MINUTES
CULPEPER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Madison County Extension Office
Madison County, Virginia
October 6, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lynn Graves at 10:31 AM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Lynn Graves, Madison County Mike Sands, Rappahannock County Robert Williamson, Culpeper County Dennis Verhoff, Culpeper County Robert Runkle, Greene County Anthony Jewett, Madison County Molly Elgin McWilliams, Orange County Robert Bradford, Orange County Mike Biniek, Rappahannock County Steve Morris, At-Large Director, Greene County Sarah Sharpe, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Greene County
DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT:	David Cox, Greene County
STAFF PRESENT:	David Massie, District Manager Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist Jack Bourdon, Conservation Specialist Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist Stephanie DeNicola, Education Specialist Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist Cheyenne Sheridan, Conservation Specialist Trevor Talley, Conservation Specialist Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist
OTHERS PRESENT:	Debbie Cross, CDC, DCR Ashleigh Cason, DC, NRCS Davis Lamb, Greene County BOS Weeden Cloe, DEQ Holly Jett-Cloe

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

L. Graves called the meeting to order at 10:31 AM. Following a moment of silence, S. Yager led the Pledge of Allegiance. There were three handouts: Technical Committee Additions, DCR Report, and NRCS Report.

2) DRAFT MINUTES

L. Graves called for approval of the substance of September 1, 2026, Draft District Board Meeting Minutes and for any substantive corrections or additions. There was one correction to a Director's title on page one. M. Sands moved to approve the Minutes as corrected. 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. A correction was made to list Mike Biniek as present at the Operations Committee. M. Sands moved to adopt the Agenda as modified. R. Williamson seconded the motion. (M. Sands, R. Williamson, unanimous)

4) CONSENT AGENDA

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT
EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
TREASURER'S REPORT
NRCS CONSERVATION PLANS

Orange	CRP	Permanent Wildlife Habitat
Orange	CRP	Pollinator Habitat
Orange	CRP	Wildlife Food Plots
Orange	CRP	Tree Planting for Lowlands
Greene	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Greene	CRP	Wetland Restoration
Orange	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Madison	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Madison	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Orange	CRP	Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds
Orange	CRP	Filter Strip
Orange	CRP	Filter Strip
Orange	CRP	Habitat Buffers for Upland Birds
Madison	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Greene	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Culpeper	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer
Culpeper	CRP	Marginal Pastureland Wildlife Buffer
Culpeper	CRP	Riparian Forest Buffer

5) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

5.1) TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

September 22, 2026 Technical Committee Minutes (Updated)

Present: Lynn Graves, Madison; Robert Bradford, Orange; Bob Williamson, Culpeper; Mike Biniek, Rappahannock; David Massie, District Manager; Spencer Yager, Conservation Specialist; Amanda McCullen, Conservation Specialist; Cheyenne Sheridan, Conservation Specialist; Kendall Dellinger, Conservation Specialist; Trevor Talley, Conservation Specialist; Jack Bourdon, Conservation Specialist; Henny Calloway, Conservation Specialist; Richard Jacobs, Conservation Specialist

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

A Le Boi Farms	CP-7-26-0010
Brandon E. VanHoven	CP-7-27-0008

Calvin Powell	CP-7-21-0075
Cedar Springs Farm LLC, L.E.Lamb	CP-7-18-0010
Faith Gil	CP-7-27-0009
Hazel River Farm LLC	CP-7-20-0064
Hunter H. Weaver	CP-7-21-0004
Kelly C. Bailey	CP-7-27-0006
Preston Buff	CP-7-27-0016
Robert F. Feldman	CP-7-27-0015
Tim Canterbury	CP-7-27-0007
William S. Lovelace	CP-7-24-0057

