MINUTES

CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING
Culpeper Service Center
Culpeper, Virginia
November 4, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 9:45 A.M.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Lynn Graves, Madison County
Robert Brame, Greene County
Andrew Campbell, Culpeper County
Bob Kane, Madison County
Robert Bradford, Orange County
Brad Jarvis, Madison County, Virginia Cooperative Extension
Alyson Sappington, Orange County
Steve Morris, Greene County Director, At Large
Monira Rifaat, Rappahannock County
Robert Runkle, Greene County
Laura Campbell, Culpeper County Associate Director

DIRECTORS ABSENT: John Genho, Rappahannock County Associate Director
Dick McNear, Rappahannock County Associate Director
Jim Byrne, Madison County Associate Director
Warren Lee, Orange County Associate Director
Evelyn Kerr, Rappahannock County
Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper County

***STAFF PRESENT*:** JoAnn Neal, Administrative Secretary
Stephanie DeNicola, Educational Specialist
Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist
David Massie, Conservation Specialist
Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist
Ashleigh Cason, Conservation Specialist

***OTHERS PRESENT*:** Debbie Cross, DCR, CDC
Rex Rexrode, NRCS District Conservationist

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

L. Graves welcomed everyone to Culpeper County. Following a moment of silence, R. Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were three handouts: Technical Committee Report Addendum, D. Cross, DCR; CDC Monthly Report, and Ashleigh Cason's Monthly Report.

2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the October 7th, 2014 Draft Board Meeting Minutes and called for any substantive corrections or additions. The Draft Minutes were approved. (A. Sappington, M. Rifaat, unanimous)

3) AGENDA APPROVAL

L. Graves called for Agenda approval. R. Bradford requested the Technical Committee Report be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as 5.1. L. Graves requested 6.0 Closed Session to read Potential Litigation, rather than Personnel Performance. R. Brame moved to approve the Agenda as amended. A. Sappington seconded the motion. (Brame, Sappington, unanimous)

4) CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda approved as modified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION
OPERATIONS

TREASURER'S REPORT

NRCS PLANS – None

5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –

5.1) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

***Indicates that these practices were added at the November Board Meeting in Culpeper, Virginia**

1. The following BMP applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding. All applications were thoroughly screened for compliance with Priority Recruitment Guidelines. All met at least two of the priority criteria.

Practice	Fund	Applicant	County	C/S amount	Tax Credit
SL-1	2015 VACS	Louis Moore	Rappahannock	$ 6,166.13	$ 0.00
SL-1	2015 VACS	W. J. Davis	Madison	$ 5,737.50	$ 0.00
SL-1	2015 VACS	John Tatum	Madison	$ 4,050.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	W. J. Davis	Madison	$ 1,458.40	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	John W. Tatum	Madison	$ 1,750.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Mark Dulaney	Orange	$ 1,069.50	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Brooke Farm	Orange	$18,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Brooke Farm	Orange	$ 6,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	J. C. Smith Farm Partnership L.P.	Madison	$ 440.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Central Virginia Haymakers	Madison	$ 2,400.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Lewis A. Lamb and Sons	Madison	$13,500.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Lewis A. Lamb and Sons	Madison	$ 6,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Lazy Creek Farm, Inc.	Madison	$10,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Lazy Creek Farm, Inc.	Madison	$ 4,500.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Glenmary Farm	Orange	$ 1,069.50	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Glenmary Farm	Orange	$ 8,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Tom Nixon	Orange	$ 6,800.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Tom Nixon	Orange	$ 5,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Belle Meade Farm LLC	Culpeper	$ 4,594.20	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Dale Welch	Rappahannock	$ 3,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Levi Atkins	Rappahannock	$ 200.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Payne Hay and Straw	Culpeper	$ 7,200.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Payne Hay and Straw	Culpeper	$ 1,200.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Ashland Farm	Culpeper	$ 4,790.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Ashland Farm	Culpeper	$ 600.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Crigler's Brookside Farm LLC	Madison	$ 368.00	$ 0.00

