

MINUTES
CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Madison County Extension Office
Madison County, Virginia
December 3, 2024

DRAFT

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 10:02 AM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Lynn Graves, Madison County
Mike Sands, Rappahannock County
Robert Williamson, Culpeper County
David Cox, Greene County
Dennis Verhoff, Culpeper County
Robert Runkle, Greene County
Anthony Jewett, Madison County
Robert Bradford, Orange County
Robert Brame, Orange County
Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County
Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County
Molly Elgin, Associate Director, Orange County

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT:

Steve Morris, At-Large Director, Greene County

STAFF PRESENT:

Greg Wichelns, District Manager
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist
Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist
Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist
Stephanie DeNicola, Education Specialist
Becky Haines, Program Assistant
Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist
David Massie, Conservation Specialist
Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist
Cheyenne Sheridan, Conservation Specialist
Lily Smith, Conservation Specialist
Trevor Talley, Conservation Specialist
W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

Luke Bello, Greene County Extension Agent
Rex Rexrode, NRCS
Debbie Cross, DCR
Kinner Ingram, VDOF
Ed Furlow, VDOF
Madeline Kenerly, VDOF

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

L. Graves called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM. Following a moment of silence, S. Yager led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were five handouts: Technical Committee Additions, three Staff Reports, and DCR Report.

2) **DRAFT MINUTES**

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the November 5, 2024, Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. M. Sands moved to approve the Minutes as presented. M. Biniek seconded the motion. (M. Sands, M. Biniek, 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. R. Williamson moved to adopt the Agenda as modified. D. Verhoff seconded the motion. (R. Williamson, D. Verhoff, unanimous)

4) **CONSENT AGENDA**

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
 TREASURER’S REPORT

5) **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

5.1) **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT WITH ADDITIONS**

November 19, 2024 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes (Updated)

Present: Robert Bradford, Chairman; Lynn Graves, Madison; Mike Sands, Rappahannock; Greg Wichelns, District Manager; Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist; David Massie, Conservation Specialist; Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist; Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist; Lily Smith, Conservation Specialist; Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist; Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist; Trevor Talley, Conservation Specialist; Becky Haines, Program Assistant

Items in italics were added at the December 3, 2024 Board Meeting in Madison, Virginia

1) The following Conservation Plans were thoroughly reviewed by the Technical Committee and recommended for Board approval:

Jana Froeling	CP-7-25-0042
Jamie Brown	CP-7-25-0043
Lazy Creek Farm Inc.	CP-7-25-0044
<i>Philip Chea</i>	<i>CP-7-25-0046</i>

2) 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-CNT	2025 VACS	Goodwin Brothers LLC	07-25-0361	646148	Orange	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 0.00
FR-1	2025 VACS	Theodore Bujewski	07-25-0355	645957	Madison	\$ 13,625.00	\$ 0.00
NM-3C	2025 VACS	Wedderburn Farm	07-25-0342	645453	Culpeper	\$ 492.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6N	2025 VACS	Ronald Taylor	07-25-0366	646233	Orange	\$ 20,353.80	\$ 3,392.30
SL-6W	2025 VACS	Jana Froeling	07-25-0358	646058	Rappahannock	\$ 31,083.60	\$ 490.10
SL-7	2025 VACS	Jana Froeling	07-25-0358	646061	Rappahannock	\$ 5,931.20	\$ 370.70
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Glenburnie Farm LLC	07-25-0290	642634	Orange	\$ 720.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Glenburnie Farm LLC	07-25-0290	640819	Orange	\$ 990.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Jacob Sisk	07-25-0322	642912	Madison	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00

