



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Farmville, Virginia
March 27, 2018 11:00 a.m.**

Board Members Present:

Larkin Moyer –Director, Amelia County / Chairman
Ricky Rash – Director, Nottoway County/Vice Chairman
Dr. Wilkie Chaffin –Director, Prince Edward County / Treasurer
Chuck Arnason –Director, Nottoway County / Secretary
Bill Powers –Director, Prince Edward County
Horace Adams- Associate Director, Prince Edward County
Juan Whittington –Appointed Director, Amelia County
Haley Norton- Appointed Director, VCE Nottoway County

Board Members Absent:

Donna Kerr – Director, Amelia County
Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County

Piedmont SWCD Staff Present:

Deanna Fehrer- District Manager
Charlie Wootton- Senior Conservation Specialist
Kevin Dunn- BMP Conservation Technician
Emily Gibbs- Urban & Program Support

Others Present:

Derek Hancock, NRCS District Conservationist
Rachel Loveday, NRCS District Conservationist
Daphne Cole, Citizen, Blackstone, VA

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

A regular meeting of the Piedmont SWCD Board of Directors was held at the Prince Edward Natural Resources and Agriculture Building in Farmville on March 27, 2018. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order, welcomed directors, staff, partners, and led the group in prayer. Chairman Moyer thanked the board and staff for their participation in presenting a successful awards banquet in February. A quorum was present.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Support of the VASWCD Golf Tournament

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Norton and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the February 27, 2018 minutes as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On a motion by Dr. Chaffin, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the February 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented to be filed for audit.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE *(See attached Conservation Report)*

Ms. Gibbs reported that the applications she received for this month were a result of the workshop she held in Farmville, a targeted mailing, word of mouth and referrals from the Virginia Department of Health in both localities.

DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Cost-Share Applications

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following DEQ 319(h) Residential Cost-Share applications as presented.

Flat Creek, et al.

Jeanne O. Jeter
(05-18-0075)
Nottoway County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$255.00 (eligible for 85% cost-share rate)

William N. Worsham
(05-18-0080)
Amelia County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$150.00

Catherine Goode
(05-18-0081)
Amelia County

RB-3 Conventional Onsite Sewage System Repair

Estimated Cost \$2,000.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$1,000.00

Jack E. Bulls, Sr.
(05-18-0084)
Amelia County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$150.00

Spring Creek, et al.

George W. Lewis III
(05-18-0077)
Prince Edward County

RB-4 Conventional Onsite Sewage System Replacement

Estimated Cost \$5,100.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$2,550.00

Virginia S. Morgan
(05-18-0082)
Prince Edward County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$150.00

Jay L. Sheeler
(05-18-0083)
Prince Edward County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$150.00

Patricia A. Vaughn-Lowery
(05-18-0085)
Prince Edward County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$150.00

Lee E. Hicks, Jr.
(05-18-0086)
Prince Edward County

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00
Estimated Cost-Share \$270.00 (90% cost-share rate)

Mathew Watkins
(05-18-0087)

RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out

Estimated Cost \$300.00

Prince Edward County Estimated Cost-Share \$270.00 (90% cost-share rate)

Emergency Pre-Approval by Conservation Committee during Interim

Robert R. Martin (05-18-0076) **RB-5 Alternative Onsite Sewage System Installation**
Estimated Cost \$19,950.00 – includes AOSE design fee
Spring Creek, et al. Estimated Cost-Share \$14,962.50 (eligible for 75% cost-share)
Emergency situation due to sewage surfacing onto the ground.

Richard F Cralle, Jr. (05-18-0078) **RB-5 Alternative Onsite Sewage System Installation**
Estimated Cost \$18,500.00
Spring Creek, et al. Estimated Cost-Share \$9,250.00
Emergency situation due to sewage surfacing onto the ground.

Conservation Plans (21) – presented by Mr. Dunn

On motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Mr. Rash and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the 21 conservation plans as presented, with Mr. Juan Whittington absent from the room.

Amelia(14)

- Tim Alexander
- George Ashman
- Charles Glasscock
- John Ashman
- R.M. Watkins & Son Inc.
- AMEVA Farm Inc.
- Juan Whittington
- Wilford Poore
- W. T. Reames
- Blanton Farms LC.
- Hoot Owl Hollow Inc.
- Vaughan Cattle Co.
- Vaughan Cattle Co,
- Whitaker Farms Inc.

Prince Edward(1)

- Poore House Dairy

Nottoway(3)

- Harrison Moody
- John Shepherd
- Charles O. Wootton

Signed for FSA(3)

- Thomas Tribes
- David, Robyn, Averette Simpson (all one plan)
- Samuel V. Wilson Trust

FINANCE

On a motion by Dr. Chaffin, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Piedmont SWCD will be a hole sponsor in the amount of \$100 at the VASWCD Educational Foundation Golf Tournament held in May.

