



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

Board Members Present:

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

Board Members Absent:

Donna Kerr – Director, Amelia County

Piedmont SWCD Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Denney Turner, DCR CDC
Rachel Loveday, NRCS District Conservationist
Doug Audley, DOF Amelia County

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 Tuesday, November 27, 2018. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order, welcomed directors, staff, and partners and led the group in prayer. A quorum was present. There were no additions to the agenda.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Ms. Norton and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the October 23, 2018 minutes as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Powers and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the October 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented to be filed for audit.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**VACS - Agricultural Cost-Share Applications**

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS applications:

Amelia County

<u>Harrison Moody</u>	SL-6 Stream Exclusion with Grazing Land Mgmt. (2,325')
05-18-0022	Estimated Total Cost \$ 18,056.00
(18 CB VACS)	Estimated Cost Share \$ 14,444.80
	Estimated Tax Credit \$ 902.80

<u>Beverly Moon</u>	SL-6 Stream Exclusion with Grazing Land Mgmt. (550')
05-18-0061	Estimated Total Cost \$ 5,082.00
(18 CB VACS)	Estimated Cost Share \$ 4,065.60
	Estimated Tax Credit \$ 254.10

DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Cost-Share Approvals

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

Flat Creek, et al.

LaTasha Henderson	RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out
05-19-0063	Estimated Cost \$ 300.00
Amelia County	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 225.00 (75% cost-share rate)

Spring Creek, et al.

Mary Yeatts	RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out
05-19-0060	Estimated Cost \$ 300.00
Prince Edward County	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)

Agricultural Conservation Plans

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Norton and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the following Agricultural Conservation Plans (3) as signed by Mr. Wootton for Farm Service Agency:

Prince Edward(1)

Marvin E. Whirley

Nottoway(2)

Burkes Tavern Farm

Extreme Act of Nature Practice Failures

The aftermath of Hurricane/Tropical Storm Michael resulted in several inquiries from agricultural clients about damage to agricultural best management practices (BMPs). Staff visited 3 clients with storm damage. Several clients had minimal fencing damage and were advised that the damage was a normal maintenance item. Clients who suffered more extensive damage to fencing and crossings were advised to inquire with Farm Service Agency about Emergency Conservation Practice assistance. BMPs that are not expired from contract lifespan regardless of District or USDA contract are not eligible to receive ECP assistance. A report is on file at the PSWCD office.

Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Mr. Rash reported the TAC and its sub-committees are working on several significant issues including two possible new programs, an equine BMP and a 'package agronomic' practice that allows for multiple agronomic practices to be considered as one practice for application and reporting levels, but cost share levels would be based on the amount of installation of the combined practices. The TAC is scheduled to meet on Monday, December 10, 2018.

FINANCE

On a motion by Dr. Chaffin, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the October 23, 2018 Finance Committee meeting minutes.

Ms. Fehrer reported that the staff and DCR staff are working on language that will need to be added to District's procurement policies to allow for participation in a joint procurement RFP that is being recommended for obtaining engineering services for District's small dam repairs across the Commonwealth.

Ms. Fehrer reminded the Board that FY20 funding assistance requests to localities will be submitted in early 2019. Level funding will be requested. The Board recommended we remind the localities about the septic assistance program and the assistance the grant has provided.

The audit is being conducted today by Robinson, Farmer and Cox.

PLANNING

On a motion from Ms. Norton, seconded by Mr. Whittington, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the renewal of current Board officers to serve in the same capacity in 2019.

On a motion from Ms. Norton, seconded by Mr. Arnason, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved Ms. Fehrer to continue to serve as FOIA and Record Retention Officer for 2019. A committee sign-up sheet for 2019 was distributed.

LEGISLATIVE

Dr. Chaffin reminded the Board about the upcoming VASWCD Annual Meeting and that the VASWCD Legislative agenda would be finalized. Also at the meeting Area V will have officer elections. Mr. Rash has been working with several District staff and directors and DCR staff, in crafting language for a proposal to fund remote monitoring at dams. At the very least, there could be an inclusion in the VASWCD policy book to support safe monitoring. Mr. Rash will present at the VASWCD Sunday Board meeting.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Dillard reported he has reviewed the applications for the part-time educator coordinator and has recommended contacting the top two applications for an interview. **On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the Personnel Committee to interview and hire for the position.**

COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION

No report.

WATERSHED

Staff reported that NRCS engineering technician will begin surveying the storm damaged dams this afternoon.

DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT *(See attached report)*

Ms. Fehrer reported the joint meeting between the Commonwealth Regional Council and Piedmont SWCD concerning WIP3 data will be held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 in the conference room. The public is invited to attend.

PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS:

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

Many of the items in Ms. Turner’s report were already addressed during the meeting. She reminded the Board of several deadlines and upcoming meetings. Ms. Turner reminded directors of the COIA training on December 4 at the VASWCD Annual Meeting and the requirement for all directors to take the training within 24 months. Disbursement letters were sent out recently. Two additional events were noted: December 7, “The Real Dirt on Dirt” to be held at VSU and a Soil Health/Nutrient Management Practices training on December 6th and 7th.

Virginia Cooperative Extension:

Ms. Norton passed out several flyers of upcoming events and the Central VCE District Monthly Agricultural Newsletter, which featured several interesting agricultural related articles.

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

Ms. Loveday reviewed her report with the Board.

Virginia Department of Forestry:

Mr. Audley reported tree seedlings can be ordered on-line and that the Loblolly Pine specie is in short supply due to the flooding of the nursery in North Carolina.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

ATTACHED REPORTS:

Conservation Report; DCR CDC Report; Staff report; NRCS Amelia Service Center Report.

Submitted By _____ Date: _____
Deanna Fehrer, Piedmont SWCD Staff

Approved By: _____ Date: _____
Charles Arnason, Director / Secretary