

MINUTES
CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Blue Ridge Cafe
Ruckersville, Virginia
March 5, 2024

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 10:06 AM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Lynn Graves, Madison County
Anthony Jewett, Madison County
Dennis Verhoff, Culpeper County
Tom O’Halloran, Culpeper County
David Cox, Greene County
Robert Runkle, Greene County
Robert Bradford, Orange County
Robert Brame, Orange County
Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County
Bob Williamson, Associate Director, Culpeper County
Steve Morris, At-Large Director, Greene County
Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT:

Mike Sands, Rappahannock County
Brad Jarvis, Associate Director, Madison County

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Wichelns, District Manager
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist
Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist
Stephanie DeNicola, Education Specialist
Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist
David Massie, Conservation Specialist
Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist
R. Cheyenne Sheridan, Conservation Specialist
Lily Smith, Conservation Specialist
W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

Debbie Cross, CDC, DCR
Rex Rexrode, NRCS
Luke Bello, VCE, Orange County
Ed Furlow, VDOF
Philip Morris, Greene County

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

L. Graves called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM. Following a moment of silence, W. Yager led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were four handouts: Technical Committee Additions, one Staff Report, NRCS Report and DCR Report.

2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the February 6, 2024, Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. M. Biniek moved to approve the Minutes as presented. R. Brame seconded the motion. (M. Biniek, R. Brame, 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. A Closed Session for Personnel Matters was added to the Agenda as 6. T. O’Halloran moved to adopt the Agenda as modified. R. Bradford seconded the motion. (T. O’Halloran, R. Bradford, unanimous)

4) CONSENT AGENDA

- OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
- EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
- LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
- FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
- TREASURER’S REPORT
- NRCS CONSERVATION PLANS

Culpeper	1 Acre	EQIP – Seasonal Hi Tunnel
Culpeper	1 Acre	EQIP – Seasonal Hi Tunnel
Culpeper	1 Acre	EQIP – Seasonal Hi Tunnel
Madison	1 Acre	EQIP – Seasonal Hi Tunnel

5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

5.1) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT WITH ADDITIONS

February 20, 2024 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes (Updated)

Present: Robert Bradford, Chairman; Lynn Graves, Madison; Tom O’Halloran, Culpeper; Anthony Jewitt, Madison; Greg Wichelns, District Manager; Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist; David Massie, Conservation Specialist; Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist; Lily Smith, Conservation Specialist; Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist; Rex Rexrode, NRCS District Conservationist

Items in italics were added at the March 5, 2024 Board Meeting in Greene 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>
CCI-SL-6W	2024 VACS	C.W. Properties Weaver	07-24-0400	583557	Madison	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 0.00
FR-3	2024 VACS	Keyur Parikh	07-24-0425	584092	Rappahannock	\$ 31,037.50	\$ 0.00
SL-1	2024 VACS	Justin Crigler	07-24-0443	584419	Madison	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 0.00
SL-1	2024 VACS	Piedmont Reserve LLC	07-24-0448	584430	Orange	\$ 27,187.50	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Piedmont Reserve LLC	07-24-0447	584429	Orange	\$ 247,550.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Justin Crigler	07-24-0444	584420	Madison	\$ 56,970.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Golden Paws LLC	07-24-0426	584094	Madison	\$ 42,345.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Walter C. McLean Family Trust	07-24-0445	584421	Greene	\$ 32,775.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Randall Evans	07-24-0405	583696	Orange	\$ 40,392.50	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2024 VACS	Joseph Brame III	07-24-0446	584428	Orange	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 550.00
NM-5N	2024 VACS	<i>Glenmary Farm LLC</i>	<i>07-24-0458</i>	<i>584867</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 11,846.64</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
NM-5N	2024 VACS	<i>Glenmary Farm Holdings LLC</i>	<i>07-24-0459</i>	<i>584868</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 17,424.80</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>

