



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Farmville, Virginia
September 27, 2022 11:00 a.m.**

Board Members Present:

Larkin Moyer –Director, Amelia County / Chairman
Bill Powers –Director, Prince Edward County / Secretary
Charles “Chuck” Arnason –Director, Nottoway County / Treasurer
Allison Crews – Director, Amelia County
Horace Adams- Director, Prince Edward County
Juan Whittington – Appointed Director, Amelia County
Erin Small – VCE Appointed Director, Prince Edward County
Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County
Mackenzie Gunn – Associate Director, Amelia County & VCE agent
Sarah Eck – Associate Director, Nottoway County (via Zoom)
Dr. Kathy Gee, Associate Director, Nottoway County

Board Members, Staff & Partners Absent:

Ricky Rash – Director, Nottoway County /Vice Chairman
Kelly Atkinson – PSWCD Education Specialist
Tyler Smith – PSWCD BMP Conservation Technician

SWCD Staff Present:

Kevin Dunn – BMP Conservation Specialist
Deanna Fehrer - District Manager
Charlie Wootton – Senior Conservation Specialist

Partners Present:

Denney Collins, Conservation District Coordinator, Dept. Conservation & Recreation
Jeremy Evans, NRCS District Conservationist, Nottoway/Farmville
Tara Ciavarella, NRCS District Conservationist, Amelia
Jordan Rabon, Private Lands Biologist, Quail Forever

Guests Present:

Gregg Zody, Planning and Economic Development Director, Nottoway County
Doug Stanley, Prince Edward County Administrator
Robert Wilson, Executive Director Appomattox River Water Authority

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

A regular meeting of the Piedmont SWCD Board of Directors was held at the Prince Edward County Natural Resources and Agriculture Building in Farmville on Tuesday, September 27, 2022. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer. A quorum was physically present. Mr. Evans introduced Ms. Ciavarella and Mr. Rabon.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Powers and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the August 30, 2022 minutes as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Crews and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the August 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented to be filed for audit. Ms. Fehrer pointed out the Technical Assistance funding balance was a negative due to the return to DCR of unused Technical Assistance from PY22. A detailed written report was provided to the Treasurer.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE – Presented by Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wootton

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Crews and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS practices/applications totaling

\$459,141.40 in CB VACS

\$83,334.50 OCB VACS

DCR approved \$20,318.23 in state CREP funding

\$27,780 OCB VACS Tax Credits

Amelia (CB)

Hard Acres Farm	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (186.2ac)
05-23-0031 (515035)	Estimated Cost \$ 37,240.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 13,034.00
Hoot Owl Hollow	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (269.8ac)
05-23-0034 (515149)	Estimated Cost \$ 53,960.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 5,396.00
Dexter Jones	NM-1A Nut. Mgmt. Plan Writing (282.8ac)
05-23-0032 (515102)	Estimated Cost \$ 565.60
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 565.60
	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (282.8ac)
05-23-0032 (515101)	Estimated Cost \$ 56,560.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 25,452.00
Blanton Farms	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (187.7ac)
05-23-0033 (515113)	Estimated Cost \$ 37,540.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 13,139.00
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (35.8ac)
05-23-0033 (515114)	Estimated Cost \$ 7,160.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 716.00
John C Ashman	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (274.6ac)
05-23-0029 (514664)	Estimated Cost \$ 54,920.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 19,222.00

