#### **MINUTES**

#### CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING Washington Fire Hall Warren Street Washington, Virginia February 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 9:40 A.M.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Lynn Graves, Madison County

Philip Morris, Greene County

Andrew Campbell, Culpeper County Monira Rifaat, Rappahannock County

Steve Morris, Greene County Director, At Large

Robert Bradford, Orange County Robert Brame, Orange County Tom O'Halloran, Culpeper County

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Jim Byrne, Madison County Associate Director

Warren Lee, Orange County Associate Director

Robert Runkle, Greene County Steve Hill, Madison County

Brad Jarvis, Madison County, Virginia Cooperative Extension,

Associate Director

Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County

**STAFF PRESENT:** Greg Wichelns, District Manager

JoAnn Neal, Administrative Secretary W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist David Massie, Conservation Specialist Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist Amanda McCullen Conservation Specialist

E. J. Burke, Conservation Specialist

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Rex Rexrode, NRCS District Conservationist

Debbie Cross, DCR, CDC

Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County Resident

David Evans, DEQ

Jim Gehlsen, Area II Chair, Prince William SWCD

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

L. Graves welcomed everyone to Rappahannock County. Following a moment of silence, W. Spencer Yager led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were two handouts: Technical Committee Report Addendum and DCR Monthly Report. M. Rifaat introduced Mike Biniek, farmer and owner of Belle Meade Bed and Breakfast, Belle Meade School, Belle Meade Summer Camp and a Rappahannock County resident.

#### 2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of the January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 Draft Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. T. O'Halloran moved to approve as presented. P. Morris seconded the motion. (T. O'Halloran, P. Morris, unanimous)

#### 3) AGENDA APPROVAL

L. Graves called for Agenda approval. R. Bradford requested that the Technical Committee Report be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion and placed on the Agenda as 5.1. T. O'Halloran moved to approve the Agenda as amended. M. Rifaat seconded the motion. (T. O'Halloran, M. Rifaat, unanimous)

### 4) CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda approved as modified.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
EDUCATION
OPERATIONS
LEGISLATIVE

TREASURER'S REPORT

NRCS PLANS – Orange County – **Robert Wilbanks**, 42 acs. EQIP-NBWG fence, Weed Ctrl.,
WSG Planting, Prescribed Graze
Culpeper County-**Robert Mayo**, 6.6 acs. EQIP-Wildlife, Weed Ctrl.,
Pollinator Planting., Cover Crop
Nifen Gaber, 1 ac. EQIP- High Tunnel
Full Moon Farm LLC, 1 ac. EQIP-Heavy use Area
Madison County-William Birkhofer, 3 acs., EQIP-Wildlife, Weed Ctrl.,
Pollinator Planting
Kenneth Burt, 4.3 acs., EQIP-Wildlife, Weed Ctrl., Brush
Ctrl., Cover Crop, Pollinator Planting
Rappahannock County-Mt. Vernon Farm LLC, 50 acs., EQIP-NBWG-fence,
Weed Ctrl., WSG Planting, Prescribe Graze,

Tree/Shrub plant

#### 5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA –

#### **5.1) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT-**

Items in italics were added at the February 6, 2018 Board Meeting in Rappahannock 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>	Contract #	Instance #	<b>County</b>	<u>Amount</u>	Tax Credit
SL-6	2018 CB VACS	Christine S. Goodall	07-18-0324	302141	Madison	\$ 68,777.36	\$ 4,298.59
FR-3	2018 CB VACS	Culton S. Goodall Estate	07-18-0373	302693	Madison	\$ 17,875.00	\$ 0.00
FR-1	2018 CB VACS	Culton S. Goodall Estate	07-18-0373	302694	Madison	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6	2018 CB VACS	Rock Angus Beef	07-18-0379	302765	Orange	\$ 60,256.60	\$ 3,766.00
SL-6	2018 CB VACS	Beauregard Farm LP	07-18-0363	302639	Culpeper	\$ 20,967.50	\$ 1,048.68
CCI-SE1	2018 CB VACS	Bruce Bowman	07-18-0352	302577	Madison	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-SE1	2018 CB VACS	Meadow Grove Farm LLC	07-18-0346	302412	Rappahannock	\$ 2,290.00	\$ 0.00
CCI-SE1	2018 CB VACS	Charles Johnson	07-18-0377	302698	Rappahannock	\$ 2,123.00	\$ 0.00