NM-5N	2024 VACS	Nixon Farms LLC	07-24-0460	584870	Orange	\$ 808.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2024 VACS	Nixon Farms LLC	07-24-0460	584869	Orange	\$ 808.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5N	2024 VACS	Tom Nixon	07-24-0461	584871	Orange	\$ 2,780.56	\$ 0.00
NM-5N	2024 VACS	Western View LLC	07-24-0462	584872	Culpeper	\$ 11,833.68	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2024 VACS	Glenmary Farm LLC	07-24-0463	584873	Orange	\$ 7,961.04	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2024 VACS	Glenmary Farm Holdings LLC	07-24-0464	584874	Orange	\$ 17,424.80	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2024 VACS	Tom Nixon	07-24-0465	584875	Orange	\$ 1,913.44	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2024 VACS	Western View LLC	07-24-0466	584876	Culpeper	\$ 5,420.16	\$ 0.00
SL-1	2024 VACS	Carl James	07-24-0488	585050	Culpeper	\$ 8,768.75	\$ 0.00
SL-6N	2024 VACS	Turn of the River Farm LLC	07-24-0493	584112	Culpeper	\$ 16,560.00	\$ 1,725.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Janet Davidson	07-24-0470	584117	Rappahannock	\$ 7,737.75	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Hannah H. Heritage	07-24-0058	541819	Culpeper	\$ 15,076.25	\$ 0.00

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
SL-7	2024 VACS	Elmwood Farm LLC*	07-24-0246	573497	Orange	\$ 38,325.00	\$ 1,916.25
SL-6W	2023 VACS	Balintobber Inc – Edwin Strange**	07-23-0404	510063	Orange	\$ 70,752.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2023 VACS	Raymond Mills***	07-23-0008	487484	Culpeper	\$ 23,740.00	\$ 0.00

*The Technical Committee approved an increase of \$16,335.00 for additional pipeline footage and additional water troughs.

**Edwin Strange's application was originally approved for \$69,613.50 with 2023 VACS Funds. Increase of \$1,138.50 2023 VACS Funds was approved to replace 20-year-old pump & pressure tank per the contractor's recommendation.

***Raymond Mills' application was originally approved for \$21,575.00 with 2023 VACS Funds. Increase of \$2,165.00 2023 VACS Funds was approved for additional interior cross fence to facilitate a rotational grazing system.

3) The following BMP participant has been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
FR-3	2024 VACS	Paula Whyman*	07-24-0129	558702	Rappahannock	\$ 5,730.00	\$ 0.00

*Payment was approved at the February Board Meeting, but the incentive payment wasn't included in the original payment amount.

4) The following Mountain Run, Muddy Run, and Lower Hazel River Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	PO17406	Dawn Miller	07-24-0421	584033	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Stephen Mills	07-24-0423	584084	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Edward Mills	07-24-0424	584085	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Jeannie Sesler	07-24-0433	584389	Culpeper	\$ 260.00
RB-1	PO17406	Shirley Owens	07-24-0442	584416	Culpeper	\$ 320.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Tasha Lewton	07-24-0434	585203	Culpeper	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Laura Beth Lineweaver	07-24-0441	584412	Culpeper	\$ 1,500.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Bruce Lugn	07-24-0420	584031	Culpeper	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Susan Andrick	07-24-0422	584046	Culpeper	\$ 1,600.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Susan Andrick	07-24-0422	584054	Culpeper	\$ 1,600.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Anna Levin	07-24-0419	584029	Culpeper	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	PO17406	Tommy Fahrney	07-24-0450	584638	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	David Rosenberger	07-24-0452	584674	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Christina Mills	07-24-0456	584862	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Richard Deane	07-24-0457	584863	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17406	Frances Jenkins	07-24-0451	584673	Culpeper	\$ 240.00
RB-1	PO17406	Debra Castillo	07-24-0487	585045	Culpeper	\$ 320.00
RB-1	PO17406	Michael Watts	07-24-0486	585042	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-3M	PO17406	Linda Guinn	07-24-0479	584981	Culpeper	\$ 1,300.00

