

MINUTES
CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
EverGRO – Orange Branch
Orange County, Virginia
August 4, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 10:08 AM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

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

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT:

Mike Sands, Rappahannock County
Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County
Robert Brame, Orange County
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
David Massie, Conservation Specialist
Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist
Lily Smith, Conservation Specialist
W. Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

James Ingram, NRCS
Davis Lamb, Greene County BOS

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

L. Graves called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM. Following a moment of silence, S. Yager led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were five handouts: Two Technical Committee Additions, DCR Report, and two Staff Reports.

2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of July 1, 2025, Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. R. Williamson moved to approve the Minutes as presented. A. Jewett seconded the motion. (R. Williamson, A. Jewett, unanimous)

3) AGENDA APPROVAL

L. Graves called for Agenda approval. The Education Committee Report was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Agenda as 5.1. The Operations Committee Report was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Agenda as 5.2. R. Williamson moved to adopt the Agenda as modified. R. Bradford seconded the motion. (R. Williamson, R. Bradford, unanimous)

4) CONSENT AGENDA

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT
TREASURER'S REPORT
NRCS CONSERVATION PLANS

Rappahannock 414 Acres EQIP – Cover Crop, Reduced Tillage and Nutrient Management

Madison 9.8 Acres EQIP – Pasture and Hayland Planting, Early successional Wildlife Habitat Management

5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

July 22, 2025 Technical Committee Meeting Minutes (Updated)

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

Items in italics were added at the August 4, 2025 Board Meeting in Orange, Virginia

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

Cliffside Lane LLC	EQIP 2018 7433A7240N0
Dennis Brown	EQIP 2018 7433A7240SG
Isabella Wolf	CP-7-25-0060
Lucy Winks	CP-7-25-0037
John Lafley	CP-7-26-0032
Timothy Baugher	CP-7-22-0024
Muddy Run Farm	CP-7-25-0069
Rose River Farm LLC	CP-7-24-0009

- 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.

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount	Tax Credit
SL-6N	2026 VACS	Boyd Brown	07-26-0018	660185	Rappahannock	\$ 51,760.50	\$ 4,313.38
SL-6N	2026 VACS	Lucy Winks	07-26-0027	624830	Rappahannock	\$ 22,578.00	\$ 3,763.00
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Loyd J. Simpson	07-26-0024	660499	Rappahannock	\$ 54,208.92	\$ 972.47
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Victoria Siegelman	07-26-0056	661481	Orange	\$ 43,728.17	\$ 244.67
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Charlie Thornton	07-26-0057	661482	Madison	\$ 49,825.51	\$ 950.71

SL-6W	2026 VACS	Dale Dellinger	07-26-0019	660186	Orange	\$ 95,329.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Rose River Farm	07-26-0014	659336	Madison	\$ 16,231.35	\$ 117.54
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Muddy Run Farm	07-26-0023	660494	Culpeper	\$ 29,014.35	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Cliffside Lane LLC	07-26-0025	584418	Rappahannock	\$ 101,597.38	\$ 0.00
SL-7	2026 VACS	John M Lafley	07-26-0032	660906	Madison	\$ 21,574.03	\$ 4,412.87
SL-7	2026 VACS	Isabella Wolf	07-26-0048	652068	Rappahannock	\$ 30,791.25	\$ 2,565.94
WQ-12	2026 VACS	Timothy G Baugher	07-26-0026	660507	Greene	\$ 52,288.27	\$ 4,354.36

3) 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>
NM-3C	2025 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-25-0577	651771	Madison	\$ 2,640.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5N	2025 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-25-0577	651769	Madison	\$ 2,580.00	\$ 0.00
NM-5P	2025 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-25-0577	651772	Madison	\$ 21,296.00	\$ 0.00
FR-1	2021 VACS	Paul B. Goodall*	07-21-0238	423172	Madison	\$ 209.50	\$ 147.18
FR-3	2021 VACS	Paul B. Goodall*	07-21-0238	423171	Madison	\$ 2,203.75	\$ 0.00
FR-1	2025 VACS	Carl Kerby	07-25-0625	656535	Madison	\$ 16,404.00	\$ 967.00
NM-5N	2025 VACS	Brandy Rock Farm Inc	07-25-0569	651746	Culpeper	\$ 2,880.00	\$ 0.00
SL-6W	2025 VACS	Mill Creek Farm LLC**	07-25-0037	590088	Orange	\$ 216,617.16	\$ 8,102.00
SL-6W	2025 VACS	Val Verde Farm LLC	07-25-0412	635764	Culpeper	\$ 80,951.96	\$ 0.00

* The Technical Committee approved the transfer of contract 07-21-0238 from Goodall Family Farm, GP to Paul B. Goodall prior to reimbursement.

