

MINUTES

CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING **Pepper's Grill** **Culpeper, Virginia 22701** **August 3, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 9:33 AM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Lynn Graves, Madison County
Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper County
Robert Bradford, Orange County
Robert Brame, Orange County
Mike Sands, Rappahannock County
Philip Morris, Greene County
Robert Runkle, Greene County
Steve Morris, Greene County
Bob Williamson, Associate Director, Culpeper County

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT:

Dennis Verhoff, Culpeper County
Stephen Hill, Madison County
Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County
Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County
Brad Jarvis, Associate Director, Madison County
Jim Byrne, Associate Director, Madison County
Warren Lee, Associate Director, Orange County

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Wichelns, District Manager
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary
David Massie, Conservation Specialist
W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist
Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist
Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist
Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist
Brandy Harris, Conservation Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

Debbie Cross, CDC, DCR
Rex Rexrode, NRCS

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

L. Graves called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM. Following a moment of silence, Lynn Graves led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were three handouts: District Technical Committee Report Addendum, NRCS Report, and the DCR Monthly Report. L. Graves took this opportunity to introduce the District's newest staff member, Brandy Harris.

2) **DRAFT MINUTES**

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the July 6, 2021 Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. M. Sands moved to approve the minutes as presented. T. O’Halloran seconded the motion. (M. Sands, T. O’Halloran, unanimous)

3) **AGENDA APPROVAL**

L. Graves called for Agenda approval. The Technical Committee Report was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Agenda as 5.1, along with the Addendum to the Report. R. Brame moved to adopt the Agenda as modified. T. O’Halloran seconded the motion. (R. Brame, T. O’Halloran, unanimous)

4) **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent Agenda adopted as modified.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
TREASURER’S REPORT
NRCS PLANS

Greene	60.2 Acres	EQIP-Livestock and Herbaceous Weed Control, Water System Fence, Prescribed Grazing, Stream Crossing, Pasture Planting
Madison	125 Acres	EQIP – Cropland – Cover Crop, Reduced Tillage and Nutrient Management
Madison	86.1 Acres	EQIP Cropland – Herbaceous Weed Control, Forage Planting and Nutrient Management
Madison	1 Acre	EQIP Seasonal Hi Tunnel
Orange	103 Acres	EQIP – Wildlife, Herbaceous Weed Control, Tree Planting, Pollinator Planting, Fence
Rappahannock	125.7 Acres	EQIP – Wildlife, Herbaceous Weed Treat., Cover Crop, Brush Mgt. Prescribed Burning, Wildlife Habitat Planting
Rappahannock	62.3 Acres	EQIP – Wildlife – Brush and Herbaceous Weed Control, Site Preparation and Tree Planting
Rappahannock	22.2 Acres	CRP-FMI – Forest Stand Improvement and Brush Management

5) **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

5.1) **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT w/ Addendum**

R. Bradford provided an update on the upcoming Dam Spillway Sliplining project. He informed the Board that Bander Smith, Inc. had proposed doing all of the dam projects at the same time, instead of in phases as it was previously laid out. Funding for the final two of the six dams has yet to be officially approved, although it is DCR’s intent to recommend its approval at the December meeting of the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. R. Bradford presented writing from Bander Smith, Inc. stating that they understand the situation and would be willing to assume the financial risk in order to move forward with the projects as proposed, though obviously expect to be paid for the work. He also presented writing from Amanda Pennington, DCR, stating that moving forward with the work before it is approved for funding would not disqualify the project from funding. R. Bradford moved to accept the proposal from Bander Smith, Inc. to do all six dams at the same and thereby amend our contract with them integrating Phase 2 in to Phase 1. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