SL-8B	2025 VACS	Wedderburn Farm	07-25-0342	645449	Culpeper	\$ 11,900.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Thomas Clark	07-25-0259	633871	Culpeper	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Thomas Clark	07-25-0356	646001	Culpeper	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	American Heritage Family Farm, Inc.	07-25-0357	646006	Culpeper	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Goodwin Brothers LLC	07-25-0349	645584	Orange	\$ 24,700.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Goodwin Brothers LLC	07-25-0349	645585	Orange	\$ 890.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Mine Run Ag Inc.	07-25-0344	645577	Orange	\$ 38,650.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Mine Run Ag Inc.	07-25-0360	646092	Orange	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Alexander T. Stumpf	07-25-0353	645597	Orange	\$ 6,570.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Piedmont Grain & Cattle Inc.	07-25-0347	645582	Orange	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Piedmont Grain & Cattle Inc.	07-25-0348	645583	Orange	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Marshall Dairy	07-25-0345	645579	Orange	\$ 37,100.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Marshall Dairy	07-25-0345	645578	Orange	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Bobby McDaniel	07-25-0379	646358	Greene	\$ 3,340.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Glenmary Farm LLC	07-25-0372	646275	Culpeper	\$ 62,934.80	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Glenmary Farm LLC	07-25-0372	646276	Orange	\$ 2,618.20	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Western View LLC	07-25-0373	646281	Culpeper	\$158,545.60	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Western View LLC	07-25-0373	646282	Orange	\$ 11,094.60	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Glenmary Farm Holdings LLC	07-25-0374	646286	Culpeper	\$114,456.80	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Glenmary Farm Holdings LLC	07-25-0374	646287	Culpeper	\$ 17,136.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Nixon Farms LLC	07-25-0375	646289	Culpeper	\$ 7,665.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Cleveland Farm LLC.	07-25-0351	645591	Orange	\$ 59,444.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Cleveland Farm LLC.	07-25-0351	645592	Orange	\$ 769.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	C.R. Tanner & Sons	07-25-0362	646224	Madison	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	C.R. Tanner & Sons	07-25-0362	646225	Madison	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-25-0377	646355	Madison	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Lazy Creek Farm Inc	07-25-0378	646357	Madison	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Brooke Farms	07-25-0380	646361	Orange	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Shepherd Sons Farm	07-25-0352	645593	Madison	\$ 47,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-SL-6W	2025 VACS	Timothy Bryan	07-25-0044	590209	Culpeper	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 0.00
FR-3	2025 VACS	Philip Chea	07-25-0179	646917	Madison	\$ 13,425.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Terri Elgin	07-25-0386	646788	Orange	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	William E. McDaniel	07-25-0384	646739	Greene	\$ 9,813.20	\$ 0.00
SL-8H	2025 VACS	Henshaw & Sons Farm LLC	07-25-0395	647065	Madison	\$ 1,340.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Tatum Farm LLC	07-25-0397	647093	Madison	\$ 19,350.00	\$ 0.00
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Timothy Cheek	07-25-0289	640774	Greene	\$ 6,930.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2025 VACS	James Morris	07-25-0381	646487	Greene	\$ 42,097.80	\$ 0.00

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
CCI-SL-6W	2025 VACS	Grassroots Livestock	07-25-0330	643633	Culpeper	\$ 3,125.00	\$ 0.00
NM-3C	2024 VACS	AJ Miller Farms, LLC	07-24-0576	586804	Madison	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 0.00
FR-1	2025 VACS	Theodore Bujewski	07-25-0011	592998	Madison	\$ 9,355.25	\$ 612.94
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-25-0377	646355	Madison	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Jett Farms Inc.	07-25-0299	641929	Madison	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Goodwin Brothers LLC	07-25-0361	646148	Orange	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Lazy Creek Farm Inc	07-25-0378	646357	Madison	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Brooke Farms	07-25-0380	646361	Orange	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-CNT	2025 VACS	Shepherd Sons Farm	07-25-0352	645593	Madison	\$ 47,500.00	\$ 0.00
SL-1	2025 VACS	Richard Carpenter	07-25-0023	589922	Madison	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6N	2022 VACS	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0381	476271	Madison	\$ 15,622.88	\$2,768.85
SL-6N	2023 VACS Transfer	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0381	476271	Madison	\$ 596.25	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Timothy Pent	07-24-0303	581708	Madison	\$ 52,528.50	\$1,541.75

