

# MINUTES

## CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ORANGE COUNTY BOARD MEETING

Madison Volunteer fire Hall  
Ruckersville, Virginia  
October 1, 2013

NOV 21 2013  
ADMINISTRATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Brame at 9:30 AM.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Robert Brame, Greene County  
Steve Morris, Greene County Associate Director  
Robert Bradford, Orange County  
Lynn Graves, Madison County  
Bob Kane, Madison County  
Jim Byrne, Madison County Associate Director  
Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper County  
Andrew Campbell, Culpeper County  
Evelyn Kerr, Rappahannock County

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** John Genho, Rappahannock County Associate Director  
Dick McNear, Rappahannock County Associate Director  
Brad Jarvis, Madison County, Virginia Cooperative Extension  
Laura Campbell, Culpeper County Associate Director  
Robert Runkle, Greene County  
Warren Lee, Orange County Associate Director  
Monira Rifaat, Rappahannock County  
Alyson Sappington, Orange County

**STAFF PRESENT:** Greg Wichelns, District Manager  
JoAnn Neal, Administrative Secretary  
Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist  
Stephanie DeNicola, Information/Communication Specialist  
David Massie, Conservation Specialist  
Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist  
Evan Blumenstein, Conservation Specialist  
Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Debbie Cross, DCR, CDC  
Jack Kauffman, VDOF

1) **CALL TO ORDER, MOMENT OF SILENCE, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

R. Brame welcomed everyone to Madison County. Following a moment of silence, R. Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were four handouts: Technical Committee Report Addendum, Educational Committee Report, VASWCD Annual Meeting Information and D. Cross, DCR, CDC Monthly Report.

2) **DRAFT MINUTES**

R. Brame called for approval of the substance of the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes and called for any substantive corrections or additions. (T. O'Halloran, L. Graves, unanimous)

**3) AGENDA APPROVAL**

R. Brame called for Agenda approval. S. DeNicola requested Education Committee Report be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as 5.1. R. Bradford requested the Technical Committee Report be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as 5.2. R. Brame requested an Executive Committee Report be placed on the Consent Agenda as 5.3. T. O'Halloran moved to approve the Agenda. L. Graves seconded the motion. (O'Halloran, Graves, unanimous)

**4) CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent Agenda approved as modified.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**OPERATIONS**

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**5.1) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –**

Discussion followed on the position of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts and impact of the consolidation efforts on swcd's and whether this subject would be brought up at the Annual Meeting scheduled in December. The association is attending all the public meetings which start tonight at 6 P.M. in Verona. There was a brief statement which supported the consolidation of many DCR functions year, Department of Environmental Quality.

**EDUCATION REPORT-**

S. DeNicola reported the Educational Committee discussed this year's awards which are as follows;

- Forestry award: Philip & Arlene Anns (Greene)
- Educator Award: Dara Carter (Orange)
- Wildlife Award: Bruce & Susan Jones (Rappahannock)
- Culpeper Bay Friendly: Michael Green
- Greene Bay Friendly: George Haney, Dundee Springs
- Madison Bay Friendly: W. J. Davis, Madison Meadows
- Orange Bay Friendly: C. T. Henry, Henry Farms
- Rappahannock Bay Friendly: Dr. Monira Rifaat, Manor Farm
- Conservationist: Richard McNear, Mountain Green

**River Basin Awards Nominations:**

- Rappahannock: Robert Bradford & Virginia Rockwell, Bradford Farms
- York: Robert Fithian, Montebello Farm
- James: Planet Earth Diversified

Committee Report approved.

**5.2) TECHNICAL REPORT**

**\*Indicates that these practices were added at the October 1, 2013 Board meeting in Madison, Virginia**

1) The following 2014 Chesapeake Bay VACS BMP applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Approved Cost Share Amount</u>
SL-6	Mark Amos	Orange	\$ 12,458.00

SL-6	Robert Messa	Madison	\$	27,324.00
SL-6	Maxwell Davis	Rappahannock	\$	10,637.75
NM-1A	Jim Gibson	Orange	\$	7,190.04
NM-1A	Wayne T. Harris	Orange	\$	3,834.04
NM-1A	Joe Johnson	Madison	\$	1,697.60
NM-1A	Mike Coates	Madison	\$	6,443.56
NM-1A	William Hill	Madison	\$	1,623.52
NM-1A	David Hoffman	Culpeper	\$	1,270.56
SL-6T	Grant Griffith	Rappahannock	\$	7,063.88
SL-6T	Grant Griffith	Rappahannock	\$	2,353.00
SL-6	Irene Carnes*	Culpeper	\$	14,428.75
NM-1A	Dennis Brown*	Culpeper	\$	3,094.24
NM-1A	Joseph Gray*	Culpeper	\$	230.78
NM-1A	Jeffrey Herren*	Culpeper	\$	2,511.60