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
CCI-SL-6N	2027 VACS	Berry Hay and Cattle LLC	07-27-0161	782871	Culpeper	$ 4,732.50	$ -
CCI-SL-6N	2027 VACS	Roy Boldridge	07-27-0118	769716	Culpeper	$ 6,510.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6N	2027 VACS	Roy Boldridge	07-27-0143	779589	Culpeper	$ 892.75	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Five O Farm LLC	07-27-0141	779054	Madison	$ 3,280.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Kenneth L. Anderson	07-27-0036	743491	Madison	$ 9,252.50	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Sheldon Yoder	07-27-0142	779121	Madison	$ 6,550.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Stewart Acres Farm, LLC	07-27-0152	781072	Orange	$ 2,003.75	$ -
FR-3	2027 VACS	Calvin Powell	07-27-0162	785029	Greene	$ 17,977.50	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Dragonfly Farms LLC	07-27-0151	780849	Orange	$ 32,343.75	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Dragonfly Farms LLC	07-27-0151	789317	Orange	$ 17,250.00	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Lewis A Lamb & Sons Inc	07-27-0119	769735	Madison	$ 20,139.38	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Robert F. Feldman	07-27-0179	793606	Orange	$ 8,193.75	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Twelve Springs Farm LLC	07-27-0167	787641	Madison	$ 7,762.50	$ -
SL-6W	2027 VACS	Brandon E. VanHoven	07-27-0090	762935	Orange	$ 290,251.57	$ 3,062.55
SL-6W	2027 VACS	Hazel River Farm LLC	07-27-0156	781281	Culpeper	$ 31,343.00	$ -
SL-6W	2027 VACS	Kelly C. Bailey	07-27-0112	768136	Culpeper	$ 157,709.40	$ 1,114.15
SL-6W	2027 VACS	Susan Canterbury	07-27-0166	771371	Madison	$ 26,116.65	$ 738.09
SL-7	2027 VACS	A Le Boi Farms	07-27-0145	780198	Orange	$ 7,565.60	$ 472.85
SL-7	2027 VACS	Kelly C. Bailey	07-27-0112	771230	Culpeper	$ 5,625.60	$ 351.60
SL-7	2027 VACS	William S. Lovelace	07-27-0082	760070	Madison	$ 4,590.56	$ 286.91
SL-8B	2027 VACS	Kenwood LLC	07-27-0139	776057	Orange	$ 5,220.00	$ -

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-6N	2027 VACS	Berry Hay and Cattle LLC	07-27-0161	782871	Culpeper	$ 4,732.50	$ -
CCI-SL-6N	2027 VACS	Roy Boldridge	07-27-0118	769716	Culpeper	$ 6,510.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6N	2027 VACS	Roy Boldridge	07-27-0143	779589	Culpeper	$ 892.75	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Five O Farm LLC	07-27-0141	779054	Madison	$ 3,280.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Kenneth L. Anderson	07-27-0036	743491	Madison	$ 9,252.50	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Sheldon Yoder	07-27-0142	779121	Madison	$ 6,550.00	$ -
CCI-SL-6W	2027 VACS	Stewart Acres Farm, LLC	07-27-0152	781072	Orange	$ 2,003.75	$ -
SL-1	2027 VACS	Cid W. Owens*	07-27-0042	745205	Orange	$ 22,875.00	$ -

SL-6N	2026 VACS	Boyd Brown	07-26-0018	660185	Rappahannock	$ 35,586.62	$ 5,045.14
SL-6W	2026 VACS	Erich Jenkins	07-26-0499	735947	Culpeper	$ 125,362.20	$ 909.08
SL-6W	2022 VACS	Henshaw & Sons Farm LLC	07-22-0379	475534	Madison	$ 10,490.60	$ 3,182.08
SL-6W	2023 VACS	Henshaw & Sons Farm LLC	07-22-0379	475534	Madison	$ 5,330.25	$ -
SL-6W	2024 VACS	Mine Run Ag Inc.	07-24-0079	537852	Orange	$ 51,080.00	$ -
SL-6W	2027 VACS	Tom Nixon	07-27-0062	754219	Orange	$ 115,736.00	$ -
SL-7	2026 VACS	Val Verde Farm LLC**	07-26-0549	736717	Culpeper	$ 13,556.25	$ 1,129.69
WP-4LC	2026 VACS	Dennis Brown	07-26-0016	659347	Culpeper	$ 898,458.62	$ 25,000.00
WP-4LC	2025 VACS	J-Team Dairy LLC	07-25-0450	648593	Orange	$ 608,869.55	$ 25,000.00

*The Technical Committee approved an increase to add the incentive reimbursement amount.