SL-6W	2025 VACS	Spencer Yager	07-25-0184	622508	Orange	\$ 12,319.20	\$ 142.20
SL-6W	2022 VACS	10 Gables Farm LLC*	07-22-0006	431894	Madison	\$ 42,389.95	\$2,559.70
SL-6W	2023 VACS Transfer	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0006	431894	Madison	\$ 4,629.05	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2022 VACS	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0259	469640	Madison	\$ 2,904.00	\$ 201.50
SL-7	2023 VACS Transfer	10 Gables Farm LLC	07-22-0259	469640	Madison	\$ 320.00	\$ 0.00

*The Technical Committee approved an increase of \$486.00 of 2022 VACS funding due to additional footage of pipeline required due to rock.

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
SL-8B	2025 VACS	Merlyn Koontz*	07-25-0275	636129	Orange	\$ 1,980.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2025 VACS	Erica Gore**	07-25-0102	596758	Culpeper	\$ 9,053.00	\$ 0.00

*The Technical Committee approved an increase of \$220.00 for the triticale bonus.

**The Technical Committee approved an increase for culvert pipe extensions to satisfy auxiliary spillway requirements and stone along the entire walkway of culvert crossings.

5) The following BMP participant has been cancelled by the Technical Committee:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
SL-6W	2020 VACS	Michael DiGeronimo	07-20-0347	383783	Madison	\$ 60,533.25	\$ 0.00

6) 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-3M	PO17406	Lynda Smet*	07-25-0269	634283	Culpeper	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3	PO17406	Gerald Hoffman**	07-25-0149	640654	Culpeper	\$ 3,750.00

*Lynda Smet increased to RB-3M Level 2

**Gerald Hoffman increased from RB-3M to RB-3.

7) The following Robinson River Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	DEQ17220	John Green	07-25-0365	646229	Madison	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Jeffrey Jorgensen	07-25-0369	646240	Madison	\$ 292.50
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Brian Galasso	07-25-0240	646254	Madison	\$ 5,200.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Hair of the Hound LLC	07-25-0370	646261	Madison	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Joanna Faulconer	07-25-0367	646234	Madison	\$ 1,625.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Kimberly Henry	07-25-0392	647052	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-3	DEQ17220	Janet Hyler	07-25-0239	646999	Madison	\$ 4,500.00

8) The following Locally Funded applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	Locally Funded	Richard Juantilla	07-25-0371	646269	Orange	\$ 225.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Richard Juantilla	07-25-0371	646271	Orange	\$ 225.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Kelly Greer	07-25-0376	646291	Greene	\$ 225.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Amanda Hidalgo De La Cruz	07-25-0343	645451	Madison	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Adam Collins	07-25-0368	646236	Greene	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Don Brauninger	07-25-0340	645443	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Rachel Ricci	07-25-0341	645446	Rappahannock	\$ 3,250.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Rupert W. Quaintance III	07-25-0383	646505	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Lance Gray	07-25-0394	647062	Greene	\$ 247.50
RB-1	Locally Funded	Julia Dickey	07-25-0393	647055	Greene	\$ 292.50
RB-1	Locally Funded	Kennon Copeland	07-25-0043	646517	Greene	\$ 225.00

<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>David Mack</i>	<i>07-25-0318</i>	<i>646514</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 292.50</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>George S. Cook</i>	<i>07-25-0385</i>	<i>646740</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 2,600.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Michael Diangelo</i>	<i>07-25-0390</i>	<i>647047</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 3,250.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Thomas Atkins</i>	<i>07-25-0049</i>	<i>646751</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 3,250.00</i>
<i>RB-4</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Timothy Smith</i>	<i>07-25-0396</i>	<i>647067</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 6,250.00</i>