R. Bradford discussed the District’s Ag BMP cost estimate revisions, bringing attention to the recent increase in materials. Projects that were approved for funding in FY20 and FY21 but have not

yet been completed are experiencing significant cost increases. R Bradford moved to allow FY22 VACS funds to be transferred to FY20 and FY21 accounts to help resolve these issues. It was clarified that any transferred funds not utilized would be transferred back to FY22. Technical Committee recommended by motion, “Due to the increasing cost of supplies for agricultural best management practice projects and the impact of this on current projects under construction from FY20 and FY21 funding, otherwise known as carryovers, the Technical Committee recommends the transfer of FY22 VACS cost share funds to FY20 and FY21 funding. A final amount for transfer to each year is still under development and the Committee requests the Board delegate the authority to the Committee to determine the final amount. All projects will be able to utilize the new district costs list which was approved at last month's meeting. Any unused funds that were transferred as described will be transferred back to FY22 VACS. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

R. Bradford alerted the Board of an addition to the Technical Committee Report that was not listed. An Upper Hazel River residential applicant in Rappahannock County, Contract Number 07-22-0050, Instance Number 446326, RB-4 for \$4,000, has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding. R. Bradford moved to approve the Committee Report as corrected. P. Morris seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, P. Morris, unanimous)

July 20, 2021 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes (Updated)

Present: Robert Bradford, Chairman; Lynn Graves, Madison; Tom O’Halloran, Culpeper; Mike Sands, Rappahannock; Greg Wichelns, District Manager; Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist; David Massie, Conservation Specialist; Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist; Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist; Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist

**Items in italics were approved at the August 3, 2021 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.

<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>
FR-1	2022 VACS	Philip Kennicott	07-22-0028	440506	Rappahannock	\$ 3,093.75	\$ 190.31
FR-3	2022 VACS	Lyle Alexander	07-22-0025	440378	Culpeper	\$ 13,585.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6N	2022 VACS	Triple R Investments LLC	07-22-0022	440282	Madison	\$ 31,850.00	\$ 4,287.50
SL-6W	2022 VACS	Cathy Aylor	07-22-0016	440329	Madison	\$ 17,417.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2022 VACS	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0006	431894	Madison	\$ 33,402.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2022 VACS	Wayland Lohr	07-22-0015	437878	Madison	\$ 20,525.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2022 VACS	Cattle Run Farm LLC	07-20-0031	440601	Greene	\$ 14,228.50	\$ 345.48
SL-10	2022 VACS	Belle Plaine Farm LLC.	07-22-0020	440279	Madison	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-10	2022 VACS	Triple R Investments LLC	07-22-0021	440280	Madison	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-10	2022 VACS	Anthony Petralia	07-22-0013	436630	Orange	\$ 5,152.50	\$ 0.00
WP-4SF	2022 VACS	Garret Chambers	07-22-0019	440278	Orange	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 0.00
<i>SL-6</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Brian Farinholt*</i>	<i>07-15-0378</i>	<i>208961</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 11,959.50</i>	<i>\$ 527.63</i>
<i>SL-6W</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Goree Waugh III</i>	<i>07-22-0042</i>	<i>446208</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 93,922.50</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>SL-6W</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Full Life Journey LLC</i>	<i>07-22-0042</i>	<i>446216</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 41,986.60</i>	<i>\$ 1,165.85</i>
<i>SL-6W</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Tim Neale</i>	<i>07-22-0036</i>	<i>443054</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 56,265.00</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>SL-7</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Kim Reid</i>	<i>07-22-0039</i>	<i>437336</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 9,364.40</i>	<i>\$ 585.28</i>
<i>SL-10</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Kim Reid</i>	<i>07-22-0041</i>	<i>446203</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 768.75</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>SL-15A</i>	<i>2022VACS</i>	<i>Donald Tatum</i>	<i>07-22-0033</i>	<i>441713</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 7,776.30</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>FR-1</i>	<i>2022 VACS</i>	<i>Andrew Haley</i>	<i>07-22-0038</i>	<i>44032</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 10,617.50</i>	<i>\$ 852.50</i>

FR-3	2022 VACS	Andrew Haley	07-22-0038	440325	Rappahannock	\$ 11,990.00	\$ 58.13
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*One-time assistance to install a new well and associated components to replace the installed well that has gone dry. Approved under EAN (extreme act of nature) provision in cost-share manual.

