



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Farmville, Virginia  
March 26, 2019 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  
Juan Whittington –Appointed Director, Amelia County  
Horace Adams- Associate Director, Prince Edward County

**Board Members Absent:**

Donna Kerr – Director, Amelia County  
Haley Norton- Appointed Director, VCE Nottoway County  
Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County

**Piedmont SWCD Staff Present:**

Deanna Fehrer- District Manager

**Others Present:**

Denney Turner, DCR CDC  
Rachel Loveday, NRCS District Conservationist

**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, March 26, 2019. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order, welcomed directors, staff, and partners and led the group in prayer. A quorum was present.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**On a motion by Mr. Powers seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the February 26, 2019 minutes as presented.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the February 2019 Treasurer's Report as presented to be filed for audit.** The Board by consensus directed Ms. Fehrer to leave the past due equipment invoices on the 'books' and continue to make attempts to collect. Based on the dollar amount of the past due invoices, the Board does not feel it is worthwhile to contact the Attorney General's office to assist with collection.

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

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

**Amelia****R. M. Watkins & Sons Inc.****05-19-0038****(CB VACS)****WP-3 Sod Waterway (1.0 Ac)****Estimated Total Cost \$ 2,613.60****Estimated Cost Share \$ 1,960.20****Estimated Tax Credit \$ 163.35**

Three waterways were originally approved in 2018. After receiving design from DCR, one of the waterways required an underdrain which was not known when preparing the original estimate.

**Nottoway****John B. Hines****05-18-0066****(CB CREP SB)****CREP****Estimated Total Cost \$ 1,389.00****Estimated Cost Share \$ 347.25****Estimated Tax Credit \$ 86.81**

Additional Cost-Share needed because FSA paid over the original estimate and the State pays based on 25% of FSA payment. DCR approved the additional cost share and tax credit. Original Practice Approved on 2/26/18.

**DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Application Extensions**

**On a motion by Mr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Rash and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved extensions until June 14, 2019 for the following DEQ 319(h)**

**Residential Cost-Share applications:**

**Flat Creek, et al.****William Worsham****(05-18-0080)**

Amelia County

**RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out**

Estimated Cost \$ 300.00

Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)

**Lakeisha Davis****(05-18-0104)**

Nottoway County

**RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out**

Estimated Cost \$ 300.00

Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)

The Flat Creek grant is scheduled to end on June 30, 2019.

**DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Cost-Share Approvals**

**On a motion by Mr. Powers, 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.****Beverly Austin****(05-19-0076)**

Nottoway County

**RB-4P Conventional Sewage System Installation/Replacement with Pump**

Estimated Cost \$ 9,150.00

Estimated Cost-Share \$ 4,575.00 (50% cost-share rate)

**Nancy Matthews****(05-19-0077)**

Nottoway County

**RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out**

Estimated Cost \$ 300.00

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

<b>Vonceil Johnson</b> <b>(05-19-0081)</b> Amelia County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out</b> Estimated Cost \$ 300.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 255.00 (85% cost-share rate)
<b>Sheila Bowlin</b> <b>(05-19-0082)</b> Amelia County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out</b> Estimated Cost \$ 300.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)
<b>Janice Boggs</b> <b>(05-19-0083)</b> Amelia County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out (2)</b> Estimated Cost \$ 600.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 300.00 (50% cost-share rate)
<b><u>Spring Creek, et al.</u></b> <b>Marvin Reid</b> <b>(05-19-0075)</b> Prince Edward County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out</b> Estimated Cost \$ 300.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)
<b>Mervyn Navarro</b> <b>(05-19-0078)</b> Prince Edward County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out</b> Estimated Cost \$ 300.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)
<b>Thomas McBride</b> <b>(05-19-0079)</b> Prince Edward County	<b>RB-1 Septic Tank Pump Out</b> Estimated Cost \$ 300.00 Estimated Cost-Share \$ 150.00 (50% cost-share rate)

Ms. Fehrer commented that the news articles Ms. Gibbs wrote and submitted to the local newspapers generated the above applications. Ms. Gibbs is also continuing the targeted mailings to sub-watershed. The Flat Creek grant is scheduled to end June 30, 2019 and the PE grant will end September 30, 2019. Ms. Fehrer has been in conversation with DEQ about the possibility of extending the grants.

### **Agricultural Conservation Plans**

**On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the following Agricultural Conservation Plans (2).**

#### **Amelia (2)**

RM Watkins & Sons, Inc. (BMP)  
Windy Springs Farm (BMP)

### **FINANCE**

**On a motion by Dr. Chaffin, seconded by Mr. Powers and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the updated “Financial Policy”, which includes procurement procedures with the addition of term and cooperative contracts, funding requests and public inspection of records.** A copy is on file at the District office.

