

MINUTES

CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING Madison Cooperative Extension Madison Virginia 22727 January 7th, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 9:35 A.M.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Lynn Graves, Madison County
Philip Morris, Greene County
Robert Bradford, Orange County
Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper County
Dennis Verhoff, Culpeper County
Robert Runkle, Greene County
Steve Hill, Madison County
Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County
Mike Sands, Rappahannock County
Steve Morris, Greene County, Director-At Large
Brad Jarvis, Madison County, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Associate Director

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Jim Byrne, Madison County Associate Director
Warren Lee, Orange County, Associate Director
Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County
Robert Brame, Orange County

STAFF PRESENT: Greg Wichelns, District Manager
JoAnn Neal, Administrative Secretary
Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist
Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist
Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist
W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist
Stephanie DeNicola, Education Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT: Debbie Cross, CDC, DCR
Rex Rexrode, NRCS District Conservationist
Joe Rosetti, VDOF
Bob Williamson, Retired FSA Manager

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

L. Graves welcomed everyone to Madison County. Following a moment of silence, Richard Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance. Two new directors – Dennis Verhoff – Culpeper County Director, and Michael Sands, Rappahannock County, were introduced. Everyone who was at the meeting introduced themselves to the new directors. There were four handouts: District Technical

Committee Report Addendum, VASWCD Legislative Report, Culpeper District Updated RMP/TRC Membership List, and the DCR Monthly Report.

2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the December 3rd, 2019 Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. T. O'Halloran moved to approve as presented. M. Binek seconded the motion. (T. O'Halloran, M. Binek, unanimous)

3) AGENDA APPROVAL

L. Graves called for Agenda approval. S. Hill requested the Legislative Committee Report be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Agenda as 5.1. S. Hill moved to approve the Agenda as amended. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (S. Hill, T. O'Halloran, unanimous)

4) CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda approved as modified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Items in italics were added at the January 7, 2020 Board Meeting in Madison County, 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.

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Tax Credit</u>
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SL-8H	2020 VACS	William Brown III	07-20-0140	375294	Culpeper	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 0.00
SL-10	2020 VACS	Karen Evans	07-20-0256	380300	Culpeper	\$ 2,193.75	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm, Inc.	07-20-0301	381368	Culpeper	\$ 2,525.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0300	381365	Culpeper	\$ 12,025.00	\$ 0.00
SL-15A	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm, Inc.	07-20-0299	381363	Culpeper	\$ 5,180.00	\$ 0.00
SL-15A	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0298	381355	Culpeper	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 0.00
NM-3C	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm, Inc.	07-20-0297	381351	Culpeper	\$ 896.00	\$ 0.00
NM-3C	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0296	381350	Culpeper	\$ 5,782.00	\$ 0.00
NM-4	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm, Inc.	07-20-0293	381345	Culpeper	\$ 260.50	\$ 0.00
NM-4	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0289	381340	Culpeper	\$ 1,164.50	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm, Inc.	07-20-0108	373988	Culpeper	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5N	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0106	373985	Culpeper	\$ 1,552.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-20-0106	373986	Culpeper	\$ 12,184.00	\$ 0.00
NM-1A	2020 VACS	Nixon Farms LLC	07-20-0288	381341	Culpeper	\$ 104.30	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2020 VACS	Nixon Farms LLC	07-20-0291	381343	Culpeper	\$ 417.20	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2020 VACS	Mathews Custom Farming Inc.	07-20-0286	381337	Culpeper	\$ 15,863.75	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2020 VACS	Mathews Custom Farming Inc.	07-20-0178	381336	Culpeper	\$ 10,234.08	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2020 VACS	Jim Gibson	07-20-0284	381257	Orange	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2020 VACS	Jim Gibson	07-20-0284	381259	Orange	\$ 3,180.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2020 VACS	Shawn Woodfolk	07-20-0281	381253	Madison	\$ 1,612.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2020 VACS	Maple Run LLC	07-20-0003	337766	Madison	\$ 26,390.43	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2020 VACS	Thomas Wetsel	07-20-0285	381298	Greene	\$ 6,256.65	\$ 521.38
FR-3	2020 VACS	Linda Croxson	07-20-0295	381348	Rappahannock	\$ 3,350.00	\$ 0.00
WP-2B	Tax Credit	Tree House Projects, LLC	07-20-0283	381256	Rappahannock	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,812.50
NM-5N	2020 VACS	Beauregard Farm Inc.	07-20-0108	381802	Culpeper	\$ 1,472.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2020 VACS	W.J. Davis	07-20-0302	381753	Madison	\$ 2,333.20	\$ 0.00
SL-6A	Tax Credit	Lorraine Huffman	07-20-0304	381758	Culpeper	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,287.19

