



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Farmville, Virginia  
October 22, 2024 11:00 a.m.**

**Board Members Present:**

Larkin Moyer –Director, Amelia County / Chairman  
Ricky Rash – Director, Nottoway County /Vice Chairman  
Horace Adams –Director, Prince Edward County / Secretary  
Charles “Chuck” Arnason –Director, Nottoway County / Treasurer  
Dr. James Gates, Jr.- Director, Prince Edward County  
Juan Whittington – Appointed At-Large Director, Amelia County  
Mackenzie Gunn – Appointed VCE Director, Amelia County & VCE ANR agent  
Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County  
Erin Small – Associate Director, VCE ANR Agent Prince Edward County

**Board Members, Staff & Partners Absent:**

Jennifer Morris – Director, Amelia County  
Dr. Kathy Gee, Associate Director, Nottoway County  
Jeremy Evans, NRCS District Conservationist, Farmville/Nottoway  
Tara Ciavarella, NRCS District Conservationist, Amelia

**PSWCD Staff Present:**

Deanna Fehrer - District Manager  
Charlie Wootton – Senior Conservation Specialist  
Kevin Dunn – Senior Conservation Specialist  
Tyler Smith – Conservation Technician  
Kelly Atkinson – Education Specialist

**Partners Present:**

Denney Collins, Conservation District Coordinator, Dept. Conservation & Recreation

**CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

A regular meeting of the Piedmont SWCD Board of Directors was held at the Prince Edward County Agriculture building on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Chairman Moyer welcomed everyone, opened the meeting with prayer and called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the September 24, 2024 minutes as presented.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Dr. Gates and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the September 2024 Treasurer’s Report as presented to be filed for audit.**

**CONSERVATION COMMITTEE** Mr. Dunn, Mr. Wootton and Mr. Smith presented the conservation report.

**On a motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following conservation plans as presented:**

Debra Wilson (CP-5-25-0009)- BMP  
Fox Den Farms (CP-5-25-0011) BMP

**On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Dr. Gates and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS structural applications totaling \$52,102.13 CB funding as presented:**

**Prince Edward County**

**Howard Mark Estes**  
05-25-0061 #631684

**CCI-SL-6N Stream Exclusion w/Narrow Buffer Maint. (490')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 367.50  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 367.50

#631305

**CCI-SL-6W Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (4300')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 7,125.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 7,125.00

**Debra Wilson**  
05-25-0067 #639908

**SL-6W Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer (20')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 8,332.50  
Estimated Cost Share (95%) \$ 7,915.88  
Estimated Buffer Payment (.1 acre) \$ 80.00  
Total Estimated Cost-Share \$ 7,995.88

**Nottoway County**

**Terry L Greer**  
05-25-0067 #639908

**CCI-SL-6W Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (1800')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 2,250.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 2,250.00

**Raymond W. White**  
05-25-0062 #633155

**CCI-SE-1 Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (1200')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 600.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 600.00

#632682

**CCI-SL-6W Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (2900')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 5,375.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 5,375.00

#633015

**CCI-SL-6W Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (2948')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 5,685.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 5,685.00

**Amelia County**

**William A Morton**  
05-25-0063 #637298

**CCI-SE-1 Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (2500')**  
Estimated Cost \$ 4,875.00  
Estimated Cost-Share \$ 4,875.00

**Dwayne D Moore**

**CCI-SE-1 Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (5763')**

05-25-0062 #633155                      Estimated Cost                                      \$ 9,453.75  
 Estimated Cost-Share                                      \$ 9,453.75

**Richard Goode**                                      **CCI-SE-1 Stream Exclusion w/Wide Buffer Maint. (6700')**  
 05-25-0036 #637848                      Estimated Cost                                      \$ 8,375.00  
 Estimated Cost-Share                                      \$ 8,375.00

**On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS agronomic applications totaling \$417,571.80 CB and \$295.63 tax credit as presented:**