<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17406</i>	<i>Rick Powers</i>	<i>07-24-0453</i>	<i>584675</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17406</i>	<i>William Burket</i>	<i>07-24-0454</i>	<i>584855</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17406</i>	<i>Jeannette Edwards</i>	<i>07-24-0455</i>	<i>584860</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 2,000.00</i>

5) 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-1	DEQ17220	Paul Shepherd	07-24-0436	584401	Madison	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Judy Fray	07-24-0343	584336	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Raymond Sekely	07-24-0438	584404	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Raymond Sekely	07-24-0438	584405	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	James Nelson, Jr.	07-24-0432	584358	Madison	\$ 200.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Douglas Carpenter</i>	<i>07-24-0375</i>	<i>584752</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Sandra Korfanty</i>	<i>07-24-0474</i>	<i>584941</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Chadwick Lohr</i>	<i>07-24-0475</i>	<i>584943</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Chadwick Lohr</i>	<i>07-24-0475</i>	<i>584945</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Chadwick Lohr</i>	<i>07-24-0475</i>	<i>584952</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Porsche Bailey</i>	<i>07-24-0473</i>	<i>584936</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Jeremy Meredith</i>	<i>07-24-0480</i>	<i>584987</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Sharanda Gray</i>	<i>07-24-0491</i>	<i>585073</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Sam Strahan</i>	<i>07-24-0342</i>	<i>584912</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 2,000.00</i>

6) The following Upper Hazel 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-1	DEQ17084	Edward Abramson	07-24-0344	584409	Rappahannock	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	Thomas Johnson	07-24-0440	584411	Rappahannock	\$ 200.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Michael Pollack	07-24-0431	584355	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Gregory Dixon</i>	<i>07-24-0302</i>	<i>584911</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Jerry Martin</i>	<i>07-24-0489</i>	<i>585061</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Doretta Profeta</i>	<i>07-24-0482</i>	<i>585017</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 1,600.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Victor Bodanyi</i>	<i>07-24-0490</i>	<i>585063</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Monica Worth</i>	<i>07-24-0206</i>	<i>584914</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 3,200.00</i>
<i>RB-4P</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>James Marquisee</i>	<i>07-24-0481</i>	<i>584988</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 9,600.00</i>

7) The following Upper Rapidan 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-1	PO17083	Mary D'Agnese	07-24-0435	584399	Greene	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17083	James O'Reilly	07-24-0439	584407	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17083	Barbara McDaniel	07-24-0059	584277	Madison	\$ 320.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Richard Durrer	07-24-0427	584131	Greene	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Mary Skidmore	07-24-0437	584403	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17083	David Snead	07-24-0430	584354	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Linda McMullen</i>	<i>07-24-0476</i>	<i>584954</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Linda McMullen</i>	<i>07-24-0476</i>	<i>584955</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Katherine Shepherd</i>	<i>07-24-0471</i>	<i>584932</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Claude Hall</i>	<i>07-24-0477</i>	<i>584959</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>

8) 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	PO17407	Old South Farm LLC	07-24-0429	584348	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Carolyn Jobe	07-24-0449	584435	Orange	\$ 1,600.00
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Derrick Poindexter</i>	<i>07-24-0472</i>	<i>584934</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 1,600.00</i>

9) The following Upper York River 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	PO17407	Libby Ramey	07-24-0211	576067	Orange	\$ 200.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Lisa Atkinson</i>	<i>07-24-0346</i>	<i>582430</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
RB-3M	PO17407	Carolyn Jobe	07-24-0449	584435	Orange	\$ 760.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Jenny Chitwood	07-24-0381	583222	Orange	\$ 270.00

