



MINUTES

ALEXANDER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Held at the District office in Taylorsville, NC

Meeting Number 6

Date: January 27, 2011

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Bill Chapman, Chairman
Myles Payne, Vice-Chairman
Wendell Kirkham, Treasurer
Eugene White, Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Leslie Meadows, Education Coordinator /Admin.
Lee Holcomb, Soil and Water Conservationist
Michelle Lovejoy, DSWCD Area II Coordinator
Rick Grant, NRCS District Conservationist
David Williams & Ken Parks, DSWCD Representatives

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON **JANUARY 27, 2011** ARE APPROVED AS: READ () / CORRECTED ()

CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION

Chairman Bill Chapman officially called the meeting to order at approximately 8:11 a.m. Invocation was given by Wendell Kirkham.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the last meeting, held December 7, 2010, were evaluated. Myles Payne made a motion to approve the meeting's minutes as read. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in approval.

BUDGET REPORT

The budget reports for the months of November and December 2010 were reviewed in detail for the awareness of the Board. Leslie also presented the Board with a liquidated Field Days "gift of appreciation" check (dated 2009); misplaced and never cashed by Mr. Donald Payne. Upon discussion, Eugene White motioned, and was seconded by Wendell Kirkham, that a renewed check for the same amount currently be issued to Mr. Payne from the district checking account. The Board unanimously agreed.

LEE HOLCOMB'S REPORT:

North Carolina Agricultural Cost Share Program (NCACSP) Update:

Lee provided the Board with a list of projected NCACSP PY11 contracts (*See Attached Spreadsheet*). Funding availability was discussed. Poultry drystack/composter Contract #: 02-11-05-16, in the amount of \$33,488, was presented for the Board's authorization. Lee explained that the applicant qualified as a 90% cost-share limited resource farmer. The contract would be financed from the High Rock Lake grant monies, and supplemented by regular PY11 cost-share funds. A motion was made by Myles Payne to approve said contract as presented. Eugene White seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of approval. Lastly, Lee explained to the Board the recent occurrences regarding the PY08 poultry spreader body Contract #: 02-08-05-03. The cooperater has purchased a new spreader body and Lee has inspected the poultry spreader body this week. Upon Chairman Bill Chapman's recommendation, Lee plans to send out an appreciation letter for completing the contract.

Program Review "Plan of Action":

Lee also presented the Board with our Program Review "Plan of Action", due back to the Division by Jan. 31st. Deputy Director of the Division, David Williams, and NCACSP Environmental Specialist, Ken Parks, were in attendance to offer explanations and suggestions concerning the proposed Program Review non-compliance recommendations. David Williams describe the District's Program Review process to be a learning experience for the Division in execution and communication. He stated that the primary reason for Program Review is accountability. The Board discussed the proposed "Plan of Action". An amendment was made in reference to questions about recommendation #19. Myles Payne made a motion to approve and submit said "Plan of Action" as corrected. A second was given by Wendell Kirkham, and the Board consented unanimously. The District is not scheduled for review for at least the next 5 years.

Area II DIC Mtg. & IBEAM Training:

Lee represented our District at the quarterly Area II DIC meeting, Jan. 18th at Forsyth SWCD. He reported concern that State budget cuts within the Division will most probably result in no supplemental ACSP funds being allocated in March. In conjunction with this meeting, Lee received training for the Division's new online contracting system, IBEAM. Some minor glitches are still being dealt with.

Beef Cattle Conference & NC Forage & Grassland Council:

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On Jan. 6th, Lee accompanied Cooperative Extension Livestock Agent Allison Brown to the Regional Beef Conference, held at the Iredell Agricultural Center. He returned to the Iredell Ag. Center, on Jan. 20th, to attend the NC Forage & Grassland Council’s winter conference series. Lee informed the Board that he has been dutifully appointed to the Council’s Board of Directors by NRCS Steve Woodruff.

LESLIE MEADOWS’ REPORT:

NW Envirothon Planning Committee:

On Dec. 15th, Leslie attended a NW Envirothon Planning meeting at Caldwell SWCD in Lenoir. Registration/training packets were discussed, as well as food and give away items for this year’s event. A request for a NW Envirothon donation was presented to the Board. Wendell Kirkham motioned that the Board contribute \$100.00 from the District checking account, as in years past. Myles Payne seconded, and the Board unanimously voted in favor of support. Team registration deadline is Feb. 11th. No Area II teams have yet registered at this time.

NCASWCD Annual Meeting Report:

The 2011 NCASWCD Annual Meeting was held Jan. 9th -11th, at the Grove Park Inn in Asheville, NC. Michelle Lovejoy was present to update the Board of NCASWCD elections and approval of proposed action items. The resulting NCASWCD Program Objectives for 2011 should be distributed to districts by next month. NCASWCD Leadership Initiative applications are due by Feb. 11th. Myles Payne announced his intention to apply for this committee.

2011 Annual Contest Season:

Leslie informed the Board that the poster, essay, and speech contest season has begun. This year’s topic is “Water...the Cycle of Life”. School presentations and judges have been arranged. Davis Hall (Taylorsville First Baptist) has been reserved for March 29th to hold the SWCD Annual Awards Banquet. Catering options were briefly discussed.

2011 Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program/VAD Map:

Leslie reported that on Jan. 7th, she met with County GIS Specialist George Brown to update the Voluntary Farmland Preservation Program county map for 2011. Copies of the revised map were then distributed for display at the appropriate county offices. Current VFPP enrollment totals 7, 640.689 acres.

NCFSWC OELC Grant Offer:

On Jan. 20th, Leslie received an email from Cecil Settle, Director of the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation. Our District has been offered the opportunity to apply for an Outdoor Environmental Learning Center (OELC) grant, up to the amount of \$2,500.00, to aid WAMS in their efforts to construct an outdoor classroom structure adjacent to the completed CCAP stormwater wetland site. The Foundation request a notice of intent to file an application by Jan. 31st, and a completed OELC grant proposal is due by Feb. 15th. Wendell Kirkham made the motion, and was seconded by Eugene White, to pursue said grant funding. The Board agreed unanimously. Leslie will file a notice of intent and begin working with WAMS to compile and complete the required application documents.

Basic Training for SWCD Supervisors:

Leslie announced that Basic Training for SWCD Supervisors has been scheduled for Feb. 15th – 16th on the campus of UNC-CH. It is recommended that newly elected/appointed Board members consider attending. Leslie offered to aid interested members with registration; which must be completed online.

RICK GRANT’S REPORT: (Please See Attached Reports/Calendars)

MICHELLE LOVEJOY’S REPORT: (Please See Attached Reports/Calendars)

OTHER BUSINESS:

Rocky Face Park Project:

Leslie relayed information received from Economic Development Director David Icenhour regarding the progress of the Rocky Face Park project. The property is in the process of being transferred from RC&D to Alexander County. The County has contracted with McGill Associates Engineering to assist in surveying and park design. A new 4-H rock climbing club is being organized that has volunteered to help with park maintenance and clean-up.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie M. Meadows

Next Meeting Date: <u>February 24, 2011</u>	Time: <u>8:00 a.m.</u>	Place: <u>District Office</u>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> Form 301 Soil and Water Conservation Commission Department of Environment and Natural Resources Revised 10/01/97 </div>		
Signed _____		Date _____

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