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-7	2020 VACS	Thomas Mountjoy	07-20-0380	386560	Orange	\$ 4,025.21	\$ 335.43
SL-6W	2021 VACS	M & W Cattle Co.*	07-21-0174	421490	Orange	\$ 79,167.40	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2020 VACS	Muddy Flats Farm LLC	07-20-0420	387541	Culpeper	\$ 90.00	\$ 152.15
SL-10	2021 VACS	C.W. Properties	07-21-0328	432670	Madison	\$ 4,268.25	\$ 0.00
SL-10	2022 VACS	Kim Reid	07-22-0041	446203	Culpeper	\$ 768.75	\$ 0.00
SL-15A	2022 VACS	Donald Tatum	07-22-0033	441713	Madison	\$ 7,776.30	\$ 0.00

*Increase for linear feet of stream exclusion fence and water pipeline.

3) The following BMP applicant has requested to cancel their contracts:

<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-6N	2021 VACS	Tim Neale	07-21-0200	422201	Orange	\$ 23,091.25	\$ 0.00

4) The following Upper Hazel 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-3M	DEQ16546	Susan Vandentoorn	07-22-0023	440376	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ16546	Michael Mooney	07-22-0026	440380	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3	DEQ16546	Robert Collicio	07-22-0024	440377	Culpeper	\$ 2,500.00
RB-3M	DEQ16546	Randall Rieland	07-22-0029	440567	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQ16546	William Lloyd II	07-22-0049	446286	Rappahannock	\$ 175.00
RB-4	DEQ16546	John Wiese	07-22-0050	446326	Rappahannock	\$ 4,000.00

5) The following Upper Rapidan 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-5	DEQ16678	Nita Meadows	07-22-0014	437768	Madison	\$19,200.00

6) The following Robinson River 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-3M	DEQ16679	Candy Barrett	07-22-0027	440502	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ16679	Leon Jarvis, Jr.	07-22-0030	440583	Madison	\$ 2,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ16679	Annie White	07-22-0044	446215	Madison	\$ 2,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ16679	Darby Stacy	07-22-0047	446258	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ16679	Dana Hicks	07-22-0048	446260	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQ16679	John Sherer	07-22-0043	446209	Madison	\$ 175.00

7) The following Upper York River 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-3M	DEQ16974	Donna Harpold	07-22-0040	446204	Orange	\$ 1,300.00
RB-3M	DEQ16974	Elizabeth Blackburn	07-22-0046	446245	Orange	\$ 1,600.00

8) The following Upper Rapidan 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-3M	DEQ16678	Jennifer Minner	07-21-0259	426181	Orange	\$ 412.50
RB-4P	DEQ16678	James Castle	07-21-0284	427802	Greene	\$ 9,600.00
RB-4	DEQ16678	Donald Meeks	07-21-0212	431930	Orange	\$ 4,000.00

9) The following Upper York 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-3M	DEQ16974	Linda Senger	07-21-0219	423080	Orange	\$ 380.00
RB-4P	DEQ16974	Shirley Colvin	07-21-0262	426190	Orange	\$ 9,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ16974	Ray Miller	07-21-0291	428102	Orange	\$ 520.00

10) The following Upper Hazel 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	DEQ16546	Brian Duncan	07-21-0230	423291	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-3M	DEQ16546	Richard Duncan	07-21-0233	423297	Culpeper	\$ 165.00
RB-3M	DEQ16546	Linda Cole	07-21-0252	424547	Culpeper	\$ 360.00

11) 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>
Rainwater Harvesting	Alan Davis	Culpeper	\$ 4,472.00

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

- a. All the watershed dams have received their initial mowing and half of the stilling basins have been sprayed.
- b. The District Manager will meet with Bander Smith, Inc. on July 22, 2021, to evaluate any preliminary work to access the dams for the slip lining construction.
- c. Bander-Smith, the winning bidder for slip lining construction, expects to begin their work in September 2021 and hope to complete the dams by late October 2021.