2) The following BMP participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice                  Fund                          Participant                          County                          Amount                          Tax Credit

SL-6	2012 CB Supp.	G. Shane Fletcher	Orange	\$ 26,687.10	\$ 0.00
SL-6	2013 VECI	G. Shane Fletcher	Orange	\$ 8,895.70	\$ 0.00
SL-6	2012 CB Supp.	Thomas Mountjoy	Orange	\$ 9,031.95	\$ 0.00
SL-6	2013 VECI	Thomas Mountjoy	Orange	\$ 3,010.65	\$ 0.00
LE1T	2013 UHR AG.	John Guevremont*	Rappahannock	\$ 4,413.84	\$ 0.00
LE1T	2013 VECI	John Guevremont*	Rappahannock	\$ 3,082.27	\$ 0.00

3) The following 2014 Quail Action Plan applicant has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
WL-3	William Tidball	Madison	\$ 13,370.00

4) The following Upper York River TMDL Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	Kenneth Shirley	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-3	Gary Hale	Orange	\$ 3,000.00
RB-4	Richard Oliver*	Orange	\$ 4000.00

5) The following Upper York River TMDL Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	David Steigler, Jr.	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	Michelle Carey	Orange	\$ 125.00
(2) RB-1	Ricky Shifflett	Orange	\$ 300.00
RB-1	Sandy Coleman	Orange	\$ 137.50

6) The following Upper Hazel River TMDL Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	Roy Ellis	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-1	Amy Christopher*	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-1	Sarah Miller*	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00

(2) RB-1	Richard Antony*	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-3	Karen Knuepfer*	Rappahannock	\$ 3,000.00

7) The Technical Committee is requesting that the following BMP participants refund the District cost share funding based on damaged or destroyed projects discovered during annual spot check inspections:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Contract Year</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Remaining Lifespan</u>
SL-1	2005	Wayne T. Harris*	Orange	\$ 1,596.51	27 Months
SL-6	2003	William Nixon*	Orange	\$ 217.53	4 Months
SL-6	2003	William Nixon*	Orange	\$ 470.66	16 Months

- 8) Greg Wichelns reported that the contractor who performed the work on the training dikes has begun to re-grade and re-seed the areas that were damaged. Ken Turner, along with District Staff will be performing engineering inspections on six dams in Madison and one in Culpeper for engineering recertification. John Anderson has completed mowing several District dams for the second time this year due to abundant growth over the growing season.
- 9) District Staff has completed all but two spot check inspections. The Committee reviewed the reports and discussed action on several contracts. More information will be forthcoming at the October Board Meeting.
- 10) The Committee reviewed the "Cost Share Bid Solicitation Sheet" in the cost share manual. The sheet will be used for "installation of the component parts of the BMP that are anticipated to exceed \$30,000." The landowner will be asked to solicit a minimum of three bids for such component parts. In addition, clearer itemized verification will be required on specific components of practices such as well drilling depth and length of fence. Of concern on a statewide basis is that with 100 percent reimbursement the landowner has no interest in controlling costs and this could result in higher project costs.
- 11) The committee briefly discussed the need to remind all crop producers to prepare their applications for this year's cover crop funding. Applications will be considered in October.
- 12) The Awards Banquet was discussed. The Committee is requesting nominations for the Clean Water Farm Award for each of the five counties. District Staff will take these nominations and will have a list at the October Board Meeting. Board members are encouraged to review the nominations asap. Motion was made by the Board of Directors to authorize the Technical Committee to make the Clean Water Nominations after the consultation from Directors of each county. Deadline is November 1, 2013. Committee report approved.

### 5.3) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Regional Commission is looking for an outstanding person for this year's local government award. The Executive Committee nominated Robert Bradford for outstanding regional planning local government award. Brief Bio and previous recognitions were sent to the Regional Commission for this award. Approved.

### 6) DIRECTORS REPORTS

- L. Graves reported on Monday, October 21, 2013, there will be a Virginia Agri Business Regional Roundtable at Grelen Nursery in Somerset from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Informal session. Free to public. From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. will be a tour of the Grelen Nursery. You can register online.
- B. Kane commented on the numerous quail projects to come thru the technical committee for approval in the last 2 months including a WP-3 which is an eradication of fescue program, an allocation of over \$300 an acre. He wished the option had been available then he did the program 8 year ago.

- R. Brame reminded all directors of the Annual Association Meeting in December and the need to sign up for it. The meeting is from December 8 thru the 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for November 12, 2013 in Culpeper at Pepper's in the Best Western. There is an Area I meeting tonight regarding the consolidation bill and then on October 28<sup>th</sup> Legislative mandate meeting at the Reva Fire Hall.