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

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Tax Credit</u>
SL-6W	2020 VACS	Highbrighton Farm	07-20-0027	345088	Greene	\$ 7,635.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2020 VACS	Laurie A. Feickert	07-20-0041	351262	Rappahannock	\$ 6,401.25	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2020 VACS	Maple Run LLC	07-20-0003	337766	Madison	\$ 26,390.43	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2020 VACS	Thomas Wetsel	07-20-0285	381298	Greene	\$ 6,256.65	\$ 521.38
SL-15A	2020 VACS	Ben Southard	07-20-0050	353588	Orange	\$ 4,830.00	\$ 0.00
SL-15A	2020 VACS	Knight Cattle Corp.	07-20-0051	353591	Orange	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-10	2020 VACS	David Sears	07-20-0121	374426	Orange	\$ 7,162.50	\$ 0.00

3) The following WQIF Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Victoria Hankins	07-20-0277	381191	Culpeper	\$ 175.00
RB-4P	DEQNPSWQIF	Raymond Searls	07-20-0275	381338	Culpeper	\$ 6,000.00

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

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQ16547	Kenneth Lohr	07-20-0294	381346	Orange	\$ 175.00

RB-3	DEQ16547	Kameron Pritchett	07-20-0307	381863	Orange	\$2,500.00
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5) The following Robinson River Residential applicant has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-4	DEQ16679	Stephen Lohr	07-20-0246	380263	Madison	\$ 4,000.00

6) The following WQIF Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Victoria Hankins	07-20-0277	381191	Culpeper	\$ 175.00
RB-4	DEQNPSWQIF	Jeffrey Morris	07-20-0200	378097	Greene	\$ 3,100.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Alvin Petitt	07-19-0419	332258	Culpeper	\$ 580.00
RB-4	DEQNPSWQIF	Sandra Gaizick	07-19-0036	310136	Culpeper	\$ 5,200.00

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

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-3R	DEQ16547	Robert D. Cox	07-20-0153	376206	Orange	\$ 2,006.25
RB-4P	DEQ16547	Ruth Paisley	07-20-0158	376284	Orange	\$ 6,000.00
RB-1	DEQ16547	John Dawson	07-20-0222	379493	Orange	\$ 175.00

8) The following Hazel River Residential participant has been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-3R	DEQ16546	Thomas V. Martin	07-20-0166	376419	Rappahannock	\$ 175.00

9) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) practice has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dry Well	Jean Rose	Orange	\$ 3,500.00

10) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) practice has been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Conservation Landscaping – Mulched Bed	Nancy Lamb	Orange	\$ 3,500.00

11) The District Manager gave an update on the dams:

- a. The District was awarded funding through the Small Dam Repair Fund for design work for slip lining six dams in Madison County that have corrugated metal primary spillways. Two of these dams, Beautiful Run # 4 & 11, also received funding for construction in 2020. This total package totals \$424,000.
- b. There will be additional costs associated with the pipe lining project for Beautiful Run #4. The entry road will need to be widened to accommodate construction

equipment and some trees will need to be cleared for the slip lining on the primary spillway.

- 12) The District Manager informed the Committee that the Upper Hazel TMDL grant will not be renewed after the end of the current grant in September 2020. DEQ felt that the Upper Hazel has been a success, but has chosen to focus the funding into other areas of the state to address water quality issues. The Upper York TMDL grant has been preliminarily approved for renewal. The District Manager also reported that he heard rumors that Virginia’s 319 funding may get reduced since the EPA was reportedly considering stronger funding for Pennsylvania to try to stimulate more WIP III activity. (Later information revealed rumor to be false).
- 13) The Committee reviewed the Strategic Plan and the Annual Plan of Work and felt it was satisfying all requirements of both these documents. It was recommended that “supporting WIP III development...” be removed for next year’s Plan of Work since that has been completed.