9) 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-3M	PO17083	Carl Howe	07-25-0272	646117	Orange	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Laura Brunelle	07-25-0122	644110	Greene	\$ 3,250.00

10) 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	Annette Storie	07-25-0354	645608	Orange	\$ 2,600.00
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Kenwood Farm LLC</i>	<i>07-25-0241</i>	<i>6646743</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 1,625.00</i>
<i>RB-3</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Jennifer Angus</i>	<i>07-25-0333</i>	<i>643699</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 4,875.00</i>

11) 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>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>William G Neal</i>	<i>07-25-0388</i>	<i>646856</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Michael Murphy</i>	<i>07-25-0201</i>	<i>647064</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>William H Collins</i>	<i>07-25-0387</i>	<i>646854</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,787.50</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>David J. Lunglhofer</i>	<i>07-25-0391</i>	<i>647051</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,625.00</i>

12) 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-3M	PO17406	Angela Kouwenhoven	07-24-0591	586961	Culpeper	\$ 2,962.50
RB-3M	PO17406	Lynda Smet	07-25-0269	634283	Culpeper	\$ 2,825.00
RB-4	PO17406	Rick Powers	07-24-0453	588669	Culpeper	\$ 4,000.00

13) The following Locally Funded 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	Locally Funded	Yvonne Kesser	07-25-0267	634263	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Richard DiGirolamo	07-25-0336	643951	Culpeper	\$ 1,905.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Diane Carter</i>	<i>07-25-0321</i>	<i>642673</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Edwin Webster</i>	<i>07-25-0223</i>	<i>625067</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>John Griffin</i>	<i>07-25-0231</i>	<i>625417</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 247.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Dennis Bane</i>	<i>07-25-0117</i>	<i>598495</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 206.25</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Amy Midkiff</i>	<i>07-25-0217</i>	<i>624851</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 207.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Gerrit Degraff</i>	<i>07-25-0199</i>	<i>623561</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 180.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>William Noakes</i>	<i>07-25-0121</i>	<i>598619</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 228.25</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>William Noakes</i>	<i>07-25-0121</i>	<i>607721</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 228.25</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>David Atkins Sr</i>	<i>07-25-0143</i>	<i>608258</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>David Atkins Sr</i>	<i>07-25-0143</i>	<i>608410</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>David Atkins Sr</i>	<i>07-25-0143</i>	<i>607468</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Mary Seymour</i>	<i>07-25-0310</i>	<i>642052</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 225.50</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Michael Davis</i>	<i>07-25-0063</i>	<i>590934</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 2,475.00</i>

14) 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	Carl Howe	07-25-0272	646117	Orange	\$ 1,463.50
RB-4	PO17083	Kevin Lamb	07-24-0552	586215	Orange	\$ 6,000.00

15) 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	Ray Berry	07-25-0303	641944	Madison	\$ 337.50
RB-1	DEQ17220	Ruth Nicholson	07-25-0213	624580	Culpeper	\$ 320.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Kay Backe	07-24-0610	587257	Madison	\$ 320.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Michael Wood	07-25-0319	642177	Madison	\$ 212.50
RB-1	DEQ17220	Herman Racer	07-25-0120	598590	Madison	\$ 300.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Janet Brown	07-25-0118	598574	Madison	\$ 262.50
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Mark Frye	07-24-0628	587557	Madison	\$ 206.25

16) The following Upper 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	PO17084	Patrick Gardner, Jr.	07-24-0667	588618	Madison	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17084	James Blubaugh	07-25-0190	623192	Rappahannock	\$ 187.50
RB-1	PO17084	Stephen Bullock	07-24-0603	587245	Rappahannock	\$ 200.00
RB-1	PO17084	Nathaniel Merritt	07-25-0228	625082	Culpeper	\$ 212.50