**The Technical Committee approved an increase for additional pipeline due to hitting rock and additional machine time for rock breaking.

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	Local	Benjamin Van Horne	07-27-0153	781085	Orange	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Brenda Hight	07-27-0121	779221	Culpeper	$ 360.00
RB-1	Local	Catherine Anamateros	07-27-0157	781708	Madison	$ 337.50
RB-1	Local	Charles and Vicki Horn Family Trust	07-27-0160	782005	Madison	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Darryl Whidby	07-27-0169	791627	Madison	$ 337.50
RB-1	Local	Deborah Conrad	07-27-0171	791766	Greene	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Elizabeth Hale	07-27-0181	793734	Greene	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Gabriele Masill	07-27-0059	793773	Madison	$ 270.00
RB-1	Local	Gabriele Masill-Fern Hill LLC	07-27-0059	793772	Madison	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Joanne Lichliter	07-27-0180	793733	Madison	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Mikayla Johnson	07-27-0155	781147	Madison	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Natatia Bledsoe	07-27-0158	781709	Orange	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Paul Chin	07-27-0164	785119	Madison	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Roxane Barnes	07-27-0159	781713	Madison	$ 292.50
RB-1	Local	Timothy Breeden	07-27-0150	780790	Greene	$ 225.00
RB-3	Local	Adriana Sotelo Bernal	07-27-0177	793037	Greene	$ 6,000.00
RB-3M	Local	Adam Downing	07-27-0176	792999	Madison	$ 1,787.50
RB-3M	Local	Aubrey Ganoe	07-27-0182	793736	Greene	$ 1,787.50
RB-3M	Local	Carol Cate	07-27-0178	793406	Madison	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Carol Cate	07-27-0178	793535	Madison	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Carol Cate	07-27-0178	793561	Madison	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Charles and Vicki Horn Family Trust	07-27-0160	781894	Madison	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Gail Gibson	07-27-0174	792806	Orange	$ 2,437.50
RB-3M	Local	Gary Beidler	07-27-0187	794357	Madison	$ 1,950.00
RB-3M	Local	John Donlon	07-27-0173	792748	Greene	$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	Local	Linda Ross	07-27-0175	792871	Orange	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Mark Beall	07-27-0172	791769	Greene	$ 1,787.50
RB-3M	Local	Michael Conway	07-27-0123	780785	Orange	$ 5,200.00
RB-3M	Local	Stephen Holmes	07-27-0072	794293	Orange	$ 4,225.00
RB-3M	Local	Vincent Shifflett	07-27-0154	781129	Greene	$ 2,112.50
RB-3M	Local	Wendy Hogan	07-27-0163	785105	Madison	$ 337.50
RB-5	Local	Cindy Mangrum	07-27-0148	780331	Culpeper	$ 15,750.00

5) The following Upper Hazel River Residential applicant has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-3	DEQ17084	Blake Brown	07-27-0026	792033	Rappahannock	$ 3,750.00

6) The following Upper York River Residential applicant has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-3M	DEQ17407	Brian Whiteside	07-27-0185	794228	Orange	$ 1,625.00

