

Minutes

Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

July 14, 2005

The Forsyth SWCD Board met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday June 9, 2005 in Room 39 at the Forsyth County Agriculture Bldg. The meeting was called to order by Kerry Venable, Chairman.

Present: Kerry Venable, Chairman
Grover McPherson, Vice-Chairman
Ed Wall, Secretary/Treasurer
Stacey Manning, Member
Christine Collins, Office Assistant
Mike Bowman, Soil & Water Conservationist
Randy Blackwood, District Conservationist

1. Minutes/Financial Report

- A. Minutes of the regular session of the SWCD for May were reviewed. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.
- B. Financial Report for SWCD Board was reviewed. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.

2. Natural Resources Conservation Service

- A. Randy Blackwood advised that our office is acquiring the equipment to enable video presentations to the board and general public.

3. Cost Share Program Report

- A. Request for payment pending:
 - 1) Koy Kincaid (34-05-09-16) – Dry Stack **\$5467**. Board granted Kerry Venable approval to sign request for payment outside of regular board meeting. Grover McPherson asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously
- B. BMP Fund Audit – board reviewed BMP Fund Audit. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Grover McPherson. Approved unanimously.
- C. Danny Nelson – Grover advised board that the Commission would like to set up a system that would hinder participants who have failed to comply with cost share contract guidelines from participating with another farm or in another county or location. Board would like Mike Bowman to draft a letter to David Williams, acting director, advising of Danny Nelson's current farming location in order to advise that county of Mr. Nelson's failure to comply with the guidelines of his contract.

- C. DEW – Mike Bowman to attend the EEP Workshop August 8th, and 9th in Burlington, NC. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Grover McPherson motioned for approval. Second by Ed Wall. Approved unanimously.

4. Farmland Preservation

- A. Mike Bowman presented Grant opportunities from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation & Tobacco Trust to fund Farmland Preservation. Board would like to apply for these grants and suggested checking into Clean Water Management Trust Fund (State) and the Funds offered by the Senate Appropriations Committee for Working Lands Conservation Programs (Federal) as reported in the July 2005 edition of E-News published by American Farmland Trust.
- B. Mike Bowman also advised board that the EEP certification training will be held Monday, August 8th from 9 AM to 12 Noon and Tuesday, August 9th from 8 AM to 12 Noon. Mike confirmed with Steve Ferguson that each board member and/or staff member will receive \$150 each to be deposit into the boards account.
- B. Board advised Mike Bowman to update the listing for Farmland Preservation properties and to make contact with the current land owners.
- C. Mike Bowman and Randy Blackwood informed the board that USDA could possibly have matching funds for Farmland Preservation beginning October 1, 2005.

5. Old Business

- A. Christine Collins presented the board with three draft copies of Letterhead displaying the board members and the Soil & Water logo. Board chose to go with draft copy # 3 which has the Soil & Water logo centered and the board members names to the left and right of the logo. (Logo to be made larger).

6. New Business

- A. Christine Collins presented grant for Sedge Garden Elementary School for approval and signature. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.
- B. Christine Collins presented grant for Griffith Elementary School for approval and signature. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.
- C. Christine Collins gave update that Golden Coral has been contacted to cater fall banquet, November 10th and presented board with menu and price list. Board advised office staff to choose menu on their behalf.
- D. Gifts for the Banquet – All board members and staff agreed to secure gifts to be presented at the fall banquet November 10th.

- E. Christine Collins presented board with current mailing list to be reviewed for mailing of invitations. After reviewing the board would like invitations to the fall banquet mailed to all persons listed on the current mailing list and personal letters sent to all political affiliates.
- F. Ed Wall would like an invitation mailed to Jerry & Carol Williams, Talley's Florist in King, NC who has donated the main floral center piece for the fall banquet for several years.

Regular Board Meeting was adjourned. Grover McPherson asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.

Adjourn

The next meeting date:

August 11, 2005

The Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Room 39

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

Chairman, Forsyth SWCD

cc: NCDENR: Division of Soil and Water
Steve Ferguson, DSWC Area 2 Coordinator
Jacquie Simon, Assistant State Conservationist
Ron Graham, Deputy County Manager