** The Technical Committee approved an increase for additional footage of stream exclusion fencing and pipeline.

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

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
RB-4	PO17406	Alan Burket*	07-26-0060	661487	Culpeper	\$ 6,250.00

*Alan Burket increased from RB-3M to RB-4

5) The following Locally Funded 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	Locally Funded	Richard Jacobs	07-26-0028	660584	Culpeper	\$ 292.50
RB-1	Locally Funded	Margaret Vance	07-26-0035	660944	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Eugene Weaver	07-26-0067	661742	Madison	\$ 360.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Kimberly Morris	07-26-0043	661249	Greene	\$ 225.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Christopher Reagan	07-26-0066	661496	Orange	\$ 360.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Christopher Reagan	07-26-0066	661497	Orange	\$ 360.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Joyce Sharp	07-26-0030	660704	Madison	\$ 1,950.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Trista Kirtley	07-26-0040	661168	Orange	\$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	William Grogan	07-26-0036	660945	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Cecil Printz	07-26-0053	661339	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Christopher Redcay	07-26-0065	661493	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Andrew Evans*	07-26-0063	661490	Culpeper	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Kathy McNitt	07-26-0054	661340	Rappahannock	\$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Catherine Leonard	07-26-0055	661351	Culpeper	\$ 3,900.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Natalie Beck	07-26-0034	661298	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Thomas Apollonio	07-26-0037	660946	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Douglas Whipple	07-26-0021	660455	Culpeper	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Locally Funded	Damian Busicchia	07-26-0029	660585	Culpeper	\$ 1,950.00
RB-4P	Locally Funded	Christine Martin	07-26-0022	660456	Culpeper	\$ 9,900.00
RB-1	Locally Funded	Vincent Miller	07-26-0071	662289	Culpeper	\$ 225.00

<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Kathy Lillard</i>	<i>07-26-0073</i>	<i>662664</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Randall Fort</i>	<i>07-26-0078</i>	<i>662903</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Allen Tuel</i>	<i>07-26-0077</i>	<i>662901</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Vernon Payne</i>	<i>07-26-0074</i>	<i>662818</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Michael Chamowitz</i>	<i>07-26-0075</i>	<i>662819</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Michael Chamowitz</i>	<i>07-26-0075</i>	<i>662820</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Sue Southard</i>	<i>07-26-0091</i>	<i>667940</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 337.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Peggy Gano</i>	<i>07-26-0087</i>	<i>667924</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 360.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Juliette Beauchamp</i>	<i>07-26-0041</i>	<i>661169</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-2</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Marion Ruffner</i>	<i>07-26-0079</i>	<i>662904</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 9,375.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Marguerite Taliaferro</i>	<i>07-26-0094</i>	<i>668729</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 2,600.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Sherri Johnson</i>	<i>07-26-0076</i>	<i>662888</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,625.00</i>
<i>RB-4</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Michael Helmick**</i>	<i>07-26-0072</i>	<i>662662</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 6,250.00</i>

**Andrew Evans increased from RB-1 to RB-3M*

***Michael Helmick Increased from RB-3M to RB-4*

6) 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-1	PO17407	Rose Nixon	07-26-0047	661289	Orange	\$ 225.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Aaron Boerger	07-26-0039	661167	Orange	\$ 2,437.50
RB-3M	PO17407	Dwight Boston	07-26-0069	661769	Orange	\$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Paul LaCava	07-26-0059	661486	Orange	\$ 3,250.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Hunter Newman</i>	<i>07-26-0093</i>	<i>668635</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>

7) 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	Susan Dukes	07-26-0042	661248	Madison	\$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Nancy Somerville	07-26-0068	661768	Culpeper	\$ 337.50
RB-3M	DEQ17220	Timothy Minor	07-26-0070	661790	Madison	\$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ17220	William Heenan	07-26-0064	661492	Madison	\$ 1,625.00

8) 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>Randy Sims</i>	<i>07-26-0020</i>	<i>660239</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 360.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Mary Nelson</i>	<i>07-26-0038</i>	<i>660957</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Elizabeth Lucas</i>	<i>07-26-0050</i>	<i>661300</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Cherl Crews</i>	<i>07-26-0052</i>	<i>661338</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 360.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Yenifer Amaya Lovos</i>	<i>07-26-0049</i>	<i>661296</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 4,875.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>Norman Williamson</i>	<i>07-26-0051</i>	<i>661301</i>	<i>Rappahannock</i>	<i>\$ 1,625.00</i>
<i>RB-4</i>	<i>DEQ17084</i>	<i>John Robertson</i>	<i>07-26-0033</i>	<i>660907</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 6,250.00</i>