7) The following Locally Funded participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	Local	Adele Shotwell	07-26-0589	736987	Culpeper	$ 247.50
RB-1	Local	Amanda Rossano	07-27-0135	771369	Orange	$ 205.00
RB-1	Local	Brenda Hight	07-27-0121	779221	Culpeper	$ 360.00
RB-1	Local	Carolyn Briggs	07-26-0628	737814	Orange	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Cornelia Brown	07-26-0728	739166	Culpeper	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Frank L. Shifflett	07-27-0126	771202	Greene	$ 276.25
RB-1	Local	Gloria Alexander	07-27-0055	752918	Madison	$ 320.00
RB-1	Local	Kasey Richards	07-26-0597	737053	Madison	$ 200.00
RB-1	Local	Mark Mullins	07-26-0556	736749	Orange	$ 200.00
RB-1	Local	Megan Sodano	07-26-0566	736867	Orange	$ 225.00
RB-1	Local	Natalia Banks	07-27-0051	750045	Greene	$ 260.00
RB-1	Local	Robert Bethel	07-27-0076	757320	Madison	$ 360.00
RB-3M	Local	Jon Sweeney	07-27-0005	769749	Greene	$ 2,260.00
RB-3M	Local	Stacie Allred	07-26-0418	738863	Greene	$ 3,506.25
RB-3M	Local	Sue Seale	07-27-0081	763808	Madison	$ 3,480.00
RB-3M	Local	Suzanne McMurran	07-26-0352	731235	Orange	$ 1,000.00
RB-4	Local	Terry Kemp Knick	07-26-0186	716109	Greene	$ 6,250.00
RB-4P	Local	Amber Lawson	07-27-0019	741387	Orange	$ 8,800.00

8) The following Mountain Run, Muddy Run, and Lower Hazel River Residential participants have been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	DEQ17406	Bruce Winning	07-27-0050	750031	Culpeper	$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17406	Nicole Samperisi	07-27-0029	742706	Culpeper	$ 360.00
RB-1	DEQ17406	Roger Sheaffer	07-26-0715	738969	Culpeper	$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17406	Terese McEwen	07-27-0035	742955	Culpeper	$ 225.00
RB-3M	DEQ17406	Eliot Brubaker	07-27-0038	743794	Culpeper	$ 2,775.00

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	DEQ17220	Joseph Graham	07-27-0129	771279	Madison	$ 255.00
RB-1	DEQ17220	Stephanie Goering	07-26-0627	737812	Madison	$ 225.00

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	DEQ17084	Anthony Markley	07-27-0075	757318	Culpeper	$ 225.00
RB-1	DEQ17084	Thomas Brown	07-27-0085	761204	Rappahannock	$ 212.50
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Rebecca Murray	07-26-0614	737432	Culpeper	$ 1,200.00

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

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-1	DEQ17083	Katheryn Barker	07-27-0052	750137	Orange	$ 270.00
RB-3	DEQ17083	Elizabeth Herndon	07-26-0113	737435	Orange	$ 3,750.00

12) The following Residential applicants have been cancelled by the Technical Committee:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	Instance	County	Amount
RB-3M	Local	Adrianna Sotelo Bernal	07-26-0703	738911	Greene	$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	DEQ17084	Blake Brown	07-27-0026	744476	Rappahannock	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Brenda Hight	07-27-0121	769747	Culpeper	$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	Local	Cindy Mangrum	07-26-0707	738927	Culpeper	$ 3,250.00
RB-3M	Local	Gabriele Masill	07-27-0059	754218	Madison	$ 1,950.00
RB-3M	Local	Gabriele Masill-Fern Hill LLC	07-27-0059	754222	Madison	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	John Donlon	07-26-0717	739031	Greene	$ 1,625.00
RB-3M	Local	Michael Conway	07-27-0123	771121	Orange	$ 2,600.00
RB-3M	Local	Stephen Holmes	07-27-0072	756551	Orange	$ 2,112.50

13) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) applicant has been approved by the Technical Committee for funding:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	County	Amount
PP	VCAP	Germanna Foundation	07-27-002	Orange	$ 20,000.00

14) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) participant has been approved by the Technical Committee for payment:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	County	Amount
CL-1	VCAP	Sean Seay	07-26-009	Culpeper	$ 4,451.48

15) The following Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) applicant has been cancelled by the Technical Committee:

Practice	Fund	Participant	Contract	County	Amount
PP	Local	Germanna Foundation	07-26-002	Orange	$ 20,000.00

16) Cindy Mangrum's approved septic cost-share contract increased from an RM-3M to an RM-5.

17) Blake Brown's approved septic cost-share contract increased from an RB-3M to an RB-3.