Resource Management Plan (RMP) Technical Review Committee (TRC)

12-17-2019

Present: Robert Bradford, TRC Chairman, Orange; Lynn Graves, District Chairman, Madison; Tom O’Halloran, Culpeper; Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist; David Massie, Conservation Specialist; Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist; Amanda McCullen; Conservation Specialist; Greg Wichelns, District Manager; Ashleigh Cason, NRCS Soil Conservationist

The Chairman called the TRC meeting to order. The Committee reviewed the following 13 RMPs that were submitted for plan review from Madison and Orange counties:

- 7-17-0007
- 7-20-0004
- 7-20-0005
- 7-20-0006
- 7-20-0007
- 7-20-0008
- 7-20-0009
- 7-20-0010
- 7-20-0011
- 7-20-0012
- 7-20-0013
- 7-20-0014
- 7-20-0015

Staff reported on field inspections. A few comments/questions will be sent to the plan writers regarding stream perennially determinations on plans:

- 7-20-0008
- 7-20-0007
- 7-20-0004

A few modifications/clarifications regarding fence layout will be requested from the plan writers for plans:

- 7-20-0012
- 7-20-0010

All of the 13 plans will be sent back to the plan writer for the owner/operator to sign the RMP plan signature page specific to the report, rather than the generic signature page that was included as a separate attachment within each RMP package.

There were no other topics discussed. Meeting adjourned.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
TREASURER’S REPORT

5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

5.1) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT-

S. Hill handed out the Legislative Report on the Governor's Budget Information and reported this coming Thursday, January 9, 2020 is VASWCD Legislative Day and everyone is meeting in a hotel near Richmond to ride together on a bus. We will have a list of talking points on the VASWCD Legislative Agenda. Main concern is to maintain the current levels of essential funding for FY21 and FY22. L. Graves reported that the VASWCD is having a conference call tomorrow for more information on Legislative Day.

6) CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL

R. Runkle moved that the Board go into Closed Session at 10:20 A.M. as provided for in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A) (1) to discuss personnel issues. The Associate Directors and the District Manager were invited to attend. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (Runkle, O'Halloran unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 10:30 A.M. (unanimous). Pursuant to the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-.3712. (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". R. Bradford seconded the motion. (Runkle, Bradford, unanimous) R. Bradford moved to accept the recommendations from the Personnel Committee. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, T. O'Halloran, unanimous)

7) DIRECTORS REPORTS

- T. O'Halloran introduced Bob Williamson, Culpeper County Farmer and ex County Executive Director for Farm Service Agency and moved to nominate him as an Associate Director for Culpeper County. R. Bradford seconded the motion. (O'Halloran, Bradford, unanimous)
- S. Hill reported he attended the VASWCD Annual Meeting in Norfolk.
- B. Jarvis reported on this past spring's water testing program. He also reported that the week of Thanksgiving the high school ag teacher in Madison resigned. Brad reported R. J. Knoblett has now returned to teach at Madison County. He complimented Mr. Knoblett on his contributions in Madison. Brad reported the Agri Business Council Banquet will commence in Richmond on Thursday, January 9th. Also, on January 15 at the PVCC Giuseppe Center in Stanardsville there will be a Pesticide Recertification Class from 1 to 4 p.m. and the Northern Piedmont Beginning Farm Program January 15th, Wednesday evenings at the VCE Fauquier Office. The Virginia Forage Grazing Conference will be held January 23 in Brandy Station.
- R. Runkle reported he attended the VASWCD Annual Meeting in Norfolk. In the Greene County Record there was an article about how productive the CSWCD has been in the area.
- P. Morris reported he attended the VASWCD Annual Meeting in Norfolk.
- L. Graves reported the Virginia Agri Business Legislative Banquet is this Thursday. There will be a pesticide training for the Orchard school January 13th at Graves Mountain Lodge.

8) STAFF REPORTS

- R. Jacobs reported that working with Stephanie and Greg he has hit the ground running promoting Lawn Care testing Program as well as the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP cost share program for residents. They will start with a newspaper article in Greene County and are hoping it will be republished in the newspapers in the other counties. They will also do a focus article in Greene County on soil testing and properly taking care of your lawn. There will be a contractor's workshop training for VCAP tentatively on January 30th at Lake of the Woods Community Center from 8:30 to 12:00.
- S. DeNicola requested Bob Williamson, Mike Sands and Dennis Verhoff stay after today's meeting for photos for our yearly report. She has been following up some of the outreach for the NOAA grant and she spoke at the school board meeting about the NOAA grant. The next phase of the project program will be in Wetsel Middle School and Prospect Heights in Orange County.