	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (46.8ac)	
05-23-0029 (514665)	Estimated Cost	\$ 9,360.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 936.00
Dwayne D Moore	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (311.5ac)	
05-23-0030 (514681)	Estimated Cost	\$ 62,300.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 21,805.00
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (51ac)	
05-23-0030 (514682)	Estimated Cost	\$ 10,200.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 1,020.00
Iron Gate Farms, LLC	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (370ac)	
05-23-0026 (514626)	Estimated Cost	\$ 74,000.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 33,300.00
R. M. Watkins & Sons, Inc.	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (449.7ac)	
05-23-0035 (515279)	Estimated Cost	\$ 89,940.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 31,479.00
	WQ-4 Legume Cover Crop (621.3ac)	
05-23-0035 (515280)	Estimated Cost	\$ 124,260.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 27,958.50
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (498ac)	
05-23-0035 (515281)	Estimated Cost	\$ 99,600.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 9,960.00
Brian Crowder	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (86.7ac)	
05-23-0046 (515648)	Estimated Cost	\$ 17,340.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 6,069.00
	WQ-4 Legume Cover Crop (621.3ac)	
05-23-0046 (515649)	Estimated Cost	\$ 14,960.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 3,366.00
Franklin C. Anderson	SL-6W Stream Exclusion (50'/10yr) (2,200')	
05-23-0047 (515652)	Estimated Cost	\$ 28,200.00
	Estimated Cost Share	\$ 26,790.00 (95%)
	Estimated Buffer Payment	\$ 2,000.00
	Total Estimated Cost Share	\$ 28,790.00
<u>Nottoway (CB)</u>		
Nicholas Moody	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (181.1ac)	
05-23-0027 (514641)	Estimated Cost	\$ 36,220.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 12,677.00
	NM-1A Nut. Mgmt. Plan Writing (181.1 ac)	
05-23-0027 (514643)	Estimated Cost	\$ 362.20
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 362.20

	NM-5P Variable Rate Phosphorus 181.1 ac)
05-23-0027 (514644)	Estimated Cost \$ 1,932.34
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 1,448.80
Richlands Dairy Farm	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (127.2ac)
05-23-0036 (515285)	Estimated Cost \$ 25,400.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 2,544.00
	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (125.2 ac)
05-23-0036 (515284)	Estimated Cost \$ 25,040.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 8,764.00
George G Toth	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (305.5ac)
05-23-0040 (515351)	Estimated Cost \$ 61,100.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 21,385.00
Shepherd Grain Farms	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (393.2ac)
05-23-0041 (515434)	Estimated Cost \$ 78,640.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 35,388.00
	NM-1A Nut. Mgmt. Plan Writing (921.6 ac)
05-23-0041 (515436)	Estimated Cost \$ 1,843.20
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 1,843.20
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (528.4ac)
05-23-0041 (515435)	Estimated Cost \$ 105,680.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 10,568.00
<u>Prince Edward</u>	
Boot Hill Dairy	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (445.7ac)
05-23-0045 (515605)	Estimated Cost \$ 89,140.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 31,199.00
	WQ-4 Legume Cover Crop (260.8ac)
05-23-045 (515603)	Estimated Cost \$ 52,160.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 11,736.00
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (23.1ac)
05-23-0045 (515604)	Estimated Cost \$ 4,620.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 462.00
	NM-6 Manure injection (23.1ac)
05-23-0045 (515602)	Estimated Cost \$ 9,715.50
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 9,715.50
Neubauer Farms	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (87.3ac)
05-23-0028 (514651)	Estimated Cost \$ 17,460.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 7,857.00

	NM-1A Nut. Mgmt. Plan Writing (87.3 ac)	
05-23-0028 (514652)	Estimated Cost	\$ 174.60
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 174.60
Poor House Dairy	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (513.7ac)	
05-23-0044 (515601)	Estimated Cost	\$ 102,740.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 35,595.00
Frank Clowdis	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (86.7ac)	
05-23-0043 (515650)	Estimated Cost	\$ 12,940.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 4,529.00
Andy Clowdis	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (178.9ac)	
05-23-0042 (515651)	Estimated Cost	\$ 35,780.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 12,523.00
James W. Garnett Jr	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (116.6ac)	
05-23-0048 (515653)	Estimated Cost	\$ 23,320.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 8,162.00
<u>Nottoway (OCB)</u>		
Sylvan Knolls LLC	CREP	
05-23-0025 (513546)	CP 22 (3.63ac) Estimated Cost Share	\$ 181.50
(513547)	CRFR-3 (3.63ac) Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 4,753.66
(513548)	CRSL-6 (4800') Estimated Cost Share	\$ 15,383.07
(514233)	SL-6W Stream Exclusion (50'/10yr) (5000')	
	Estimated Cost	\$ 21,910.00
	Estimated Cost Share	\$ 20,814.50 (95%)
	Estimated Buffer Payment	\$ 12,000.00
	Total Estimated Cost Share	\$ 32,814.50
Harrison Moody	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (27.5ac)	
05-23-0038 (515339)	Estimated Cost	\$ 5,500.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 1,925.00
	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (308.4ac)	
05-23-0038 (515340)	Estimated Cost	\$ 61,680.00
	Estimated Tax Credit	\$ 15,420.00
John C Bledsoe	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (233.8ac)	
05-23-0039 (515349)	Estimated Cost	\$ 46,760.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 16,366.00
Shepherd Grain Farms	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (170.8)	
05-23-0041 (515430)	Estimated Cost	\$ 34,160.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 15,372.00