SL-8H	2015 VACS	William Brown III*	Culpeper	$ 3,400.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Bradley Rosenberger*	Culpeper	$ 2,600.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Bradley Rosenberger*	Culpeper	$ 1,950.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Nathan Rosenberger*	Culpeper	$ 2,600.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Nathan Rosenberger*	Culpeper	$ 6,210.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Roy Reiman*	Culpeper	$ 400.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Custom Harvesters*	Orange	$13,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Charles Woolfrey*	Orange	$ 2,194.20	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	James Corbin*	Orange	$ 400.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Phillip Goodwin*	Orange	$ 1,628.00	$ 0.00
SL-8B	2015 VACS	Todd Harris*	Orange	$ 6,800.00	$ 0.00
SL-8H	2015 VACS	Todd Harris*	Orange	$ 6,000.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Scott Sinclair	Greene	$17,614.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Dwight Boston	Orange	$54,714.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Carolton Farm	Orange	$19,540.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Lewis Lamb & Sons	Madison	$38,857.50	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Steve Smith	Culpeper	$20,822.70	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	William Hill*	Madison	$ 9,372.50	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP*	Culpeper	$15,304.75	$ 0.00

2. The Technical Committee recommends for Board approval that the status of the following practices become "pending – SL-6 – lack of funding" for the 100% reimbursement guaranteed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (cost share paid on estimated costs or actual costs, whichever is less, not to exceed amount approved). The Technical Committee has reviewed these practices and finds them eligible for the Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program:

Practice	Fund	Applicant	County	C/S amount	Tax Credit
SL-6	2015 VACS	Laura Wharton	Orange	$ 22,835.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Paul Amberger	Orange	$ 63,486.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2014 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	Culpeper	$ 35,579.25	$ 0.00

3. The following participants have been approved for payment by the Technical Committee:

Practice	Fund	Applicant	County	C/S amount	Tax Credit
SL-6	2015 VACS	James Byrne	Madison	$ 2,560.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2015 VACS	Stuart L. Morris, Jr.	Greene	$ 15,890.90	$ 0.00
SL-6	2014 VACS	John B. Davis	Greene	$ 33,529.08	$ 0.00
SL-6	2014 VACS	Carolton Atkins	Orange	$ 7,665.00	$ 0.00
SL-6	2014 VACS	E.J. Burke	Madison	$ 7,156.20	$ 0.00
SL-6	2013 VACS	Walter Smith	Orange	$ 57,574.88	$ 0.00
SL-6	2013 VECI	Walter Smith	Orange	$ 19,191.62	$ 0.00
SL-6	2014 VACS	Walter Crigler	Madison	$ 10,145.00	$ 0.00
LE-2	2014 VACS	Walter Crigler	Madison	$ 4,800.00	$ 1,200.00

4. The District recently received additional CBIG (2015) funding through DCR, which totals $206,731.00 for seven practices. These practices are:

Practice	County	Applicant	C/S Amount
SL-6	Madison	Donnie Utz, Jr.	$ 49,302.50
SL-6	Madison	Oak Hill	$ 18,504.00

SL-6	Culpeper	Belle Meade Farm LLC	$ 32,612.50
SL-6	Madison	Justin Carpenter	$ 42,827.50
SL-6	Greene	Carl Morris	$ 22,475.00
SL-6	Orange	Anthony Farone	$ 20,802.00
SL-6	Madison	Launi Agee	$ 20,207.50

These practices listed above helped to alleviate the amount of 2015 VACS that we needed to transfer to 2014 VACS to cover the remaining 13 practices in the "Pending – Lack of Funding" category. These 13 practices totaled $457,031.57.

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

Practice	Participant	County	Amount
RB-1	Robert Alcock*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	Elizabeth Henze*	Orange	$ 150.00

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

Practice	Participant	County	Amount
RB-1	Delores Bernard*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	David O'Donnell*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	James Carpenter*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	William Pruitt*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	Deborah Springman*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	Robert Wright*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-3	Michael Colvin*	Orange	$ 3,500.00

7. The following Upper York River TMDL Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice	Participant	County	Amount
RB-1	Dana Carter*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-1	Diane Hurst*	Orange	$ 150.00
RB-3	Diane Hurst*	Orange	$ 900.00
RB-4	Bette Conlon*	Orange	$ 4,000.00

8. All 2015 SL-6 applications have either been tabled or approved pending status except SL-6T TMDL practices that have been approved for funding from both TMDL and VACS sources.

9. All Nutrient Management practices have been tabled until the spring.

10. All SL-1 practices have been approved. One FR-3 practice is pending approval; needs supporting information.

11. All SL-8H and SL-8B practices have been approved. A November 1st, signup deadline has been established.

12. All RMP applications are on hold, pending notification from DCR on available funds.

13. The Technical committee is approving twelve practices today $415,000 that leaves an $80,000 remaining in 2015 VACS.

Discussion followed on SL-8B, SL-8H and SL-1's being funded. Nutrient Management Plans have been put on hold until the funding for cover crops has been taken care of.