9) The following 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	Frederick Turck	07-26-0089	667938	Greene	\$ 225.00
RB-1	PO17083	Mark Hohenleitwer	07-26-0066	667925	Orange	\$ 225.00
RB-1	PO17083	Steven Colver	07-26-0085	667628	Greene	\$ 225.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Steven Hutchison	07-26-0092	668597	Orange	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Yvonne Page	07-26-0090	667939	Orange	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Karen Newman	07-26-0086	667923	Greene	\$ 1,787.50

10) 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-1	PO17083	Thomas Marks	07-26-0046	661286	Madison	\$ 292.50
RB-1	PO17083	Susan Estes	07-26-0058	661484	Madison	\$ 247.50
RB-1	PO17083	Cindy Reed	07-26-0061	661488	Madison	\$ 225.00
RB-3M	PO17083	Donna Taylor	07-26-0045	661252	Greene	\$ 2,112.50
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Kendall Breeden</i>	<i>07-25-0510</i>	<i>650613</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 200.00</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Michael Harlow</i>	<i>07-25-0486</i>	<i>649893</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 225.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Heidi Sage</i>	<i>07-25-0500</i>	<i>650597</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 390.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17083</i>	<i>Louise Trice</i>	<i>07-25-0585</i>	<i>657912</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 3,360.00</i>

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	Patrick Mooney	07-25-0637	657018	Culpeper	\$ 212.50
RB-4	PO17406	Ulrike Mayer-Mello	07-25-0638	656904	Culpeper	\$ 9,375.00

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>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Stephen Barber</i>	<i>07-25-0544</i>	<i>651250</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 212.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Stephen Barber</i>	<i>07-25-0544</i>	<i>658384</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 212.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Russell Carpenter</i>	<i>07-26-0008</i>	<i>659322</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 212.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Mary Tanner</i>	<i>07-25-0641</i>	<i>656926</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 300.00</i>

13) 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	DEQ17084	Stephen Lane	07-25-0646	657022	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	Stephen Lane	07-25-0646	657023	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	Stephen Lane	07-25-0646	657024	Culpeper	\$ 200.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Helga Schweikert	07-25-0436	648279	Rappahannock	\$ 3,140.00

14) 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>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Matthew Powers</i>	<i>07-25-0665</i>	<i>657594</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 212.50</i>
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Calvin Powell</i>	<i>07-25-0428</i>	<i>647607</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 340.00</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Sherri Johnson</i>	<i>07-26-0076</i>	<i>662888</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 1,625.00</i>
<i>RB-4</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Mark Pinkman</i>	<i>07-25-0595</i>	<i>651809</i>	<i>Greene</i>	<i>\$ 8,125.00</i>
<i>RB-4</i>	<i>Locally Funded</i>	<i>Stacy Londrey</i>	<i>07-25-0603</i>	<i>652220</i>	<i>Madison</i>	<i>\$ 6,250.00</i>

15) The following Upper York River Residential participant has been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Instance</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17407</i>	<i>Shannon Hudson</i>	<i>07-25-0608</i>	<i>656591</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 1,300.00</i>

16) 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-1	Locally Funded	Andrew Evans	07-25-0621	655590	Culpeper	\$ 225.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Paul LaCava	07-25-0668	657656	Orange	\$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	PO17407	Rose Noxon	07-25-0677	658365	Orange	\$ 1,625.00
<i>RB-1</i>	<i>DEQ17220</i>	<i>Susan Varner</i>	<i>07-25-0587</i>	<i>651791</i>	<i>Orange</i>	<i>\$ 292.50</i>
<i>RB-3M</i>	<i>PO17406</i>	<i>Michael Helmick</i>	<i>07-25-0493</i>	<i>650211</i>	<i>Culpeper</i>	<i>\$ 3,250.00</i>

- 17) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) practices have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

<u>Practice</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Amount</u>
CL-1	Keyur Parikh	Rappahannock	\$ 5,340.00
CL-1	Dana Milbanks	Rappahannock	\$ 6,601.73
CL-3	Just Getting By LLC, Steve Corbin	Culpeper	\$ 5,675.20
RWH	Aspire Farm LLC, Stacey Sonn	Madison	\$ 12,460.00
VSC-DS	Mark Warth	Orange	\$ 10,387.56
VSC-WS	Mark Warth	Orange	\$ 11,715.08

- 18) The District Manager gave an update on the dams:

- The second mowing of District dams will begin soon.
- A contractor will perform some minor tree removal of encroaching trees on Beautiful Run #4 and #10.
- The District will plan to have the contractor reseed some of Beautiful Run #1B in the fall.

5.1) EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

G. Wichelns reported that the Education Committee recommends nominating Ken Cranston for Educator of the Year (as an addition to Item L on the written Education Committee Report).