- A. McCullen attended the Beef Producers Meeting, there were about 90 attendees.
- D. Massie reported on the VACS program; \$2.8 million currently allocated which is 65% out of the \$4.3 million available.
- Greg reported on several topics:
 1. The Upper Hazel TMDL Grant was not renewed. The current grant runs through September, 2020. The Upper York TMDL Grant may be funded for an additional 2 year period.
 2. Dam repair funding was announced and approved on all 6 of the pipe lining projects for design work and 2 will be approved for the construction funding. The final contract will need to be approved by the Board for the engineering company. David and Greg have been working with Rebecca Evans, NRCS, to complete all background topography surveying for the engineering firm.
 3. Greg was asked whatever happened to the technical assistance Allocation Sub-Committee Study and the report to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. The Budget Template submission (80%) will be followed for the Ag Technical Assistance and the Soil and Water Board will use this as a policy, regardless about what the General Assembly does about the base budget funding request. Five districts were quite dissatisfied with the Technical Assistance for this year. It is very difficult to plan ahead with the hiring of new people when you do not know how much money you have until the end of the year. The proposal coming forward is still not satisfying heavy workload districts. The topic will be reviewed at the late March meeting of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS – R. Rexrode reported that Nancy Utz is retired and NRCS will try to replace her but it is not known when this will happen. The Farm Bill passed – currently waiting for new rules and regulations before processing any contracts.

DCR – D. Cross reported Quarterly Reports are due January 15th, 2020. 1099 G's and 1099 Misc. forms must be sent out by 12/31/2020. Address changes for the VASWCD Directory should be sent to VASWCD and new information on new directors asap. Federal Mileage Reimbursement Rate has been set to 57.5 cents per mile from 58 cents in 2019. Check signing authority and bank signature cards should be reviewed and updated.

FY21 Base Technical Assistance Funding will follow the new policy adopted by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. A letter from DCR is forthcoming, providing further clarification, and encouraging districts to voluntarily transfer cost share funds between districts or relinquish cost share funds and associated T/A back to DCR in order to meet the 90% obligation threshold. Discussion followed. Board action is required to transfer funds between districts as well as return funds to DCR. More to come.

New Rules Regarding Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). The new rules replace the 2016 proposed rules.

New Director Orientation –Phase I will be provided by the CDC. Phase II will be held in April in Charlottesville at DOF. More details to come.

Dates to remember:

JAN	8	Virginia General Assembly convenes
JAN	9	VASWCD Legislative Day in Richmond, contact Kendall Tyree, VASWCD for details
JAN	10	IT Security Awareness training deadline for SWCD staff.

JAN 16 SWCD Dam Owners Work Group meeting.
March 26, April 33, May 20 – locations to be determined: VSWCB Meetings
April 22 Area I Spring Meeting

FORESTRY

Joe Rosetti – Last month and in the coming months there will be prescribed burning at Montpelier in Orange County. RCPP PRISM Project – working with landowners to finish up on PRISM (invasive plant control). Several prescribed burns with landowners – 25 plan for the spring. Several tree planting and buffer and afforestation projects in Rappahannock, Orange, Madison and Fauquier. Woods and Wildlife Conference February 29th, in Culpeper at the Daniel Tech Center. There will be a Woodland Stewards Webinar Series Workshop at the Fauquier Cooperative Extension Office from 7 to 8:30 P.M. on Thursday evenings February 6, 10, 20 & 27.

- 10) PLAN FOR JANUARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS (in CULEPER at the CULPEPER OFFICE)**
Committees will meet on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, Legislative 10:00, Technical 10:30, and RMP/TRC if necessary after Technical Committee. Educational meeting will be held January 16th, 2020 at 4 P. M. in Madison at the Madison Extension Office. **BOARD MEETING FOR February WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2020 IN ORANGE COUNTY AT THE ORANGE/MADISON FARM COOP OFFICE.**

11) ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn the January 2020 Board meeting at 11:45.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Graves, Chairman



JoAnn M. Neal
Administrative Secretary

Date Approved 2-4-2020