Ms. Fehrer reported she emailed PSWCD’s current Purchasing, IT and Office Policies to the Board for review. There were no questions or requests for edits. The policies stand as having been reviewed. The Personnel Policy will be reviewed by the Personnel Committee at a later date.

PLANNING - No report.

WATERSHED

Mr. Arnason reported that the owner inspections were completed on 11 of the watershed dams and no problems were found. There was evidence of some muskrat activity at a couple of the dams.

LEGISLATIVE

Dr. Chaffin reported the General Assembly adjourned without a budget being passed, but they will reconvene to finish the budget process. The VASWCD is hopeful that the SWCD funding will be passed. The Area V Spring Meeting was held at the Primland Resort in Patrick County. There was a good attendance despite the travel distance. The owners of the Primland Resort gave a presentation, and later a tour, about the amenities of the resort as well as the conservation practices they have applied to the property. The VASWCD will hold its quarterly Board of Directors meeting tomorrow, March 28th. Dr. Chaffin will be attending and reminded everyone the meeting is open for anyone to attend. The Area V report was put together by Sherry Ragland, PFSWCD, and included information from all ten districts.

PERSONNEL

Ms. Fehrer reported that staff evaluations have been completed and the Personnel Committee will be meeting in April to perform her evaluation.

COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION

On a motion from Bill Powers, seconded by Juan Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, with Ricky Rash absent from the room, the following Educational Scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to Andrew Murphy (Prince Edward), Rebekah Cole (Nottoway), Jessica Newcomb (Amelia) and Kenneth Townsend (Prince Edward). The applicant, Andrew Murphy, will be forwarded to the VASWCD for consideration of the VASWCD Educational Foundation Scholarship.

Mr. Powers reported that the district received 7 outstanding applications and the committee reviewed and ranked the scholarships. District staff did not participate in the ranking process.

Ms. Gibbs passed around a draft of the Spring Awards Newsletter for edits or comments.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT *(See attached report)*

Ms. Fehrer reported that Ms. Gibbs coordinated a septic workshop with the Prince Edward Health Department and that she had good attendance. Conservation staff continues to be busy with cover crop checkout and gearing up for the end of the program year.

PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS:

Department of Conservation and Recreation: *(See attached report)*

Ms. Gordon was unable to attend, but submitted her regular monthly report. Ms. Fehrer reminded the Board that any suggestions or requests for changes to the 2020 VACS program must be brought forth to the Board at the April or May board meetings.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: *(See attached report from Rachel Loveday)*

Mr. Hancock, District Conservationist in Farmville, and Ms. Loveday, District Conservationist in Amelia, reviewed the process for the annual Local Working Group (LWG) discussion, as well as the Civil Rights and EEO aspect of the MOU between SWCDs and NRCS. This year, instead of an in-person meeting amongst all the conservation partners (typical LWG), Mr. Hancock and Ms. Loveday will be sending out a short questionnaire that covers all the areas that they wish collect data in. Each conservation partner lead will receive a copy of the questionnaire. NRCS would very much appreciate it that if you receive a questionnaire, that you complete it and sent it back before the April PSWCD board meeting. Following the April PSWCD board meeting, there will be an open session for discussion should any of the conservation partners wish to continue beyond the questionnaire. Information from the questionnaire, along with information obtained during the discussion session in April, will be recorded by a NRCS employee for quality assurance.

Ms. Loveday, District Conservationist in Amelia, reported that the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute has been a great learning experience and the recent meeting in Danville, VA regarding the coal ash spill was very informative.

Virginia Cooperative Extension:

Ms. Norton mentioned dates of several upcoming VCE programs: Selling at Farmers Markets (4/23), Food Preservation (5/1 & 5/17), Cattlemen's College (5/18 & 5/19), Ag Awareness Days (3rd & 5th grades: 4/10 - 4/12; 4/17-4/18). Details about location and registration can be found the on the VCE website.

ROUNDTABLE:

Ms. Daphne Cole, a citizen from Blackstone, VA, reported on her legislative activity on behalf of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and James River Association. Ms. Cole, along with members of these organizations, has visited both Virginia General Assembly members and our representatives in the US Congress. She said the meetings went well and she presented them with copies of Piedmont's Annual Report and several EPA water quality success stories about local waters within the District. The James River Association will hold a water monitoring testing workshop at the Appomattox River Company in Farmville on May 3, 2018. She encouraged district representatives to attend. She attended a "The Woods In Your Backyard" workshop in Hanover and reported it was very informative.

Ms. Gibbs shared pictures and discussed the operation of an alternative on-site septic treatment system that was recently installed with cost share funding from the 319 grants.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

ATTACHED REPORTS:

- Conservation Report
- District Manager Report
- DCR CDC Report

Submitted By Deanna Fehrer Date: 3/27/18
Deanna Fehrer, Piedmont SWCD Staff

Approved By: Chuck Arnason Date: 4/24/18
Charles Arnason, Director / Secretary