



**Piedmont Soil and Water Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Farmville, Virginia
May 25, 2021 11:00 a.m.**

Board Members Present:

Larkin Moyer – Director, Amelia County / Chairman
Ricky Rash – Director, Nottoway County / Vice Chairman
Charles “Chuck” Arnason – Director, Nottoway County / Treasurer
Bill Powers – Director, Prince Edward County / Secretary
Allison Crews – Director, Amelia County
Horace Adams- Director, Prince Edward County
Juan Whittington – Appointed Director, Amelia County
Haley Norton- Appointed Director, VCE Nottoway County

Board Members & Staff Absent

Gary Dillard – Associate Director, Amelia County
Kelly Atkinson – PSWCD Education Specialist

SWCD Staff Present:

Kevin Dunn – BMP Conservation Specialist
Deanna Fehrer - District Manager
Charlie Wootton – Senior Conservation Specialist
Brendan Burke – PSWCD Equipment Manager
Shirley Tinker - Program Assistant

Partners Present:

Denney Collins – Conservation District Coordinator, Dept. Conservation & Recreation
Bailey Anderson, Part Time VCE ANR agent Prince Edward County
Jeremy Evans, NRCS District Conservationist Nottoway/Prince Edward office

Board Members, Staff and Partners participating remotely:

Sarah Eck – Associate Director, Nottoway County
Telicia Berry, NRCS District Conservationist Amelia office

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, May 25, 2021. Chairman Moyer called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. Moyer welcomed everyone present. A quorum was physically present. The agenda was adopted by group consensus. Mr. Moyer introduced Ms. Shirley Tinker, Temporary Program Assistant Piedmont District.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Ms. Crews and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the April 27, 2021 minutes as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On a motion by Mr. Arnason, seconded by Ms. Norton and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the April 2021 Treasurer's Report as presented to be filed for audit. A detailed written report was provided to the Finance Committee.

CONSERVATION - Reported by Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wootton

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board accepted the following 4 cancelations:

Cancelations:**Chesapeake Bay Vacs-PY 21**

Charles Glascock- 05-21-0024	SL-8 B -65.4ac- \$1962.00 (415151) (harvested all)
Reamford Farms LLC- 05-21-0028	SL-8B- 132.1ac - \$6605.00 (417603) (not planted)
Reamford Farms LLC- 05-21-0028	SL-8H-23.8 -\$476.00 (417606) (not planted)

Chesapeake Bay Vacs-PY 20

Boot Hill Dairy LLC -05-20-0047	SL -1 – 12.7ac-\$3470.27 (375764) (not planted)
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OCB Vacs-PY 20

David Jennings Jr. -05-20-0090	SL-1- 12.7ac- \$8,907.95 (395661) (not planted)
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OCB Vacs-PY 20

Vaughan Cattle Co. -05-19-0041	SL-6- \$16,748.80 (323067)
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Approvals: - None

DEQ 319(h) Residential Septic Contracts

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Whittington and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the following septic applications totaling \$315.00 (Flat Creek #16970 grant), \$3,362.50 (Spring Creek #16969) listed below:

Flat Creek, etc. Grant #16970**Amelia**

Stanley LaGourney, Jr 05-21-0074 (430874)	RB-1 Conventional Onsite Septic System Pump-out Estimated Cost \$ 350.00 Estimated Cost Share (90%) \$ 315.00
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Spring Creek, etc. #16969**Prince Edward**

Jesse Yeatts 05-21-0064 (432009) & (432014)	RB-1 Conventional Onsite Septic System Pump-out Estimated Cost \$ 700.00 (2 Pump outs) Estimated Cost Share (50%) \$ 350.00
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Diane Ridley 05-21-0075 (431818)	RB-1 Conventional Onsite Septic System Pump-out Estimated Cost \$ 350.00 Estimated Cost Share (75%) \$ 262.50
Andy Ellington 05-21-0077 (432074)	RB-1 Conventional Onsite Septic System Repair Estimated Cost \$5,500.00 Estimated Cost Share (50%) \$2,750.00

FY22 VACS SECONDARY CONSIDERATIONS: (attached)

On a motion by Mr. Rash, seconded by Mr. Arnason and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the FY22 VACS Secondary Considerations.

RENTAL TERMS WARM SEASON GRASS DRILL:

Mr. Rash reported that the Conservation Committee met prior to the board meeting to discuss renting the new warm season grass seed drill outside the District. A preference would be given to PSWCD landowners, with approval being given on a case-by-case basis for those outside the District. Mr. Whittingham expressed concerns about over stepping into other Districts. The drill will be on-site at the Warm Season Grass Tour on June 3rd at the Southern Piedmont Agricultural Research Center. More discussion will take place before the drill will be in demand in the spring.

Ms. Fehrer informed the Board that drills #3 and #7 are scheduled for maintenance this summer. Mr. Burke reported he has rented out the two new drills several times and has received many positive comments including comments of appreciation for the service.

FINANCE:

Mr. Arnason reported that the office is still waiting on the equipment funding agreement paperwork from DEQ.

PLANNING (No Report)**WATERSHED**

Mr. Arnason reported that an attempt was made to inspect dams, but the grass was too tall to do the inspection. Mowing of the dams has been completed and inspections will be scheduled for June.

Mr. Whittingham asked about any updates on the District pursuing the use of drones, especially to be used in the dam program. Mr. Arnason recommended getting legal counsel from the Attorney General's Office.

PERSONNEL

On a motion by Mr. Whittington, seconded by Mr. Rash and carried by unanimous vote, the Board approved the April 27, 2021 Personnel Committee Minutes as presented.

LEGISLATIVE (No Report)**COMMUNICATION / EDUCATION**

Ms. Fehrer reported that Ms. Atkinson has finished with the Poster Contest and she has taken the Conservation Grant signs to the schools. The gardening class done in conjunction with Extension will finish up tomorrow. Ms. Tinker assisted with the Envirothon as a Proctor for the tests. The District will have an exhibit at the Richland’s Dairy during two weekends in June.

DISTRICT MANAGER AND PARTNER AGENCY REPORTS

Staff reports (Attached)

Ms. Fehrer thanked everyone for their support over the past few weeks while she was out of the office and thanked Ms. Tinker for assuming her duties very quickly.

Department of Conservation and Recreation (Attached).

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

USDA-NRCS – Farmville & Amelia (Attached)

Ms. Berry, NRCS District Conservationist for Amelia office, reported her office has six EQIP pre-approvals and nine CSP applications from Amelia producers.

Mr. Evans, NRCS District Conservationist for Farmville office, reported his office has six EQIP pre-approvals and 7 or 8 CSP applications. He reported that Mr. Tyler Newton began his employment in the Farmville office as Private Lands Biologist.

VCE

Ms. Norton and Ms. Anderson announced a “Vegetable Garden Trouble Shooting” program will be held on July 14th from 1pm-3pm.

ROUNDTABLE

Ms. Crews reported that there is a National Soil Health Day coming up and she will provide updates.

Ms. Crews also asked about ordering hats and shirts with the Piedmont logo for wearing during events. It was suggested to purchase broad brim hats instead of ball caps. The office will provide information at the June meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

ATTACHED DOCUMENTS:

Staff, DCR & NRCS reports: PY22 Secondary Considerations.

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

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