### **PLANNING**

No report.

### **WATERSHED**

Mr. Arnason reported discussions at the last SWCD Dam Workgroup meeting focused on the engineering RFP process and documents. DCR engineer Charles Wilson provided a MOU between Piedmont and each District who wants to participate on the cooperative procurement

RFP. As of this date, four MOU's have been returned to Piedmont SWCD. At the April Piedmont SWCD Board meeting, the MOUs will be signed and entered into minutes. The RFP can then be advertised. Several Districts expressed interest in serving on the RFP application review committee and the interview committee.

Mr. Arnason reported that 11 dam inspections were performed by DCR engineer Charles Wilson and no major concerns were found. Ms. Fehrer and Mr. Wootton will complete the 2 owner inspections and the final engineer required inspection will be scheduled later in the year. Routine maintenance such as minor debris removal and staff gauge refurbishing will be performed this year. Ms. Fehrer reported DCR Dam Safety approved two alteration permits for the Buffalo #2 and Buffalo #9 repair projects and those projects will be ready to advertise for bid soon. Ms. Fehrer also reported potential concerns with an access road for a residential lot that is being installed below the emergency spillway (Bush #6 dam) and notification from VDOT about some flooding issues occurring upstream of Bush #7 dam. Mr. Wilson has received a sample of the remote monitoring equipment and will be installing at one of Piedmont's dams for a trial period to test the data generated and performance of the equipment.

### **LEGISLATIVE**

Dr. Chaffin reported the Area V Spring meeting in Huddleston, VA had good attendance including several DCR and NRCS staff. A presentation about the D-Day Memorial was informative. Ms. Gibbs gave a very professional report as VACDE Area V Representative. The VASWCD Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 4, 2019 in Glen Allen. Ms. Fehrer reported the VCAP Steering Committee is beginning discussions about the additional \$1M of funding that is in the Governor's proposed budget. The new funding stream will be available Statewide and will not be restricted to the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Allocations, program changes, steering committee memberships and roles of VASWCD are several of the topics up for deliberation.

Chairman Moyer reminded elected directors that the deadline to file for the November 2019 election ballot is June 11, 2019.

### **PERSONNEL**

Ms. Fehrer reported that she and Mr. Dillard, Dr. Chaffin and Ms. Norton will conduct interviews on April 2, 2019 for the part-time education position. Mr. Dillard will meet with Ms. Fehrer prior to the interviews to conduct her evaluation and review the staff evaluations completed by Ms. Fehrer.

### **COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION**

.The Education Committee met prior to the Board meeting to review the Lindy Hamlett Scholarship applications. Nine applications were received. **On a motion by Mr. Powers, seconded by Dr. Chaffin, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the application from Kelsey Wallace of Nottoway to be forwarded to the VASWCD Scholarship selection committee.** The Education Committee will finalize the selection of PSWCD scholarship awards at the April meeting.

Ms. Fehrer reported the Envirothon workshop organized by Piedmont was well attended with Fuqua, Prince Edward High School, and Cumberland High School. Local farmer John Shepherd

and his consultant gave a presentation about the special topic of “Agriculture and Technology” and how they utilize precision agriculture technology in their farming operations. Partners from DGIF, DOF and NRCS served as station instructors. Mr. Powers mentioned the upcoming deadlines for YCC applications and Poster Contest. Ms. Fehrer reported that Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wootton have led several conservation presentations and farm visits with Longwood University and Fuqua School’s Environmental Sciences classes.

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Rash, and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved sponsoring the VASWCD Educational Foundation annual golf tournament in the amount of \$100.** District directors, partners and staff were encouraged to form a team.

**DISTRICT MANAGER REPORT** *(See attached report)*

Ms. Fehrer shared information about FOIA that was presented by the Attorney General’s representative for SWCDs, Robert Drewry, at the VASWCD Annual meeting. The presentation included several reminders about the requirements of a public body in regards to FOIA. Directors are required to complete a similar training every 2 years and the next training will be offered at the Area V Spring meeting in 2020. A summary of FOIA is included in the Director notebooks.

**PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS:**

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

Ms. Turner reviewed her report and mentioned several administrative reminders (quarterly reports due 4/15/19; PSWCD’s final audit report found no deficiencies or any need for corrections; budgets need approval by June 30; and the VASWCD is sponsoring an Admin/Ops training on May 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Turner also mentioned that \$5.8M of cost share funding has been allocated to the remaining SL-6 backlog projects statewide. The WIPIII plan will be released to the public on April 2, 2019 with a 90 day comment period.

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

Ms. Loveday reviewed her report with the Board and reported that Mr. Hancock will take the lead on organizing the Local Work Group. This year the questionnaire is extensive with 26 pages of questions.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 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