



MINUTES OF MEETING
HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Hanover, Virginia May 19, 2009

Board Members Present:

Donald L. Wells – Chair / Director
Joe Stepp – Vice Chair / Director
Mac Saphir – Secretary / Director

Bruce Cauthorn – Treasurer / Director
Park Dodd – Director
Rose Bradshaw – Associate Director

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Wayne Davis – Department of Conservation and Recreation
Mike Flagg – Hanover County Director of Public Works
David Nunnally – Caroline County Senior Environmental Planner
Brian Wooden - Natural Resource Conservation Service
Colleen Calderwood

Absent:

Bill Orrock - Director
Leigh Pemberton – Associate Director
Tim Etheredge – Associate Director
Dave Terwilliger - Department of Forestry

Call to Order:

The May 2009 meeting of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District was held in the Hanover USDA Service Center Conference Room on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Mr. Wells called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Secretary Report:

The minutes of the April 2009 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 April 2009 was presented. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to file the April 2009 Treasurer's Report for audit, the motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Agency Reports:

Department of Conservation and Recreation:

Mr. Davis' report was provided in the packet.
Mr. Davis reviewed the restructuring of the DCR regions, noting the Hanover-Caroline is still a part of his region.

Mr. Davis handed out the Agricultural BMP Cost Chare Program Recommended Changes Matrix for Program Year 2010.

The Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board meets on May 28th to adopt the grant agreements between DRC and the districts. The agreement will be available for district signature at the June board meeting.

NRCS:

Mr. Wooden handed out his report. Mr. Wooden reviewed his report, noting the section on Freedom of Information Act, requesting that anyone who has access to privileged information sign the Attachment C.

Mr. Wooden has been working on a wetland disturbance complaint in Caroline County.

Cooperative Extension:

Ms. Bradshaw reported:

Hanover Ag News Summer Newsletter has been distributed.

Registration form for the pesticide disposal program is included in the newsletter.

Demo plots for urban education will be planted at the courthouse with the help of youth community group.

Ms. Bradshaw is working with Georgetown High School on an educational garden project to grow and market tomatoes.

July 31 to Aug 2 -Young Farmers Expo

Soybeans are being planted in preparation for Virginia Ag Expo on August 6th at J.N. Mills Farm

May 28 - Commercial pesticide training

Mr. Saphir reported:

He participated in the "Back to the Farm" program at Pamunkey Farm

June 2 - Mt. Olympus No-till Twilight Meeting from 6:30-8:30pm

Hanover County:

Mr. Flagg thanked the District for their continued assistance.

Caroline County:

Mr. Nunnally reported:

New weather station has been installed at the Lewis and Clarke Elementary School. The school is developing a Stormwater BMP outdoor classroom.

The report from DCR on Caroline County's Erosion and Sediment Control Program will be reviewed at the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board on May 28th

District Business:

2009 Ag BMP Cost-share Program Report:

Ms. Conner requests the cancellation of R. Bruce Mallet's and Charles Linton's SL-6 practices. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to cancel Mallet and Tate; the motion was seconded by Mr. Dodd and the motion carried.

Ms. Conner handed out the new ranking list and reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the new ranking and reallocation of \$142,369.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Ms. Conner requested approval for NM-1 practice for James River Nurseries. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the practice; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Ms. Conner reported that the District has received the SWCD Request for Technical Assistance Funding for Implementation of the 2010 VA Ag BMP Cost Share program. Ms. Conner suggested requesting \$82,715.00, the same amount requested last year. A motion was made by Mr. Stepp to request \$82,715.00 in technical assistance funding from DCR. The motion was seconded by Mr. Saphir and the motion carried.

State Ag BMP Cost-Share Advisory Committee Update:

Mr. Tate reported:

He will reintroduce the Continuing Conservation Initiative (CCI) Practices

The District is concerned that not enough public Nutrient Management Planning Staff are available in our area.

Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act Plan Approval:

James River Nurseries pond project approval:

Ms. Conner requested approval for James River Nurseries to proceed with pond building based on the engineering plan submitted while the conservation plan is being written. A motion was made by Mr. Saphir to approve the plan; the motion was seconded by Mr. Stepp and the motion carried.

Discussion followed regarding the District's need for engineering assistance and approval of NRCS standards and specifications on cost-share BMP practices. A meeting is scheduled for May 26th with NRCS.

Mr. Tate presented conservation plans on two tracts for Eagle Point Farm for board approval. A motion was made by Mr. Stepp to approve the plans as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dodd and the motion carried. Ms. Conner noted that the Ag Stewardship Complaint against Eagle Point Farm has been resolved and a letter from VDACS regarding the resolution has been sent to the District.

Education Program Report:

Ms. Jones reported:

YCC – the VASWCD is accepting more applications the district will advertise for two more applicants.

Earth Day Event - Ms. Jones, Ms. Conner and Ms. Edmonds participated in the event in Ashland on April 18th. Ms. Jones gave two presentations on the benefits of water capture and took sign up to purchase rain barrels. Seven wildlife boxes were sold and soil testing coupons were distributed.

Rain Barrel Pick-up Days - April 21st and 22nd - the District sold 120 rain barrels.

Pearson's Corner Earth Day Event - The school purchased four rain barrels for their school courtyard. Ms. Jones and Ms. Edmonds gave several presentations to students on water quality issues and rain barrels.

MWEE Meeting and Curriculum Progress - Ms. Jones and Ms. Conner are working with Kris Jarvis on the curriculum for the MWEE. The six middle school teachers will visit the Meadow Park to view the site on June 18th for training and a brainstorming meeting on the curriculum. The teachers will receive a portion of their stipend at this meeting.

Area III Envirothon - Ms. Jones and Ms. Edmonds volunteered at the competition at Dorey Park, hosted by Henricopolis. Jamestown High School, King George High School and Prince George High School advanced to the state competition.

“Back to the Farm” Workshop Series: The program was very informative and well received by those who attended, however the District did not get the attendance hoped for.

Site 52-B Dam Regulatory Requirements:

Ms. Conner attended the Dam Safety meeting on April 23, 2009 and reported that the District’s current inundation study does not comply with the new Dam Safety regulations. Districts will be required to undertake a new study with the contracted DCR consulting firm, by September 2012.

Strategic Plan:

The planning session was held on May 12th. The results will be compiled and presented at the June 15 board Committee & Board meetings.

Tributary Strategies Reports:

Rappahannock River:

Mr. Saphir reported he attended the meeting on May 6th

The nonpoint source work group will be involved in the rewriting of the Storm Water Regulations. Public review will be from June 1 to August 1, 2009.

York River:

Ms. Edmonds reported that she will attend the next meeting on June 11th Location TBA.

Other Business:

Schedule of District End-Year Committee Meetings

June 15th 9:00 – 12:00:

Personnel Committee Meeting (Joe Stepp, Chairman, Park Dodd, Don Wells, Tim Etheredge) to review personnel performance evaluations, personnel policy, and job descriptions

June 15th 1:00 - 3:00:

Annual Plan of Work/Strategic Planning Committee (Joe Stepp, Chairman, Bill Orrock, Don Wells, Mac Saphir and Tim Etheredge and Rose Bradshaw) to develop 2009 Annual Plan of Work, Review Strategic Plan

June 15th 3:00:

Agricultural/Technical Review Committee (Bill Orrock, Chairman, Mac Saphir, Bruce Cauthorn, Joe Stepp, Tim Etheredge, Leigh Pemberton, Rose Bradshaw, Wayne Davis, Brian Wooden) to review Bay Plans, Cost-share Secondary Considerations, Carryover approvals, Cost-share Caps, 2009 Operating Grant

June 16th 8:00

Finance Committee (Bruce Cauthorn, Chairman, Bill Orrock, Joe Stepp and Park Dodd) to perform FY2010 budget revisions and review purchasing and equipment policy

June 16th 9:00

Board Meeting

Mr. Wells reported that he has received a letter from NRCS regarding the status of the District's Certified Planners Training Documentation. Ms. Moody has achieved level three certification, Ms. Conner and Mr. Tate each lack only a few training courses to reach level three.

There being no further business, Mr. Wells adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Correspondence in Packets:

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- District meetings - June 16, 2009 July 14, 2009
- Small Grains Field Day – May 21, 2009; Providence Forge
- Ag Day Hanover – May 27 and 28, 2009; Poor Farm Park
- Vegetable Program – June 2, 2009; Mt. Olympus Berry Farm 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Cost-share Tracking Program Training – June 4, 2009; John Tyler Community College
- MWEE Meeting – June 18, 2009; Meadow Farm
- Ag Expo – August 6, 2009; King William

Respectfully submitted:

Ann Edmonds, Administrative Assistant

Date Approved

Donald Wells, Chairman

Date Approved

Mac Saphir, Secretary

Date Approved