Participant	Contract	Instance	Practice	Est. Cost-Share	Tax Credit
Mark Orr	05-25-0086	642227	SL-8H	\$1,044.00	
Jason Geesaman	05-25-0068	640139	SL-8B	\$798.00	
Jason Geesaman	05-25-0068	640140	SL-8H	\$426.00	
Jason Geesaman	05-25-0068	640142	NM-1A	\$331.20	
Dexter Jones	05-25-0073	640912	SL-8B	\$30,933.00	
David Waldrop	05-25-0074	640915	SL-8B	\$1,764.00	
Linda Poore	05-25-0075	640919	SL-8B	\$9,520.00	
Vaughan Cattle Co, LLC	05-25-0081	641879	SL-8H	\$1,996.00	
Vaughan Cattle Co, LLC	05-25-0081	641882	SL-8B	\$18,298.00	
Vaughan Cattle Co, LLC	05-25-0081	641884	WQ-4	\$20,083.50	
Fox Den Farms LLC	05-25-0082	641895	SL-8B	\$1,050.00	
Fox Den Farms LLC	05-25-0082	641896	SL-1	\$5,267.50	\$295.63
Windy Springs Farm LLC	05-25-0083	641901	SL-8B	\$8,036.00	
Windy Springs Farm LLC	05-25-0083	641903	SL-8H	\$2,846.00	
Armistead Taylor Harvie	05-25-0084	641908	SL-8B	\$16,596.00	
Easter Design Inc.	05-25-0069	640448	SL-8B	\$18,466.00	
Easter Design Inc.	05-25-0069	640413	SL-8B	\$159,480.00	
Easter Design Inc.	05-25-0069	640536	NM-1A	\$4,071.60	
Jon Ranck	05-25-0070	640537	SL-8B	\$27,594.00	
Green Bluff Farm	05-25-0071	640538	SL-8H	\$3,602.00	
Hard Acres Farm	05-25-0072	640580	SL-8B	\$29,778.00	
Andy Clowdis	05-25-0078	641776	SL-8B	\$18,999.00	
Frank M. Clowdis	05-25-0079	641791	SL-8B	\$6,444.00	
Reamford Farms LLC	05-25-0080	641813	SL-8H	\$768.00	
Reamford Farms LLC	05-25-0080	641819	SL-8B	\$15,435.00	
Crowder, Brian	05-25-0085	641936	SL-8B	\$8,729.00	
Crowder, Brian	05-25-0085	641937	WQ-4	\$3,582.00	
Crowder, Brian	05-25-0085	641938	NM-5P	\$1,634.00	

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Dr. Gates (with Mr. Rash leaving the room) and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following VACS agronomic applications totaling \$16,141.00 CB as presented:**

Richlands Dairy Farm	05-25-0077	641706	SL-8H	\$2,318.00
Richlands Dairy Farm	05-25-0077	641722	SL-8B	\$10,115.00
Richlands Dairy Farm	05-25-0077	641743	NM-6	\$3,708.00

**On a motion by Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Adams and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved an additional \$630.00 in CB funding for the following contract as presented:**

<b>James M. Schenck</b>	<b>SL-8B Cover Crop for Nutrient Management (218.4 ac(31.5 Ac Rye))</b>
05-25-0052 #625405	Estimated Cost \$ 15,918.00
	Estimated Cost-Share \$ 15,918.00

\*Addition of Rye to 31.5 Ac of originally Approved Cover, Additional **\$630.00** in Cost-Share.

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Dr. Gates and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following CREP application as presented:**

<b>Fred Sanger</b>	<b>CREP - OCB</b>
05-25-0014 (625057)	<b>CP 22 (6.8ac)</b> Estimated Cost Share \$ 286.00
(625062)	<b>CRFR-3 (6.8ac)</b> Estimated Cost-Share \$ 506.25
(625061)	<b>CRSL-6 (3350')</b> Estimated Cost Share \$ 20,706.00
	<b>Total CREP OCB \$ 21,498.25</b>

**On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the following septic applications totaling \$14,085.00 Grant #16969 and \$225.00 Grant #16970 as presented:**

**Spring Creek Grant #16969**

<b>Chris Mountcastel</b>	RB-1 Residential Septic Pump-out
05-25-0065 (639258)	Estimated Cost \$ 450.00
	Estimated Cost Share (50%) \$ 225.00

<b>Sylvester Smith</b>	RB-4P Septic Tank Repair w/ Pump
05-25-0028 (603549)	Estimated Cost \$ 15,400.00
	Estimated Cost Share (90%) \$ 13,860.00

**Flat Creek Grant #16970**

<b>Emily Langridge</b>	RB-1 Residential Septic Pump-out
05-25-0064 (639256)	Estimated Cost \$ 450.00
	Estimated Cost Share (50%) \$ 225.00

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, The Board approved the following cancelation (CB VACS):**

<b>Francis Farmer</b>	FR-1 Tree Planting (12 acres)
05-24-0071 (577361)	Estimated Cost \$ 2,100.00
	Estimated Cost Share (75%) \$ 1,575.00
	Total Incentive Payment \$ 1,800.00

**FINANCE COMMITTEE – Chair Arnason**

No Report.

**PLANNING**

Ms. Fehrer reviewed the Annual Plan of Work for November, which includes nominations for 2025 Board officers and beginning locality budget requests for 25-26.

Ms. Fehrer reported that she, Mr. Arnason and Dr. Gates attended an informational webinar conducted by Darryl Kuntz, our Attorney General who is assigned to assist SWCDs across the state. They will review some highlights of the presentation later in the meeting. Mr. Kuntz recommended that districts have a set of by-laws, which Piedmont SWCD does not. Chairman Moyer appointed an Ad-Hoc Committee to work on a set of bylaws – committee members include Mr. Arnason, Dr. Gates and Mr. Moyer.

**WATERSHED - Chair Arnason**

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Dr. Gates and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the extension of the current dam maintenance contract with B and B Services, LLC for two additional years (2025 and 2026) subject to all the other terms, conditions, requirements of original contract dated February 22, 2022.**

Ms. Fehrer reported there will be a public meeting on November 6 regarding a proposed solar site on Rice Creek Road, adjacent to the Bush #2 watershed dam. Mr. Thompson will be attending the meeting. CEP Solar, Inc. is the developer. Ms. Fehrer also reported the fall mowing is being performed and that the contractor (B&B Services) will be meeting with Mr. Thompson, Mr. Charles Wilson and Mr. Barry Mason on October 31 to conduct a pre-construction meeting for the repair projects at Bush #2 and Bush #5 watershed dams. Ms. Fehrer also reported that the office has received a couple of phone calls regarding low water levels at Bush #6 and that Mr. Thompson will be surveying the pool level.

**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE - Chair Dillard**

Mr. Moyer reported the Personnel Committee met prior to the Board meeting. There will be an additional advertisement for the Assistant District Manager position.

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE - Chair Rash**

Mr. Rash reported the VASWCD Annual Meeting will be held December 8-10 at Hotel Roanoke. The VASWCD Legislative Committee is tracking HB206 regarding solar land use and working to educate legislators on the importance of forested land use vs developed land use to meet forested acres in CB Implementation Plan, and strategies to control stormwater runoff. Ms. Gunn reported that Virginia Tech is working on a pilot project to research small scale livestock grazing beneath solar panels.

**COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION – Chair Gunn**

**On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved conservation awards be given to Doug Audley, Conservation Partner and L.K. Mondrey, Conservation Educator. They will be recognized at the February Board meeting.**

Ms. Atkinson reported on the following:

- Mobile Education Trailer is completed and there will be a tour after the Board meeting. Ms. Atkinson and Mr. Smith had a trial run at a recent weekend at Twin Lakes State Park during their Fall Fest. The trailer was well received. Ramps and a few other items are still needed to make it usable for all.
- Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant – The workshop was successful and Ms. Atkinson is working with teachers from Amelia and Prince Edward Schools on the year long project.
- Envirothon – Ms. Atkinson has met with Fuqua Schools for an Envirothon kick-off and will be working with Amelia and Nottoway High Schools.

### **DISTRICT MANAGER AND PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS**

#### District Manager & Staff reports (Attached)

Ms. Fehrer reviewed the previously emailed report. The VACS annual year end lifespan inspections have been completed for 2024 and Mr. Dunn and Ms. Collins will conduct the DCR spot checks this afternoon. Mr. Smith has assisted Ms. Atkinson with several youth education programs. Ms. Fehrer completed and submitted all quarterly financial and grant reports. Ms. Fehrer reported Prince Edward County was installing a door to what is now Charlie's office and that she and the new assistant district manager will move into that space. Kinex will be coming Thursday to install computer software updates.

Ms. Fehrer reviewed a power point from the Attorney General representative, Darrel Kuntz, given to districts on October 1, 2024. She highlighted several key points – directors make financial, personnel and policy decisions; SWCDs should have by-laws; and directors should be familiar with district policies. A copy of the power point can be found on the VASWCD website.

#### Department of Conservation and Recreation (Attached)

Ms. Collins reviewed several highlights on her report including upcoming deadlines and trainings. The meeting minutes training is being rescheduled. Conservation Plans need the signature page uploaded to the tracking program module.

#### Virginia Cooperative Extension

Ms. Gunn reported the following:

- Field Days of the Past had a good turnout. The contract with the location is not being renewed so it will most likely not be held in Amelia next year.
- Several upcoming programs include: Heirs Property Program (10/22 this evening), Ag Supply (10/30 at B.A.R.N), Cattle WISE (registration is open), SPAREC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (11/1), Water Testing Clinic (11/4 pickup kits and 11/6 drop off).

Ms. Small reported the following:

- The Fireside Chat with Vet program was very successful and she thanked Dr. Gates for being one of the speakers.
- She is working with Hampden Sydney College and Jenkins Dairy on several hand-on labs for HSC students.
- VCE is partnering with Southern State Coop as a drop-off location for farm supplies to be donated to Southwest VA farmers whose property was damaged during Hurricane Helene.

- Several upcoming programs include: Fencing program (11/22 Charlotte County Farm), Field to Fork series of programs, 4H Livestock Club at Fuqua School.

USDA-NRCS – Farmville & Amelia (Attached)

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

**ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:**

Treasurer report; Contract Extension, Staff & partner reports

Submitted By \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deanna Fehrer, Piedmont SWCD Staff

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Horace Adams, Director / Secretary