	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (187.3)	
05-23-0041 (515432)	Estimated Cost	\$ 37,460.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 16,857.00
Triple R Dairy	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (207.8ac)	
05-23-0016 (515350)	Estimated Cost	\$ 41,560.00
	Estimated Tax Credit	\$ 10,390.00
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (39.4ac)	
05-23-0016 (515437)	Estimated Cost	\$ 7,880.00
	Estimated Tax Credit	\$ 1,970.00

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS practices totaling \$69,933.55 in CB funding, with Mr. Whittington leaving the room:

Featherstone Farm	SL-8B Cover Crop for Nut. Mgmt. (703ac)	
05-23-0037 (515315)	Estimated Cost	\$140,600.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 49,210.00
	SL-8H Harvestable Cover Crop (277.9ac)	
05-23-0037 (515314)	Estimated Cost	\$ 55,580.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 5,558.00
	WQ-4 Legume Cover Crop (223.5ac)	
05-23-0037 (515316)	Estimated Cost	\$ 44,700.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 10,057.20
	NM-1A Nut. Mgmt. Plan Writing (1,647.2ac)	
05-23-0037 (515322)	Estimated Cost	\$ 3,294.40
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 3,294.40
	NM-4: Late Winter Split Application of N. (403.1ac)	
05-23-0037 (515323)	Estimated Cost	\$ 8,062.00
	Estimated Cost-Share	\$ 1,813.95

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following conservation plans to be included in the minutes:

Signed by staff for FSA	Thomas Bate	CRP
	Mark Shepherd	CRP
	Sylvan Knolls LLC	CREP

Ms. Fehrer reported that the staff have done a great job in allocating over 36% of the funding in the first quarter.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Ms. Fehrer reported there is an opportunity for the District to purchase a trailer to be turned into a mobile education resource such as a soils tunnel/trailer or other natural resource topic. The

unit is 6'x12' with plywood boards and electric already installed. Ms. Fehrer showed several pictures of the trailer as well as examples from SWCDs across the country who have created a mobile education trailer. She will have additional information next month for the Board to review.

WATERSHED

Mr. Arnason reported the Bush #7 repair project has been completed and Rebecca Evans from NRCS will be doing the final survey for completion of the as-built plans. Mr. Wootton reported a meeting for dam landowners will take place on Thursday, September 29.

Ms. Crews reported she attended both Prince Edward County and Nottoway County Board of Supervisors meetings and reported on the missing stream identification signage at three bridge crossings on Route 307. The VDOT resident engineer who serves Nottoway County agreed to get the signs re-installed. The Board thanked Ms. Crews for her efforts.

PLANNING

Ms. Fehrer reminded the Board that last month there was discussion about hosting a 'thank you' event by inviting all producers who participated in our programs last year and this year. There will be no 'outstanding' conservation producer awards, but rather a time to show our appreciation to all the producers who participate in the VACS program. There were no comments from the Board, so the staff will proceed with planning. Featherstone Farm is a possible venue for the event.