R. Bradford recommended approval of Technical Committee Report without any SL-6 practices included. M. Rifaat seconded the motion. (Bradford, Rifaat, unanimous) As a separate motion the Technical Committee recommended the approval of the SL-6 practices. M. Rifaat seconded the motion. 9 approved, 1 no (B. Kane). Passed.

6) CLOSED SESSION: LITIGATION–

R. Runkle moved that the Board go into Closed Session at 10:15 A.M. as provided for in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3771. (A)(1) to discuss potential litigation. Associate Directors were invited to attend. R. Brame seconded the motion. (Runkle, Brame, unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 10:37 A.M. (unanimous). Pursuant to the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-.712. (D), I move that the Board certify that to the best of the Board's knowledge only matters lawfully exempted and as identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard or discussed by this Board. M. Rifaat seconded the motion. (Runkle, Rifaat, 10 votes, unanimous)

R. Bradford moved to accept the recommendation from the Executive Committee. R. Brame seconded the motion. (Bradford, Brame, unanimous)

7) DIRECTORS REPORTS

- B. Jarvis reported on the Farm to Table Conference to be held at Weyers Cave, Virginia, Blue Ridge Community College Tuesday, December 2 to Thursday December 4. Soil Health will be the topic. Dr. Elaine Ingham will be the featured speaker. The Soil & Water Conservation Society, Virginia Chapter will be meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia at the Comfort Inn Monticello, with another focus on soil health. The Central Virginia Farm Safety Day will be held Saturday, November 8th, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the new Virginia Tractor in Orange, lunch is provided.
- A. Sappington reported her concerns after Clyde Cristman, DCR Director, reported at the VASWCD Board Meeting, on DCR applying for a USDA grant from the Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP). Initially, it was her understanding the grant was going to provide technical assistance for soil and water conservation districts. After the proposal was submitted the assistance was in the form of $700,000 going to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation to pay for two staff positions for four years to help implement riparian buffers throughout the Virginia portion of the Bay watershed. This is a cooperative program between three states, Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. Two issues: $700,000 for two people for four years, it equates to about $88,000 per person, per year. DCR currently provides funding to the districts for ag technical assistance of $50,000 per year per FTE. The other issue is the $700,000 is going to a non-profit to do what districts should be doing locally. When discussed with Mr. Cristman, it was stated that this grant endorses partnerships and it will look good with the foundation as the partner to get the funding. News on the grant is pending.
- A. Sappington reported there is a director from the Thomas Jefferson District, Stephen Meeks, who is running for chairman of Area II, and at the same time is running for second vice-president of the Association Board. Some people on the state level are saying it is okay. Others are saying it is a conflict of interest. Discussion followed. M. Rifaat reported it reflects badly on our association and we have a business meeting for Area II that precedes the business meeting for the association. We need to adopt a resolution at the Area II business meeting prohibiting such a practice before the elections happen and take that resolution from the Area II meeting to the Business Meeting of the Association and get it adopted there. Discussion followed.
- M. Rifaat asked about climate change and the position of Virginia Farm Bureau. It is her understanding that the Farm Bureau represents the farmers and that most farmers do not agree that there is human element involved in climate change. B. Jarvis stated Farm Bureau resolutions have already been established. He suggested M. Rifaat should go to the national level with this. It is

probably not addressed in Virginia's resolutions at all. The American Farm Bureau is the target for nationwide issues. Discussion followed. L. Campbell agrees with M. Rifaat on this issue.

- Lynn Graves reported the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Association will be awarding the Watershed Connections Award to Mr. Brame at the Annual Meeting in December. Also, the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Society awarded the Conservationist of the Year Award to Spencer Yager, David Massie, James Henshaw and JoAnn Neal of Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. Mr. Brame stated it recognizes the whole staff, including the District Manager.