18) Robert Bethel's approved septic cost-share increased from $225.00 to $360.00 for contract 07-27-0076 instance 757320.

19) William Powell's septic contract 07-24-0559 instance 587598 transferred responsibility for RB-3M Level 2 to Thomas Jacobs.

20) The District Manager gave an update on the dams. All of the dams are likely to get a second mowing, dependent on weather and the mowing contractor's availability.

21) The Technical Committee Chairman requests authority from the Board to approve a payment prior to the November 3, 2026 Board Meeting for Clover Hill East LP LLP, contract 07-26-0323, instance 729114, WP-4LL, Madison County.

22) The Technical Committee Chairman requests authority from the Board to approve submitting a variance request to DCR for Cedar Springs Dairy Farm Inc., John G. Lamb's WP-4 cost-share application contract 07-27-0188 instance 794449 in Madison County.

M. Elgin McWilliams recused herself and left the room.

R. Bradford moved to approve corrections to the Technical Committee Meeting Minutes. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

R. Bradford moved to accept the Technical Committee Report with Additions, as corrected. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

M. Elgin McWilliams returned to the meeting.

R. Bradford moved to delegate authority to the Technical Committee to approve a payment prior to the November 3 Board Meeting for Clover Hill East LP LLP, contract 07-26-0323, instance 729114, WP-4LL, Madison County. S. Morris seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, S. Morris, unanimous)

R. Bradford moved to delegate authority to the Technical Committee to approve sending a variance request to DCR for Cedar Springs Dairy Farm Inc. WP-4 cost-share application in Madison County. M. Sands seconded the motion. (R. Bradford, M. Sands, unanimous)

6) CLOSED SESSION: PERSONNEL MATTERS

R. Runkle moved that the Board go into Closed Session at 10:43 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. M. Biniek seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, M. Biniek, unanimous)

Following the return from Closed Session, R. Runkle moved to reconvene at 11:12 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”. M. Biniek seconded the motion. (R. Runkle, M. Biniek, unanimous)

R. Williamson moved to accept the recommendations from the Personnel Committee. M. Biniek seconded the motion. (R. Williamson, M. Biniek, unanimous)

7) DIRECTOR REPORTS

R. Runkle reported that he attended a Beef Program hosted by Virginia Cooperative Extension on September 17.

S. Sharpe reported that she hosted a Beef Program on September 17. She also reported on an upcoming rain barrel workshop and an agriculture event to be held in December at Blue Ridge Community College featuring David Kohl as the keynote speaker.

L. Graves reported that he attended the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts meeting, where legislative matters and issues related to data centers were discussed. He reported that a new legislative agenda is expected to be released prior to December and is anticipated to be more consolidated than the current agenda. He also reported that the first weekend of the Apple Harvest Festival was well attended despite inclement weather and that favorable weather is anticipated for the second weekend. Additionally, he attended a portion of the Rappahannock River Basin Commission meeting, where he spoke with several delegates and noted strong attendance.

A. Jewett reported on the results of his Meadow Mix planting, noting a decrease in mosquitoes and an increase in dragonflies. He recommended the Meadow Mix as a beneficial purchase.

R. Bradford reported that he attended the Stream Protection and Forestry Subcommittee Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on September 28. He reported that the Committee discussed potential action to expand the scope of work for certain cost-share and tax-credit practices.

8) STAFF REPORTS

C. Sheridan reported that she assisted with planning the Soil and Pasture Workshop hosted by Lakota Ranch.

A. McCullen reported that she, along with a team of individuals, assisted with the planning, organization, and facilitation of a workshop hosted by Lakota Ranch. The workshop featured five hands-on stations, with organizers leading each station, and approximately 100 individuals attended. She also reported that Culpeper Agricultural Staff submitted five Clean Water Farm Award nominations to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

R. Jacobs reported that he was contacted by L3Harris regarding expedited review of site plans for an Aerojet facility in Orange County. The proposed project includes four phases, each of which is expected to request expedited review. Phase One, which includes a substation, is currently under review. He also reported that he continues to review data center site plans for Culpeper County and noted that the County is no longer approving early grading plans. R. Jacobs further reported that he will be presenting on streambank erosion issues at a VCAP Education Meeting and will be attending a Virginia soils training in Charlottesville.