17) The following Residential participants have been cancelled 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-3M	DEQ17220	Brian Galasso	07-25-0240	628285	Madison	\$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Hair of the Hound LLC	07-24-0639	588379	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Carl Howe	07-25-0272	635546	Orange	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Mary Ann Ginsberg	07-25-0153	611037	Rappahannock	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Laura Brunelle	07-25-0122	598638	Greene	\$ 1,625.00
RB-1	PO17407	Kenwood Farm LLC	07-25-0241	628310	Orange	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	Deborah Sawyer	07-24-0534	586059	Culpeper	\$ 300.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Janet Hyler	07-25-0239	628240	Madison	\$ 1,950.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Kennon Copeland	07-25-0043	590163	Greene	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Thomas Atkins	07-25-0049	590328	Rappahannock	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	David Mack	07-24-0318	642174	Greene	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Michael Murphy	07-25-0201	623676	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00

18) 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>
RG (NFWF Maintenance)	Elizabeth Winters	Orange	\$ 5,224.27

19) 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>
Bioretention	Culpeper County	Culpeper	\$ 30,000.00

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

- a. Wave berm construction on Mountain Run #13 (Merrimac) has been completed. The contractor will seed and mulch soon. The District will soon receive funds for the beaver removal, sediment removal from the primary spillway, and debris associated with the clean-up.

- b. Concrete repairs have been completed on Mountain Run #8A (Caynor) and Mountain Run #13 (Merrimac). Beavers are present at this time at both locations, and removal will commence soon.
- c. The wave berm construction, gate valve replacement, and dam embankment regrading on Beautiful Run #1B will begin soon. Iron work on the primary spillway may be included in the scope of work.
- d. The District has applied for funds for the design and construction of a wave berm and gate valve replacement at Beautiful Run #6.

- 21) A request was made to the District for one-time assistance to replant a FR-1 practice (tree planting), which experienced a failure due to drought. This request will be sent to DCR for approval.
- 22) The Technical Committee reviewed the Annual Plan of Work. The Committee felt that all was being addressed. *During the review, there was discussion on the ever-growing administrative burden that Staff is experiencing with the VACS Program. A request was made to communicate some of our concerns to appropriate individuals at Virginia Farm Bureau, Virginia Agribusiness Council, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Of particular concern, but not solely, is the inordinate amount of time being spent on the computer and how this is negatively impacting Staff's time with clients in the field. Numerous other Districts have the same concerns.*
- 23) The Technical Committee Chairman requests authority from the Board to approve any new applications, payments, and associated tax credits before the end of the calendar year.
- 24) *On November 15, 2024, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas J. Vilsack, determined that the drought conditions in Virginia warranted a Secretarial natural disaster designation. This affects cover crop planting dates for the cost share program. The Technical Committee Chairman requests that the Board grant an extension of up to 14 days beyond the standard planting dates for SL-8, SL-8A, SL-8B, SL-8H, SL-8M, NM-7, WFA-CC, and WQ-4 practices. District Staff will make appropriate notes and documentation in each contract file.*

R. Bradford made a motion to grant an extension of up to 14 days beyond the standard planting dates for the practices named in Extreme Acts of Nature letter from the Secretary of Agriculture, Thomas Vilsack. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

R. Bradford made a motion to accept the Technical Committee Report with Additions. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

6) CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS AND LITIGATION

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) and (7) to discuss Personnel Matters and Possible Litigation. The Associate Directors and the District Manager were invited to attend. R. Bradford seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, R. Bradford, unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 10:25 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". D. Cox seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, D. Cox, unanimous)

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

7) DIRECTOR REPORTS

S. Sharpe informed the Board that Greg Lillard has been appointed to the Agriculture Extension Agent position in Madison County. She further noted that she is currently in the process of planning several workshops, though the specific dates have not yet been confirmed. These workshops will cover topics including Beef Nutrition, How to Start a Farm, Farm Economy, Farm Transition Planning, and Starting a Farm as a Business.