The staff are planning a Fall meeting for agricultural producers who have not participated in our programs to meet their local ag and resource professionals.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE – no report

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – no report

COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION

Ms. Fehrer reported Ms. Atkinson is away at training. She highlighted several education events that have been held, including an Envirothon interest meeting, Farm & Family Day and Project Learning Tree teacher workshop. The PY22 Annual Report has been completed and mailed and a copy was provided to everyone in the meeting. Ms. Fehrer also reported that the VASWCD Educator of the Year award was submitted and thanked Mr. Moyer and Dr. Gee for providing information for the spotlight Facebook posts.

DISTRICT MANAGER AND PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS

Staff reports (Attached)

Ms. Fehrer reported conservation staff have been extremely busy with cover crop and other agronomic practices. Mr. Smith is continuing both webinar and on the job training and has completed a couple of SL6 designs under the tutelage of Mr. Wootton. The fall drill season is starting to pickup with reservations. She thanked Mr. Smith and Ms. Atkinson with preparing an exhibit board for the 5 County Fair and for Ms. Crews who setup the exhibit. Ms. Fehrer is assisting with coordinating the dam landowner meeting and preparing the power point as well as providing training to SWCDs on completing the quarterly Attachment E report.

Department of Conservation and Recreation (Attached).

Ms. Collins highlighted some important dates and other information from her attached report.

USDA-NRCS – Farmville & Amelia (Attached)

Mr. Evans reviewed his report. He is assisting Ms. Ciavarella as she begins the District Conservation position in Amelia. NRCS is considering changes to application deadlines to provide more uniform deadlines among all the programs. Mr. Evans and Ms. Atkinson met with a new liaison at Prince Edward County public schools who is reaching out to community groups and businesses to help support students. Ms. Ciavarella reported she worked in the Amelia office as an intern and looks forward to serving as the District Conservationist. Mr. Rabon, Private Lands Biologist with Quail Forever organization, introduced himself and shared he is from Connecticut and most recently moved from North Dakota where he had worked on several NRCS wildlife conservation programs.

Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)

Ms. Small reported on several food and gardening programs she has given over the past several weeks including Ag in the Classroom programming to all K, 1st and 4th grade classes at Prince Edward Elementary school and a Master Gardener Lunch and Learn program. She participated in the “Field Days of the Past” program in Amelia and is monitoring the Spotted Lanternfly and an invasive water chestnut species that has been found in some local ponds. Ms. Small reported there are 4 spots left in the Tobacco Commission Grant which can help ag producers with livestock handling facilities, cold storage and precision ag equipment. Several upcoming programs she is working on include Dairy Day (Oct 1) and Women in Farming (to be held at VT). She is also working with NC State to hold some cut flower trials.

Ms. Gunn reported she is holding a Youth Rain barrel Workshop and several agritourism programs in Amelia. She is assisting Jason Fisher with the annual Forestry Tour and a Drone Workshop which will be held in Amelia. She reported there are 3 spots left for the Tobacco Commission Grant.

ROUNDTABLE:

Mr. Stanley reported that the County is having a feasibility study completed regarding the use of Sandy River Reservoir as a potential drinking water source. He also reported that “Five Pillars Meats” will be opening behind Paris Ceramics as a commercial meat processing facility. Mr. Stanley reported that the process for notifying the County about the land application of biosolids does not provide sufficient information about the location of the sites and there has been concerns about water quality. He mentioned he would like to get some information from the District to assist with the identification of farms.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Robert Wilson provided an overview of the Appomattox River Water Authority, the area it serves, and several runoff issues that is affecting water quality and lake capacity. Lake Chesdin is the impoundment and the location of the water treatment plant. The drainage basin area of the Piedmont SWCD contributes approximately 65% to the total drainage basin of the ARWA. Mr. Wilson shared data from 1981 documenting nitrogen, phosphorus and suspended solids levels in Lake Chesdin. He is reaching out to all stakeholders in the watershed, especially SWCDs, to

assist in providing up to date data about programs and BMPs that are being implemented that will help provide a better picture of land uses.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:

Staff & partner reports; AWRA power point

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

Approved By: _____ Date: _____
Bill Powers, Director / Secretary