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

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	<u>Instance</u>	<b>County</b>	<u>Amount</u>	Tax Credit
SL-6	2017 SL-6 Earmark	JG & JR Goodwin	07-15-0377	208937	Orange	\$ 121,898.40	\$ 0.00
WP-4F	2017 VACS	Heavenly Acres Farm	07-17-0172	265432	Greene	\$ 17,179.83	\$1,431.65

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

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	Instance	County	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Debbie Clifford	07-18-0336	302174	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Ken Pankous	07-18-0343	302324	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Kenneth Whitlock	07-18-0351	302541	Culpeper	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Richard Larson	07-18-0359	302618	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	David Hall	07-18-0345	302407	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Robert Ritz	07-18-0347	302481	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Barbara Kile	07-18-0349	302525	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Judy Walsh	07-18-0350	302519	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Lawrence Giesting	07-18-0353	302593	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Robert Gilmore	07-18-0354	302595	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Steven Amadon	07-18-0355	302607	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Orvis Thorpe	07-18-0356	302608	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Donn Shinn	07-18-0364	302652	Culpeper	\$ 195.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Leslie Gredler	07-18-0366	30265	Culpeper	\$ 195.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Michael Gantley	07-18-0376	302697	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Jeff Clark	07-18-0380	302766	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	John Jones	07-18-0357	302609	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Steven Droubay	07-18-0361	302621	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Alan Yost	07-18-0370	302688	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Donna Martin	07-18-0382	302787	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Simone Kiere	07-18-0392	302911	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Winifred McEwen	07-18-0390	302874	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	George W. Ellis	07-18-0412	302983	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Brandon L. Payne	07-18-0414	302985	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Melyssa S. Dove	07-18-0416	302987	Culpeper	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Ian S. Masson	07-18-0348	302989	Culpeper	\$ 180.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Leslie Gredler	07-18-0366	302990	Culpeper	\$ 1,500.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Halle Montague	07-18-0418	302991	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Halle Montague	07-18-0418	302992	Culpeper	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Frederick Delf	07-18-0419	302993	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Gregory Lohr	07-18-0397	302935	Greene	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Thomas Czar	07-18-0398	302942	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Fred Daus	07-18-0401	302949	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Francis Allen	07-18-0403	302951	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	John Hayes	07-18-0407	302976	Greene	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Jennifer Terrasi	07-18-0409	302978	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Meredith Forbes	07-18-0421	302996	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Carolyn Forbes	07-18-0238	302998	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-4	DEQNPSWQIF	Jennifer Stillman	07-18-0423	303018	Orange	\$ 4,000.00

# 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-1	DEQ16546	Robert Smith, Sr.	07-18-0344	302326	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16546	Susan Hartman	07-18-0389	302819	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00

# 5) The following Upper Rapidan Residential applicants have been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract 1	<u>nstance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Joyce Estes	07-18-0375	302696	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Patricia Holland	07-18-0371	302690	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Virginia Carver	07-18-0369	302670	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Margot Bologna	07-18-0367	302656	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Dana Lohr	07-18-0365	302654	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Kenneth Lohr	07-18-0362	302622	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQ-FY16RFA	Donna Martin	07-18-0382	302786	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Gregory Lohr	07-18-0397	302936	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Gregory Lohr	07-18-0397	302937	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Leonard Lenoci	07-18-0406	302975	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Bernie Thomas	07-18-0408	302977	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Robert Bradford	07-18-0405	302969	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Robert Bradford	07-18-0405	302994	Orange	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Tawanna Ellis	07-18-0420	302995	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Cindy Johnson	07-18-0424	303019	Madison	\$ 1,000.00

