) Update:

Mr. Wells reported on the 2010 VASWCD legislative agenda:

Increase essential funding for the districts to \$120,000.00 per district

The total annual costs of increasing the 2010 level of state funding for each SWCD is \$2,890,000. In addition there will be a request of \$350,000 for FY 2010 in the "Caboose" Budget request.

Provide dedicated funds to the Natural Resources Commitment Fund

Support the establishment of a Virginia Urban Best Management Practices Cost Share and Tax Credit program

Support amendments to the Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law

Re-establish a stream and shoreline erosion program

NR-DCR-2 Provides exclusion to FOIA provisions for nutrient management information held by DCR.

NR-DCR-3 Provides a tax exemption for recipients of state agricultural cost-share

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.

York River:

Ms. Edmonds will attend the next meeting on October 27, 2009

VASWCD Annual Meeting Registration:

The information is provided in the packet.

Mr. Wells reminded the board that the awards banquet will be on November 19, 2009.

Other Business:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:35

Correspondence in Packets:

DCR Activity Report

Drill and Bird Box Quarterly Reports

NRCS Report

SWCD Staff Activity Reports

VASWCD Annual Meeting Registration Materials

UPCOMING EVENTS

District meetings - November 10, 2009 December 15, 2009 January 12, 2010

Hanover Budget Due – October 23, 2009

"Back to the Farm: Growing Your Own Vegetables" – October 24, 2009; Mt. Olympus Berry Farm, Caroline County

Meaningful Watershed Experience Professional Development Program – November 3, 2009, Meadow Farm

Hanover Budget Meeting – 11 – 11:30 am; Hanover Courthouse

Annual Award Banquet – November 19, 2009; Doswell Ruritan Center

VASWCD Annual Meeting – December 6-8, 2009; Richmond, VA

Respectfully submitted:

Ann Edmonds, Administrative Assistant

Date Approved

Donald Wells, Chairman

Date Approved

Mac Saphir, Secretary

Date Approved