13) The Technical Committee reviewed the Virginia BMP Technical Advisory Committee's Scope of Work for the Programmatic Subcommittee. The District Manager serves on this Committee and will forward any comments and suggestions.

14) The Technical Committee continues to delegate the authority to the District Manager to sign BMP contracts on behalf of the Board of Directors on an as needed basis.

6) DIRECTOR REPORTS

S. Morris reminded the Board that the Greene County Livestock Show will be this weekend.

B. Williamson shared that he had an opportunity to attend a Legislative Forum over the weekend where he was able to hear a few candidates share their viewpoints and understanding of BMPs.

L. Graves shared that over a lunch with Senator Hanger last Monday, he was able to have a conversation on the need for Technical Assistance and stated that the message was well received.

7) **STAFF REPORTS**

D. Massie let the Board know that the newsletter and outreach letters have been increasing interest in the five-county district and that the office has been receiving a lot of calls inquiring about projects and funding. He also shared that he mailed post cards outlining program updates to crop producers and is hoping to have a similar response from this outreach.

G. Wichelns gave a brief review of spillway sliplining preparation, going over some of work that will be needed in order to gain efficient access to the dams. He also gave an update on two new grants which have been approved but are not yet in contract. The grants are for Ag. and Septic projects in the Upper Rapidan and Upper Hazel areas. G. Wichelns also reminded the Board that the Fall Banquet will be on November 4th at Pepper's Grill in Culpeper County.

8) **AGENCY REPORTS**

NRCS – R. Rexrode updated the Board again on NRCS COVID-19 protocol. After an increase in COVID-19 cases, NRCS has reinstated mask rules, requiring all staff to mask while in the office. He stated that he is expecting to have the Blue Ridge Prism Program for Invasive Species wrapped up this year and gave a brief update on other contract pre-approvals/approvals and land easements. Rexrode also shared that NRCS has a volunteer in the office that will be helping for the next few weeks and that staff member, Courtney Pooton, would be getting married this weekend.

DCR – D. Cross reviewed for the Board the District's FY21 Grant Performance Evaluations that will be sent to the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. The District scored with excellence and staff was thanked for their work. She then went over upcoming dates for events and training. D. Cross reminded District Staff that end of lifespan Ag BMP Verifications need to be completed and reported in tracking by September 1st. She reminded the District Board that their COIA training would need to be done by the end of the calendar year. She also shared that Mr. Darryl Glover has accepted a new position as the Deputy Director of Soil and Water Conservation and Dam Safety, leaving his previous position as Director for the Division of Soil and Water Conservation. The latter is now open for applications.

9) **PLAN FOR AUGUST COMMITTEE MEETINGS (IN PERSON)**

Committees will meet at the Culpeper office on Tuesday, August 24, 2021. Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, Technical 10:00. Education will be held via Zoom or by telephone on Thursday, August 26, 2021, at 4 pm. **BOARD MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER WILL TENTATIVELY BE HELD TUESDAY, September 7, 2021, in person, at 9:30 AM at PVCC in Greene County.**

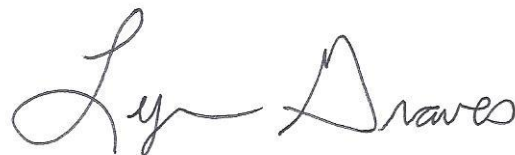
10) **ADJOURNMENT**

R. Bradford motioned to adjourn August 3, 2021, Board meeting at 10:28 AM. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, T. O'Halloran, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted,

Stevie Ross
Administrative Secretary

Lynn Graves, Chairman



Date Approved **September 7, 2021**