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

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Gregory Lohr	07-18-0368	302658	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-3R	DEQFY16RFA	Kenneth Lohr	07-18-0362	302623	Madison	\$ 1,000.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Darlene Lewis	07-18-0383	302792	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Stacy Helmic	07-18-0387	302810	Madison	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Barbara Boyles	07-18-0397	302913	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Jason McDaniel	07-18-0394	302922	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Dennis McDaniel	07-18-0395	302923	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Marian Bowler	07-18-0386	302809	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Ruth Nicholson	07-18-0411	302982	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Benny Barnes	07-18-0399	302947	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Rosa Page	07-18-0410	302980	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQPOI6119	Donald Tatum	07-18-0425	303020	Madison	\$ 1,000.00

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

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	Instance	<b>County</b>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Anna Seitzer	07-18-0374	302695	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Mark Brown	07-18-0372	302692	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Sarah Baker	07-18-0358	302615	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Tracy Henry	07-18-0378	302763	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Kelly Williams	07-18-0400	302948	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-3	DEQ16547R	Mary Highlander	07-18-0372	302950	Orange	\$ 2,500.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Linda Armstrong	07-18-0404	302952	Orange	\$ 150.00

# 8) 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	Andrea Fancher	07-18-0156	300445	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Jerry Curtis	07-18-0289	301943	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Violet Dinkle	07-18-0165	300739	Madison	\$ 240.00

RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Robert Witt	07-18-0285	301884	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Carol Turley-Shaner	07-18-0117	298655	Culpeper	\$ 135.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Ensiyyah Nahidian	07-18-0315	302086	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Steve Edwards	07-18-0119	298785	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Rita Nickle	07-18-0264	301537	Culpeper	\$ 760.00
RB-3	DEQNPSWQIF	Denise Siemssen	07-18-0053	298877	Culpeper	\$ 1,375.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Lawrence Giesting	07-18-0353	302593	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Michael Zummo	07-18-0295	301980	Orange	\$ 137.50
RB-3	DEQNPSWQIF	Nancy Smith	07-18-0157	300486	Culpeper	\$ 825.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Margot Bologna*	07-18-0239	301366	Greene	\$ 165.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Steven Loughman	07-18-0077	292623	Orange	\$ 112.50
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Sara White	07-18-0158	300487	Culpeper	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	James McCabe	07-18-0337	302189	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-3R	DEQNPSWQIF	Leigh Powell	07-18-0125	298870	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Brandon L. Payne	07-18-0414	302985	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Randall Rhoades	07-17-0558	274604	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Donna Aiken	07-18-0327	302148	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-5	DEQNPSWQIF	William Spillman III	07-17-0460	272421	Culpeper	\$10,000.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Richard Henry	07-18-0292	301969	Greene	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQNPSWQIF	Antonia Florence**	07-18-0132	299546	Greene	\$ 225.00

# 9) The following Upper Hazel Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQ16546	Bonnie LaRocque	07-18-0302	301988	Culpeper	\$ 195.00
RB-1	DEQ16546	Janice Palleria	07-18-0330	302151	Culpeper	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16546	David Ryczko	07-18-0284	301880	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQ16546	Randi Shumate	07-18-0220	301280	Rappahannock	\$ 150.00

# 10) The following Upper Rapidan Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	<b>Instance</b>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQ-FY16RFA	Herbert Collier	07-18-0331	302153	Orange	\$ 195.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	James Estes	07-18-0224	301286	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Craig Humes*	07-18-0240	301367	Greene	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Wayne Durrer	07-18-0297	301982	Madison	\$ 150.00
<i>RB-1</i>	DEQFY16RFA	Gregoire Gasparini	07-18-0040	301022	Orange	\$ 150.00
<i>RB-1</i>	DEQFY16RFA	Gregoire Gasparini	07-18-0040	301023	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Carolyn Suter	07-18-0303	301989	Madison	\$ 150.00
<i>RB-1</i>	DEQFY16RFA	Jesse Hodges	07-18-0225	301339	Greene	\$ 150.00

<sup>\*</sup>Craig Humes cost share increased from 50% to 75%.