D. Cox moved to accept the recommendation and proceed with the nomination. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (D. Cox, R. Williamson, unanimous)

5.2) OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Operations Committee recommended auto-renewing the District's current Anthem Health Insurance Policy for employees, reflecting a 6% increase with no changes to coverage. Although other options were considered, Anthem remains the most competitive. R. Bradford moved to accept the recommendation and renew the current employee health insurance policy. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, R. Williamson, unanimous)

The Committee also recommended renewing the engineering contract with Schnabel Engineering. Per Virginia Code, contracts of this type may be renewed up to four times without soliciting new bids; this will be the third renewal. R. Bradford moved to accept the recommendation and renew the contract. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, R. Williamson, unanimous)

G. Wichelns called attention to the Operations Report attachment, an Annual Report handout from VASWCD. R. Bradford moved to accept the Operations Committee Report as presented. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, R. Williamson, unanimous)

6) CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS

R. Runkle moved that the Board go into Closed Session at 10:16 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. R. Bradford seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, R. Bradford, unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 10:32 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". A. Jewett seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, A. Jewett, unanimous)

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

7) DIRECTOR REPORTS

D. Verhoff shared highlights from his recent travels in Croatia, noting that while July temperatures in Virginia are high, it reached 104°F in Croatia on June 25.

R. Runkle reported increased activity of Spotted Lantern Flies on his Paradise Trees. He also noted that interviews for the vacant Program Assistant position have gone well, and a candidate has been selected for an offer.

S. Sharpe reported attending the Greene County Farm and Livestock Show, where approximately 350 visitors stopped by the Virginia Cooperative Extension booth.

A. Jewett also reported observing a significant number of Spotted Lantern Flies.

R. Bradford mentioned hearing that milkweed may have a paralyzing effect on Spotted Lantern Flies.

D. Cox reported attending the Greene County Farm and Livestock Show and thanked Greg for his active representation of the District at Saturday's event.

L. Graves shared that he participated in the Virginia SWCD Association's Legislative Zoom Call alongside Mr. Wichelns and Mr. Williamson. The call provided a broad overview of Legislative priorities and of VASWCD policies. Mr. Graves also attended the most recent meeting of the Agricultural Needs Assessment workgroup. Graves noted that Martha Moore – Virginia Farm Bureau, and Matt Wells – DCR Director, expressed interest in researching how Technical Assistance (TA) funds will be provided to Districts once the BMP funding decreases in future years. The Ag Needs Assessment currently projects that decrease beyond 2028. He also reported that he and Mr. Massie are scheduled to give Senator Kaine a farm tour tomorrow, and that he will travel to Richmond on Wednesday to meet with Stephanie Tallon from the Association. He also plans to attend the Virginia Ag Expo on Thursday.

8) STAFF REPORTS

S. Ross reported that registration for the Fourth Annual New Landowners Workshop opened on July 22, with over 30 of the 75 available spots already filled. She expressed optimism about strong participation this year.

D. Massie reported that BMP project spot checks are currently underway and progressing smoothly. He noted that he and Mr. Yager will represent the District at the Virginia Ag Expo in Zone A, Booth 2. Additionally, he shared that two large animal waste projects will soon be brought before the Board for approval. He also noted that the process for Annual Award Nominations will begin shortly.

G. Wichelns reported that all Fourth Quarter and Year-End grant reporting has been completed. He informed the Board that the second round of dam mowing will begin soon. He also provided an update on a land development proposal that currently encroaches on one of the District's dams. The developer is expected to submit a revised preliminary plan; construction plans have not yet been filed. Mr. Wichelns also noted that there is, and has been for many years, a statewide moratorium on uranium mining. The Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts continues to strongly support this. Lastly, he reported that the most recent land use letter and quarterly newsletter have been mailed, and an increase in call volume is anticipated as a result.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

DCR – D. Cross submitted a written report. L. Graves briefly highlighted several important upcoming dates noted in the report.

NRCS – J. Ingram reported that contract applications are due during the first week of October. He also noted that he will be attending the Virginia Ag Expo to assist with the soil pit exhibit.

10) PLAN FOR AUGUST COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Technical Committee will meet at the Madison Extension Office on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 9:00 AM. The Education Committee will meet on Monday, August 25, 2025, at 3:30 PM at the Madison Extension Office. **BOARD MEETING FOR SEPTEMBER WILL BE HELD AT 10:00 AM ON Tuesday, September 2, 2025, in person, at the Washington Volunteer Fire Hall in Rappahannock County.**

11) ADJOURNMENT

D. Verhoff motioned to adjourn the August 4 Board meeting at 10:55 AM. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (D. Verhoff, R. Williamson, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted,
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist

Lynn Graves, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Graves".

Date Approved: September 2, 2025