10) The following Upper Rapidan River 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	PO17083	Marilyn C Barrow Trust	07-23-0096	516412	Orange	\$ 575.00

11) The following Mountain Run, Muddy Run, and Lower Hazel River 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	PO17406	James McCabe	07-24-0403	583630	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17406</i>	<i>Paula Moore</i>	<i>07-24-0415</i>	<i>583811</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 320.00</i>

12) The following Robinson River 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	DEQ17220	Geraldine Roach	07-24-0291	581116	Madison	\$ 320.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Brian Baird	07-24-0290	582461	Madison	\$ 1,828.75
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>John Giannico</i>	<i>07-24-0385</i>	<i>583363</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Sharon Ryder</i>	<i>07-24-0263</i>	<i>579105</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 187.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Elizabeth Apple</i>	<i>07-24-0034</i>	<i>533566</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 187.50</i>

13) The following Residential participants have been canceled by the Technical Committee:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	PO17083	Jeffrey Shifflett	07-23-0451	527983	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Jamie Carpenter	07-23-0385	525080	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	James Humes	07-24-0036	547645	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Judy Fray	07-24-0343	582349	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO16974	Carolyn Jobe	07-23-0469	528170	Orange	\$ 1,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ17083	Marilyn C Barrow Trust	07-23-0096	521504	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Edward Abramson	07-24-0344	582357	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Barbara McDaniel	07-24-0059	541937	Madison	\$ 1,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Natalie Balents	07-23-0448	527980	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Jason Burkett	07-24-0140	561934	Rappahannock	\$ 1,000.00
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Douglas Carpenter</i>	<i>07-24-0375</i>	<i>583004</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Sam Strahan</i>	<i>07-24-0342</i>	<i>582348</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Gregory Dixon</i>	<i>07-24-0302</i>	<i>581210</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 1,000.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Monica Worth</i>	<i>07-24-0206</i>	<i>576033</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 1,600.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Elizabeth Brantley</i>	<i>07-24-0326</i>	<i>582014</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 1,500.00</i>

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

- Annual dam inspection dates are April 3rd and 4th. Backup dates are April 10th and 11th. Anyone wishing to attend should notify the District Manager.
- Recent storms have deposited woody debris on several dams. This will need to be removed prior to annual spring mowing.
- The District Manager attended a Dam Safety Group Meeting.

R. Brame recused himself from the Board Meeting prior to the Technical Committee Report. R. Bradford announced that the District received two quotes for clearing debris from dams prior to starting the bidding process for mowing and maintenance. The quotes were received in the amounts of \$7,950 and \$5,800. R. Bradford moved to accept the quote of \$5,800 and approve the Technical Committee Report as presented. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, T. O'Halloran, unanimous)

6) CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS

R. Runkle moved that the Board go into Closed Session at 10:14 A.M. as provided for in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A) (1) to discuss Personnel Matters. The Associate Directors and the District Manager were invited to attend. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, T. O'Halloran, unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 10:41 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. Brame seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, R. Brame, unanimous)

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

7) DIRECTOR REPORTS

D. Verhoff reported on the current activity of bluebirds and phoebes in the area. He noted that both species are present and engaged in their natural behaviors.

S. Sharpe provided an update on her recent Beef Meeting in Greene County, noting that approximately 60 individuals were in attendance. She highlighted the engaging legal discussions regarding leases and fence laws. S. Sharpe also mentioned that the homesteading workshop is ongoing, with an impressive average of 200-300 online participants joining each week.

L. Graves informed the Board that he had taken part in a monthly call with the VASWCD and that the upcoming Association Board Meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2024. Since this conflicts with the planned dam maintenance inspections, he will be unable to attend the dam maintenance inspections as previously scheduled.

A. Jewett reported that he recently attended the Friends of the Rappahannock Meeting, during which he received favorable feedback from a Rappahannock landowner regarding the District's ongoing efforts.