# 11) The following Robinson Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<b>Practice</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<u>Participant</u>	Contract	Instance	County	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQPO16119	John Riegler*	07-18-0252	300418	Madison	\$ 195.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Troy Coppage	07-18-0280	301719	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Michael Tinsley Sr.	07-17-0642	275556	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Stacy Helmic	07-18-0387	302810	Madison	\$ 240.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Shirley Estes	07-18-0304	301990	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Shirley Estes	07-18-0304	301991	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Marian Bowler	07-18-0386	302809	Culpeper	\$ 225.00

<sup>\*</sup>Margot Bologna cost-share increased from 50% to 55%.

\*\*Antonia Florence's cost-share increased from 50% to 75%.

RB-1	DEQPO16119	Edward Napier	07-18-0215	301214	Madison	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQPO16119	Edward Napier	07-18-0215	301215	Madison	\$ 150.00

<sup>\*</sup>John Riegler cost- share increased from 50% to 65%

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

<b>Practice</b>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-1	DEQ16547R	John Trohan	07-18-0103	297418	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-3	DEQ16547R	Ethyl Hutchinson*	07-18-0113	298409	Orange	\$ 3,120.00
RB-1	DEQ16547R	Bradley James	07-18-0281	301724	Orange	\$ 150.00

<sup>\*</sup>Ethyl Hutchinson's cost share increased from 50% to 80%.

13) The following WQIF Residential participant has 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	DEQNPSWQIF	Alsace Triplett	07-18-0036	277128	Orange	\$ 150.00

14) The following Upper Rapidan 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>
<i>RB-1</i>	DEQFY16RFA	Brooke Wilson	07-17-0567	274615	Orange	\$ 150.00
RB-1	DEQFY16RFA	Karen Kovach	07-17-0566	274614	Orange	\$ 150.00

- 15) The District Manager gave a report on District dams. One project is being advertised for closed bidding for the reconstruction of the stilling basin and installation of a training dike. This is being funded by the Small Dam Repair Fund from the General Assembly.
- 16) District Staff received a tax credit request from Brook Farms, Orange County, for the purchase of Precision Agricultural Equipment (VA Code 58.1-337). Brad Jarvis, with Virginia Cooperative Extension, verified the equipment to be eligible for the tax credit. The District has a current Nutrient Management Plan on file.
   R. Bradford reported the District Dams will be inspected on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> of April for Culpeper and Madison
  - R. Bradford reported the District Dams will be inspected on the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> of April for Culpeper and Madison Counties. All directors are invited.
  - R. Bradford moved to approve the Technical Committee Report as amended. T. O'Halloran seconded the motion. (unanimous, R. Bradford abstained)

#### 6) DIRECTORS REPORTS

- M. Rifaat reported there have been numerous changes in the administration of Rappahannock County.
  There is now a permanent County Administrator, Garrey W. Curry, Jr. M. Rifaat will introduce the
  programs and mission of the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District to the new administrator
  soon.
- A. Campbell reported a solar project application was presented to the Culpeper Planning Commission and was tabled for 60 days. Screening and buffering are the main concerns and impact on neighbors. This project is close to the Brandy Station Battlefield and very visible.
- T. O'Halloran reported there is over 1 thousand acres being considered for solar farming near the power transmission lines. Most of the land is agriculture; some pasture and some crop. The land would be leased from the farmer to the developer who in turn leases it to the energy company.
- L. Graves reported on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 he attended the Virginia Agri Business Council's Annual Banquet in Richmond.