S. DeNicola reported that MWEE programs for fourth and sixth grade students have launched and are progressing well. She reported that she has a small team of part-time assistants helping to improve the efficiency of program delivery. She also reported that, at the request of a Culpeper elementary school, she hosted a “Science is Sweet” seminar for the school’s students, featuring an edible cup of sweets that represent each of the layers of soil. S. DeNicola reported that trees have been ordered for this year’s tree sale and provided a brief overview of the sale. She also reported that, in addition to the Meadow Mix currently offered, a Meadow Mix intended for partially shaded areas will be available this year. She is also considering removing live stakes from this year’s sale due to increased freight costs and the resulting difficulty in maintaining a break-even price.

S. Yager reported that he attended the Cover Crop Subcommittee Meeting and that he intends on participating in a follow-up in a few weeks. He reported that there were about 30 people in attendance.

D. Massie reported that he attended the Cover Crop subcommittee meeting and the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board meeting. He reported that surveys regarding the cover crop verification process had been conducted and reviewed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), followed by discussion regarding methods for verifying and documenting cover crop growth. Two verification methods were agreed upon, and District staff will be trained on both methods to ensure uniform implementation moving forward. The training is scheduled for November. D. Massie thanked staff for submitting nominations for the Clean Water Farm Awards and recognized Brad and the agricultural staff for completing End-of-Lifespan Verifications. He reported that Cost-Share File

Reviews will be conducted soon with Debbie Cross. D. Massie congratulated Lynn Graves on receiving the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission's Government Leadership Award and Steve Morris on his reappointment as an At-Large Director. He also reported that registration is open for the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Annual Meeting and encouraged anyone interested in attending to contact him or Ms. Ross for additional information.

9) AGENCY REPORTS

DCR – D. Cross submitted a written report and highlighted several key items. She congratulated Steve Morris on his appointment as At-Large Director for the term January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2030. D. Cross reported that Cost-Share Administrative Audits are scheduled for October 26, 29, and 30, and November 4. Financial audits conducted by Robinson, Farmer, & Cox are scheduled for December 2. Additional items included reminders and information regarding FOIA/COIA training, verification of cover crop percent cover, FY2026 spot checks and random verifications, and other upcoming dates and deadlines.

NRCS – A. Cason submitted a written report and highlighted several items. The application deadline for FY2027 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) funding is October 30, 2026. Applications may be submitted after the deadline but will not be prioritized for the current funding cycle. A. Cason also reported that the Virginia Farm to Table meeting is scheduled for December 8–9 at Blue Ridge Community College. Annual Highly Erodible Land (HEL) and Wetland Conservation (WC) training was held October 5–6 in Page County.

10) Lynn Graves presented David Massie with a certificate recognizing his 20 years of service to the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. The Board expressed its appreciation to Mr. Massie for his dedicated service and congratulated him on this milestone.

11) PLAN FOR OCTOBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

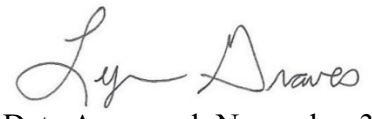
Committees will meet at the Culpeper District Office on Tuesday, October 20, 2026: 9:00 Personnel, 9:30 Operations, 10:00 Education, 10:15 Technical. **BOARD MEETING FOR NOVEMBER WILL BE HELD AT 10:30 AM ON Tuesday, November 3, 2026, at EverGRO in Orange County.**

12) ADJOURNMENT

A. Jewett motioned to adjourn the October Board meeting at 11:57 AM. D. Verhoff seconded the motion. (A. Jewett, D. Verhoff, unanimous)

Respectfully Submitted,
Stevie Ross, Administrative Secretary/Financial Specialist

Lynn Graves, Chairman



Date Approved: November 3, 2026