8) STAFF REPORTS

- R. Jacobs reported Culpeper County is revising their Comprehensive Plan for 2015. Input needs to be funneled through R. Jacobs and/or G. Wichelns. Greene is also doing their Comprehensive Plan. R. Jacobs attended the Virginia Stormwater Clearing House Committee, technical group dealing with all matters relating to stormwater practices. It is now run by DEQ. As of July 1, 2014 there is a general construction permit. They have issued about 4,000 permits statewide. Half were re-issuant, about 150 permits are still not complete. Greene is the only county in the Culpeper District that has their own stormwater program. Update for school projects: Pearl Sample still continuing. Gordon/Barber ready for tree planting. This Friday R. Jacobs will be attending an Urban Nutrient Management Training in Winchester.
- A. Cason reported she is starting to branch out on her own making appointments. Last month she and David went to Culpeper Field Day and had a booth and spoke to people.
- S. DeNicola attended the National Science Association Teachers Conference in Richmond and was a presenter. 1,500 people attended the meeting. This weekend she will be traveling to Fredericksburg to teach teachers about the envirothon. The following weekend she will be traveling to Smith Island with 25 students for an envirothon focused event.
- D. Massie attended the Chili Dinner that Culpeper Farmers Cooperative had and it was very well attended.
- H. Calloway completed the Stormwater Plan Review classes and then will take the final exam.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS

R. Rexrode requested that Dana Ernst address the Board. Dana Ernst is resigning from NRCS for health reasons. There is no plan to replace Dana. Her last day will be Friday, November 14th.

DCR

D. Cross distributed her report along with a summary of the updates for October 2014 Desktop Guide for District Fiscal Operations.

Direct Deposit – districts may once again enroll in electronic Direct Deposit to receive funds from DCR. It takes about 6 weeks to process with DCR and the Department of Accounts.

Audits 2013 & 2014: Robinson, Cox and Associates will be conducting audits this fall for Culpeper, John Marshall, Northern Virginia and Thomas Jefferson SWCDs.

AG BMP Engineer position has been filled. Amanda Pennington will begin on November 25th as the Agricultural BMP Engineer in the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. Amanda holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from VCU and is a licensed Professional Engineer (Civil and Water Resources) in Virginia. Most recently she has worked as a Regional Engineer for DCR's Division of Dam Safety and Floodplain Management.

Tax Credit Procedures Review: This past calendar there have been numerous instances where the VA Department of Taxation could not process tax credit certificates filed by applicants because the "tax credit issued date" and the "project completion date", both entered in the Tracking Program and located on the official Tax Credit Certificate, did not match in terms of calendar year.

The deadline for SL-6 applications to be submitted to be guaranteed 100% cost share is June 30, 2015.

Resource Management Plans: On October 30, the Division of Soil and Water Conservation finalized a recommendation and DCR Director Cristman concurred, and written approval is pending, to provide financial assistance to SWCDs statewide in Calendar 2015 for the review of Resource Management Plans. (RMPS).

CREP and RMP Funding Requests projects must be entered into tracking and approved by Gary Moore/Barbara McGarry in advance of contract approvals by the district. Tracking has a new practice status of "Funding Availability Confirmed" for CREP and RMP approved practices.

VASWCD reminders:

- Registration for Annual Meeting due November 13th.
- Area II Election of Officers will take place at the Dec. 8th Area II meeting. Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

Reminders:

- Quarterly Review of Annual Plan of Work: Grant agreement requires that your Annual Plan of Work be reviewed each quarter and documented in the minutes.
- Send CDC copy of your district 2014-2015 Annual Plan of Work.
- Kelci Block is the new Assistant Attorney General who will be handling the SWCDs.

Important Dates:

November 10	Ag, BMP TAC, DOF Charlottesville
November 17	TMDL Pre-proposals due to DEQ
November 20	Dam Owners Meeting, DOF Charlottesville
Dec 7-9	VASWCD Annual Meeting, Hotel Roanoke
Dec 10	VA Soil and Water Conservation Board Meeting, Roanoke

10) PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – None.

11) PLAN FOR NOVEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS (in CULPEPER at the CULPEPER USDA SERVICE CENTER).

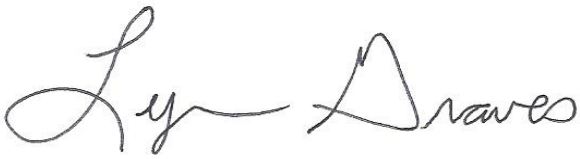
Committees will meet on Tuesday, November 18, Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, and Technical 10:00. Education will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 8:30 in Madison County at the War Memorial Building. **BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014 IN GREENE COUNTY AT THE PVCC ON 222 South Main Street, Stanardsville. This is on the 2nd floor of the Greene County Library where we use to have the meetings.**

12) ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the November 2014 Board meeting at 11:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Graves, Chairman



JoAnn Neal
Administrative Secretary

Director_____
Date Approved ___12-2-2014_____