#### 7) STAFF REPORTS

• D. Massie reported on a series of meetings and conversations going on in Rappahannock County on the longevity of farming. Molly Peterson assembled a group of farmers and ex-government officials to

discuss how farming in the county is going to move forward. Another meeting will be held in the spring.

- A. McCullen reported attending the Farm Tax Credit meeting sponsored the Virginia Cooperative Extension held at Graves Mountain Lodge where both she and Greg spoke. It was very well attended.
- G. Wichelns reported working on two TMDL 319 grants for 2019. Also, working with S. DeNicola on the NOAA education grant.

#### 8) AGENCY REPORTS

NRCS – R. Rexrode reported construction work is continuing on the two watershed dams in Culpeper. The Lake Pelham and Mountain Run Lake dam excavation's are complete and they will be working on the concrete. The Wetland Restoration Program easement at Elmwood Farm in Boston, Virginia is finally complete. The EQIP program will receive the same amount of funds statewide as last year; approximately \$26 million. Early sign-up in Culpeper District has 8 pre-approved, 7 have been turned into contracts. There will be another round of pre-approvals issued later February 20<sup>th</sup>.

#### **DCR**

D. Cross reported Russ Baxter is the new DCR Deputy Director of Dam Safety and Floodplain Management and Soil & Water Conservation. He has held positions at DEQ and DCR in the past. Governor Northam appointed Issac Sarver as DCR's Chief Deputy for Board Relations and Constituent Services. Secretary of Natural Resources is Matt Strickler and his Deputy for Chesapeake Bay is Anne Jennings, formerly with the Chesapeake Bay Commission and before that the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Denny Turner, the new Grants/VACS Technician, will assist Gary Moore in the Agricultural Incentives Program, is working part-time Mondays-Thursdays.

Recent Audits – All districts need to ensure that the bank reconciliation reviews are documented by both reviewers. Any interest should be posted for all accounts and CD's even if you don't receive a statement in the mail. District's should receive copies of cancelled checks or images should be on file. Accounting needs to be done on a cash basis. Inventory – fixed assets inventories should be maintained and updated on an annual basis.

March 31, is the deadline when districts must obligate 90% of FY18 & FY17 cost share funds (including Earmark). Spot check follow up – Several outstanding spot checks require repayment or additional follow up. Nutrient Management Plans and Cost-Share Payment/Tax Credits- Cost-Share payments or Tax Credits cannot be made until a current nutrient management plan is on file with the SWCD. Any BMP receiving a Virginia Tax Credit requires a conservation plan approved by the SWCD board.

#### Reminders:

#### Dates to Remember:

DCR 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Disbursements • Feb 16

• March 28<sup>th</sup> VASWCD Quarterly Board Meeting, OODEC, Glen Allen

• March 31<sup>st</sup> 90% Obligation deadline for FY 18 & FY 17 VACS(including Earmark)

Area I Spring Meeting, Woodstock Presbyterian Church

 April 24<sup>th</sup>
 May 8<sup>th</sup> Area II Spring Meeting, Madison Virginia Hosted by Culpeper SWCD.

May 31<sup>st</sup> Submit suggested changes to VACS Program to Gary Moore

9) PLAN FOR FEBRUARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS (in ORANGE at the ORANGE SERVICE **CENTER**) Committees will meet on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, Personnel 9:00, Operations 9:30, Legislative 10:00 and Technical 10:30. The Educational Committee meeting will be held in Madison at 12::00 P.M., on February 156<sup>th</sup> at the Graves Mountain Lodge. **BOARD MEETING FOR** 

# MARCH WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, MARCH $6\mathrm{th}$ , 2018 IN CULPEPER COUNTY AT THE VFW HALL.

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Motion was made to adjourn the February, 2018 Board meeting at 11:10.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Graves, Chairman

JoAnn M. Neal

Administrative Secretary

Date Approved \_\_\_\_ 3-6-18