R. Brame expressed his sincere appreciation to the District for selecting him as the recipient of the Conservationist of the Year award. He provided a reflective account of his involvement with the District and the improvements made to his land, dating back to before his tenure as a Director.

A. Jewett conveyed that he is personally acquainted with Greg Lillard and expressed confidence in his qualifications and that he is an excellent choice to fill the Agriculture Extension Agent position in Madison County.

R. Williamson reported on his participation in both the Virginia AgriBusiness Council meeting and the Virginia Farm Bureau Legislative meeting, each attended by several key figures from the General Assembly. He highlighted that both organizations voiced their support for the District's position regarding the alleviation of the growing administrative burden placed on staff.

L. Graves reported that approximately 300 individuals attended the Envirothon Training event at Graves Mountain Lodge. He extended commendations to Stephanie for her exemplary organization of the event, noting that he received numerous positive remarks regarding her efforts. He also reported that he will be attending the VASWCD Annual Meeting in Roanoke next week.

8) STAFF REPORTS

S. DeNicola reported that she thoroughly enjoyed hosting the Envirothon, which was a success. She reminded the Board about the ongoing tree sale and provided an update, noting that about a dozen orders have already been received.

R. Jacobs reported that he will be co-hosting a Rain Garden and Native Plants workshop with Ashley Appling from Virginia Cooperative Extension at the Carver Center on December 5, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. He stated that 16 individuals are currently registered to attend. Additionally, he mentioned that he will be participating in a meeting with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) next week to discuss revisions to the Stormwater Handbook.

G. Wichelns extended congratulations to staff for their outstanding efforts in hosting the Awards Banquet in November. He also recognized Kendall and Spencer for their exemplary work in relocating the office in Orange while successfully managing their existing workload. He then provided an update on the 319 grants for the Lower Rapidan (E. coli impairment) and North Fork Rivanna (Benthic impairment and E. coli impairment) areas, noting that the final Implementation Plan (IP) meeting has been completed, and that two draft IPs are currently undergoing the approval process. Additionally, he provided an update on the dams, reporting that one has been completed, and another is approximately 30% completed. He expressed optimism that all projects will be finalized by the end of January.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

DCR – D. Cross submitted a written report and highlighted several key items. She began by congratulating the District for hosting two recipients of the Virginia River Basin Awards: Swift Run Farm and Rocklands Farm. She then reviewed other key points from her report, including a reminder that Quarterly Reports for the second quarter of FY25 are due on January 15, 2025. She also reminded the Directors of their obligation to complete FOIA Training. Additionally, D. Cross noted that, under the Extreme Acts of Nature (EAN) provisions, the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board (VSWCB) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) have authorized Districts to extend the cover crop planting deadlines. She then informed the group that the Area Meetings scheduled for December 9 will include the election of officers—Chair and Vice-Chair—and that nominations may be submitted, with the clarification that all nominees must be active farmers. Finally, she reviewed several upcoming important dates.

NRCS – R. Rexrode reported that a member of the office staff has resigned to assist his family, leaving the position currently vacant. He also mentioned that three staff members volunteered at the Envirothon Training. Furthermore, he reported that a 700-acre Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) is

nearing closure, and that 54 EQIP projects are currently being ranked and are becoming eligible for funding.

VDOF – K. Ingram reported that the agency has hired a new Forester for Orange County, Griffin Robeson, who will begin his position on January 10th.

10) PLAN FOR DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committees will meet at the Madison Extension Office on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, Technical 10:00. The Education Committee will meet on Thursday, December 19, 2024, at the Madison County Extension Office at 3:30. **BOARD MEETING FOR JANUARY WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 AM ON TUESDAY, January 7, 2025, in person, at the Washington Fire Hall in Rappahannock County, Virginia.**

11) ADJOURNMENT

L. Graves motioned to adjourn the December 2024 Board meeting at 11:00 AM. D. Cox seconded the motion. (L. Graves, D. Cox, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted,
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist

Lynn Graves, Chairman

Date Approved: