



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Farmville, Virginia  
February 28, 2017 4:00 p.m.**

**Board Members Present:**

Larkin Moyer –Director, Amelia County / Chairman  
Ricky Rash – Director, Nottoway County/Vice Chairman  
Wilkie Chaffin –Director, Prince Edward County / Treasurer  
Chuck Arnason –Director, Nottoway County / Secretary  
Donna Kerr – Director, Amelia County  
Bill Powers –Director, Prince Edward County  
Juan Whittington –Appointed Director, Amelia County  
Haley Norton- Appointed Director, VCE Nottoway County  
Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County

**Piedmont SWCD Staff Present:**

Deanna Fehrer- District Manager  
Charlie Wootton- Senior Conservation Specialist  
Amanda Hancock – Admin & Education Coordinator  
Kevin Dunn- BMP Conservation Technician  
Robin Buckalew- Communications  
Emily Gibbs- Urban & Program Support  
Stephen Reames- Equipment Manager

**Others Present:**

Horace Adams, NRCS-ACES, Amelia  
Blair Gordon, DCR, CDC

**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:**

A regular meeting of the Piedmont SWCD Board of Directors was held in the banquet room of Amelia Baptist Church on February 28, 2017. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order, welcomed directors and staff, and led the group in prayer. A quorum was present.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:**

**On motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the January 24, 2017 minutes as presented.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

**On motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Rash and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the January 2017 Treasurer’s Report to be filed as presented for audit.**

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE:** Mr. Dunn reported (*See attached Conservation Report*)  
**Cost-Share and Tax Credit Modification:**

**Amelia**

Vaughan Cattle Co.	SI-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (29.2 ac)	
CB VACS	Estimated Cost	\$ 2,920.00
(05-17-0025)	Estimated Tax Credit	\$ 730.00

The practice was originally approved for cost-share (\$1,168.00 on 8/30/16) but due to program caps the participant requested that the practice be modified to tax credit only. This will allow the participants SL-6 practice to be fully funded in FY-17. \$1,168.00 will be returned to C.B. VACS. **On motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved to reduce the practice as presented as a tax credit only.**

Cost-Share & Tax Credit Approval:

Amelia

<u>Vaughan Cattle Co.</u>	SL-6 Stream Exclusion with Grazing Land Mgt. (8,900')	
CB SL-6 Retirement	Estimated Cost	\$ 60,013.00
(05-15-0010)	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 60,013.00

<u>Reamford Farm LLC</u>	NM-1A Nutrient Management Plan Writing (1,095.8 Ac)	
CB VACS	Estimated Incentive	\$ 2,191.60
(05-17-0029)		

Nottoway

<u>George G. Toth</u>	NM-1A Nutrient Management Plan Writing (694.4 Ac)	
CB VACS	Estimated Incentive	\$ 1,388.80
(05-17-0009)		

Prince Edward

<u>Gayle B. Harris</u>	W-P2 Stream Protection (5,000')	
CB VACS	Estimated Cost	\$ 9,180.00
(05-17-0056)	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 6,885.00
	Tax Credit	\$ 573.75

**On motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the cost-share and tax credit applications as presented.**

CREP Practice Approved by DCR- No action needed, but listed below for minutes:

Prince Edward

1. #05-17-0056 Gayle B. Harris -\$9,184.00

DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Cost-Share: Ms. Gibbs reported

Prince Edward

Jesse W. Yeatts	RB-1 Septic Tank Pumpout (2)	
(05-17-0055)	Estimated Cost	\$ 600.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 300.00

Edora L. Carter	RB-4 Septic System Replacement	
(05-17-0057)	Estimated Cost	\$ 3,800.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 1,900.00

**On motion by Mr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Rash and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the 319 Septic Grant cost-share applications as presented**

Informational Items:Conservation Plans (6)Signed for FSA

Nottoway (1)

James S. Hawkes

Prince Edward (5)

Elizabeth Johns

Gary Dickerson

W.M. Dickerson Jr.

Gayle Harris

PRJ Land Trust

PSWCD BMP PY-17 Program Funding

Chesapeake Bay	\$ 10,208.13
Outside Chesapeake Bay	\$ 85.02
SL-6 CB Pending retirement	\$ 2,482.00
319 Septic Grant – Flat/Nibbs Creek	\$ 152,217.25
319 Septic Grant – PE County TMDL	\$ 254,773.50

Mr. Wootton stated that the Conservation Planning Stakeholders Advisory Group has held two meetings and has started viewing the tracking program for updates and changes. The group will meet March 24.

Equipment Update:

Ms. Fehrer reviewed an equipment purchase report that reflected four quotes for a new Haybuster No-Till Drill Model 107. James River Equipment had the lowest quote with a new drill valued at \$25,700 and the trade in value for the District's drill #3 for \$7,300.

**On motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Powers and passed by majority vote, the Board approved to purchase a new drill with trade-in from James River Equipment.**

TAC Update:

Mr. Rash stated the TAC Committee recently met and discussed the WP-4 Ag Waste Structures Practice and the limitations on storage sheds. This will be a priority item for the committee next year.

FINANCE: Ms. Fehrer reported

Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) MOU between the District and the VASWCD was received. The District will renew their terms to serve on the steering committee, attend monthly meetings, promote VCAP, and assist the program coordinator. The District will receive \$833.33 a month for one year from VASWCD for serving as a steering committee member of the VACAP program.

**On motion by Dr. Chaffin, seconded by Mr. Arnason, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted to approve the VCAP MOU contract.**

Ms. Fehrer reviewed the District's Purchasing Policy. There were no additions to be made.

Ms. Fehrer has submitted 2018 locality budget requests for Amelia, Nottoway and Prince Edward County.

PLANNING:

New Associate Director Appointment:

**On motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the 2017 Associate Director appointment for Horace Adams of Prince Edward County.**

Strategic Planning:

Ms. Fehrer reported approximately 380 surveys were sent out to stakeholders via email, mailing and handouts. Around 100 responses have been submitted. Ms. Gibbs is working on compiling the results and believes the responses are a good representation. Ms. Fehrer suggested inviting Mike Foreman to facilitate a discussion with the board and partners (and the public). The Board agreed that the March or April BOD meeting would be a good time to hold an hour to hour and a half discussion and asked Ms. Fehrer to contact Mr. Foreman.

March 2017 BOD Meeting Date Change:

Ms. Fehrer stated several events and meetings are taking place on our regular BOD meeting day that will require some directors and staff to miss March's meeting.

**On motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Kerr, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted to change the March Board of Director meeting to Monday, March 27.**

WATERSHED: Ms. Fehrer reported:

Owner dam inspections will take place March 21-22. DCR Dam Engineer, Charles Wilson will be attending.

A dam workgroup meeting will be held March 16.

LEGISLATIVE: Dr. Chaffin reported:

The State Budget was adopted by the General Assembly including all of the Conference Committee recommendations. As proposed, there are no reductions of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Operations Funds for 2018. DCR has been authorized by the General Assembly to establish a stakeholder group to discuss future sustainable funding for Ag BMPs and technical assistance.

PERSONNEL: No report

COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION: Ms. Hancock reported:

Ms. Hancock stated the District will be hosting a local Envirothon Competition and Workshop on Thursday, March 23 at Sunny Slope Farm in Burkeville. Fuqua School and Nottoway High School will be competing to advance to the Area V competition in April. Other teams from Area V have been invited to use this day as a training opportunity.

Several education scholarships have been received. The deadline is Monday, March 1.

Ms. Fehrer stated the District applied for and was notified of funding for a Chesapeake Bay License Plate Grant (pending approval of the Governor’s budget). The grant involves planting pollinator gardens at local schools and parks and hosting a teacher workshop.

Dr. Chaffin stated the District signage for entering the District is still in progress. One sign has been installed by the Town of Farmville. The rest of the boundary signs should be installed soon.

Ms. Buckalew reviewed details on how the awards program will run and the Director’s duties.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT: Ms. Fehrer reported (See attached report)

AGENCY REPORTS:

Department of Conservation and Recreation: (See attached report)

Natural Resources Conservation Service: (See attached report)

Virginia Cooperative Extension:

Ms. Norton reported a list of upcoming workshops. More information on them can be found on their website or at her office.

Mr. Whittington stated the 2017 Virginia Small Grain Field Day will be hosted by Feather Stone Farm on Thursday, May 18. This would be an excellent education opportunity for the District. Ms. Fehrer said the District will have an exhibit.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 PM.

ATTACHED REPORTS:

- Conservation Report
- District Manager Report
- DCR CDC Report
- NRCS Report

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Hancock, Piedmont SWCD Staff

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles Arnason, Director / Secretary