8) STAFF REPORTS

S. DeNicola reported that Watershed Field Days are scheduled to commence next week and run through the end of April. Additionally, she informed the Board that the tree sale is ongoing, and orders are still being accepted, with all species currently still available. The seedlings are scheduled to be picked up on March 19th.

R. Jacobs provided an update on his recent meeting with Culpeper County and the Town of Culpeper to raise awareness about the District's new TMDL grant and enhance the understanding of Town and County staff. The discussions included valuable suggestions for outreach, such as increasing the use of social media and signage. R. Jacobs informed the Board that the public comment period for the new Stormwater and Erosion Handbook, as well as the new Runoff Reduction Spreadsheet (version 4.0) for calculating stormwater pollutant loadings, is currently underway. Additionally, he shared that development pressure for Data Centers and Solar Farms continues to increase. There are two more data centers that have been proposed in Culpeper County, and three more solar farms in Orange County.

D. Massie reported that he had the opportunity to speak at a unique event for new landowners in Rappahannock County, which was hosted by PEC and the Rappahannock League of Environmental Protection. He noted that the event exceeded his expectations and was beneficial. He was also invited to

speak at the 21st Annual Cattle College hosted by Rose Hill Veterinary Clinic to discuss the impact of the Bay Bill and agricultural programmatic updates for livestock producers.

G. Wichelns informed the Board that the District currently has three ALE USDA Ag Easements ready for signature, which will be co-held with PEC: Goodall Farm, M&W Farm LLC, and Willis Farm. A motion was made by T. O'Halloran to authorize Lynn Graves to sign these easements. R. Runkle seconded the motion. (T. O'Halloran, R. Runkle, unanimous)

G. Wichelns also updated the Board on the ongoing changes related to easements that do not involve USDA, noting that without USDA involvement, the District may need to make decisions related to farm conservation management. As the language of these changes is finalized, Wichelns will continue to update the Board. He also reported that he has been assisting new DEQ staff in developing Implementation Plans as they navigate the recent staff turnover within the agency. G. Wichelns also reported that the District will be hosting a Conservation Programs Update Workshop in Madison on March 15th and the Area II Spring Meeting in Orange on April 17th.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS- R. Rexrode submitted a written report. He stated that the office is currently operating under the same budget status due to Congress not yet approving budgets. He also informed the Board that there have been no staff changes within the office. R. Rexrode reported that three easements are in the process of closing and that the initial preapprovals have been obligated.

DCR- D. Cross presented a written report, highlighting key points for discussion. She emphasized that Phase I of New Director Training is now available online, with Phase II scheduled to take place in person at upcoming Area Spring Meetings. D. Cross reminded the Board that FY24 Q3 reports are due on April 15th and noted that Extension Agent Appointments expire on December 31st, with nominations for replacements due in September. She also reminded the Board that contracts requiring carryover must be submitted to Sara Bottenfield before May 15th. D. cross commended the District staff for their efficient allocation of VACS funds.

VDOF- E. Furlow informed the Board that the Department's Annual Report has been published and is now accessible on the website. Additionally, he reported that Ash Borer and Hemlock Cost Share Programs are currently available for enrollment and that Pine and Hardwood seedlings are available. E. Furlow also provided an overview of recent staff changes within the Department.

10) PLAN FOR MARCH COMMITTEE MEETINGS (IN PERSON)

Committees will meet at the Madison Extension Office on Tuesday, March 19, 2024. Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, Technical 10:00. The Education Committee will meet on the same day at the Madison Extension Office at 3:30. **BOARD MEETING FOR APRIL WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 AM ON TUESDAY, April 2, 2024, in person, at the Madison Extension Office in Madison County.**

11) ADJOURNMENT

L. Graves motioned to adjourn the March 2024 Board meeting at 11:25 AM. D. Verhoff seconded the motion. (L. Graves, D. Verhoff, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted,
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary

Lynn Graves, Chairman

Date Approved _____, 2024