## 7) STAFF REPORTS

- JoAnn requested that everyone return registration forms for the Annual Association Meeting as soon as possible. Deadline for the applications is November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013.
- Spencer reported on the government shut down, that the office in Orange will be closed and the only way to get in touch with him will be by his cell phone.
- Stephanie reported the Envirothon Training is set for November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Graves Mountain Lodge. This year special topic is Locally Grown Sustainable Agriculture. She is expecting 115 people to attend.
- Richard reported on attending a Flood Plain Management Workshop this month. On November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the Soil and Water Conservation Society is having a meeting in Charlottesville.
- Don't forget your Door Prizes for the Annual Awards Banquet on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013.
- Greg reported on the inspection of 6 dams in Madison county with state engineer. Two of the six will be awarded conditional certificates due to reclassification on hazard ranking. Construction will be done to one of the dams. Monira, who could not be here today, ask Greg to report on his attendance at the Association Board Meeting. He reported they attended with the explicit intent of ushering the revised uranium policy as needed; the policy was updated but not significantly so because language calling for a permanent ban was excluded. It is a cleaner version than last year. There will be an insert into the legislative agenda that will go to all General Assembly members. There are several changes to the Association Legislative Agenda, of which there was not a copy to present. The most significant change is the \$124,000 per district has been changed to \$180,000 per district. This came out of the budget templates that all districts had to complete and submit this year. \$180,000 is the figure that will be going forward to the 2014 General Assembly.
- A. Campbell request if there was any sense as to where the legislature stands on the uranium mining issue. Greg Wichelns stated the moratorium is still in effect and that a bill was introduced last year to lift the ban but was pulled back for fear of resounding defeat at the committee level.

## 8) AGENCY REPORTS

### DCR

D. Cross reported the Soil and Water Board cancelled the meeting for September 2013. Just a reminder of the October 28<sup>th</sup> Area II meeting, in Culpeper County at Reva Fire and Rescue starting at 6 p.m. If you wish to provide written comments, please send to your district General Assembly representative and carbon copy to Senator Emmitt Hanger and Delegate Ed Scott.

D. Cross reported the Efficiency Improvements Survey is due October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013. This is voluntary opportunity for district's to provide suggestions and comments by coordinating your response with directors and staff and sending one completed survey back to [regcord@dcr.virginia.gov](mailto:regcord@dcr.virginia.gov) by October 25<sup>th</sup>.

D. Cross reported SL-6 contracts must be taken regardless of cost share allocation levels. There is guaranteed funding for the applications that are received in 2014 & 2015 programs (prior to 6/30/15). These SL-6's may "piggy back" with NRCS which helps Districts leverage funds however please be sure to keep in mind the differences in the rules and requirements.

D. Cross stated Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA) NRCS recently learned that he Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) ruled that NRCS may no longer extend EJAA to District staff.

D. Cross reminded us VECI October 10<sup>th</sup> is the next VECI deadline. Requests for carryover 2013 VECI contracts that are coming in over budget may be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> of October until

funds are exhausted. Supplemental funds need to be completed by December 31, 2013. 2012 Contractual 3<sup>rd</sup> year payments need to be funded and completed.

D. Cross reported spot checks are completed. Quarterly reports are due October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013.  
Important Dates:

Nov. 21 <sup>st</sup>	SWCD Dam Owner Work Group – Quarterly Meeting, DOF, Charlottesville, Va.
Nov. 20-21	Cultural Resources Part II Training (required for CPC) offered by NRCS, Halifax
Dec. 8-10	VASWCD Annual Meeting at Kingsmill, Williamsburg, VA. Register by November 14 <sup>th</sup> .
Dec. 11	Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board meets jointly with the VASWCD.

#### **VDOF**

J. Kauffman reported on the Quail Program that has forestry practices are available again this year. They provide cost share for commercially thinning small tracks. They are placing order for seedlings. List of seedlings are on our website. The premium seedlings go on sale this afternoon.

R. Brame requested unanimous consent to add to the agenda one more item of business. The request is to authorize the Operating Committee to submit the efficiency survey. Approved.

9) **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – None.

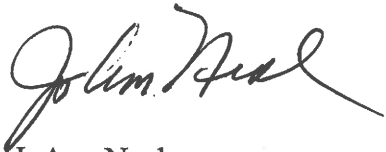
10) **PLAN FOR SEPTEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS (in Orange at the Orange USDA Service Center).**

Committees will meet on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013, Personnel 9:00, and Operations 9:30. Technical will be scheduled for Tuesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Orange USDA Service Center. The Education Committee meeting will be announced later in the week. **BOARD MEETING IN NOVEMBER TO BE HELD TUESDAY, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 IN ORANGE COUNTY AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.**

11) **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made to adjourn the October 2013 Board meeting at 11:20 by T. O'Halloran.

Respectfully Submitted,



JoAnn Neal  
Administrative Secretary

Robert Brame, Chairman



Director \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved 11-5-2013