



# MINUTES

## ALEXANDER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Held at the District office in Taylorsville, NC

Meeting Number 10

Date: May 26, 2011

### **SUPERVISORS PRESENT:**

Bill Chapman, Chairman  
Myles Payne, Vice-Chairman  
Wendell Kirkham, Treasurer  
Kent Herman, Member

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Leslie Meadows, Education Coordinator /Admin.  
Lee Holcomb, Soil and Water Conservationist  
Rick Grant, NRCS District Conservationist

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON **MAY 26, 2011** ARE APPROVED AS: READ ( ) / CORRECTED ( )

### **CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION**

Chairman Bill Chapman called the meeting officially to order at approximately 8:27 a.m. Invocation was given by Wendell Kirkham.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes from the last meeting, held April 28, 2011, were evaluated. Wendell Kirkham made a motion to approve the meeting's minutes as presented. Kent Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement.

### **BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report for the month of April 2011 was reviewed in detail for the awareness of the Board. Leslie announced that the County Finance Department's cut off date for 2010-11 requisitions has been set for June 10<sup>th</sup>. It was unanimously decided by the Board that the funeral spray delivered to Eugene White & family, at the loss of his Grandmother, would be purchased from the District checking account.

### **LEE HOLCOMB'S REPORT:**

#### **NC Agricultural Cost Share Program (NCACSP) Update:**

Lee provided the Board with a list of current PY11 NCACSP contracts (*See Attached Spreadsheet*). In order to meet the NCACSP June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline, Lee presented a request for payment (RFP), on a nearly complete PY09 concrete feeding area Contract #: 02-09-103-03, up to the maximum amount of \$4, 200.00. For timely program year payment, Myles Payne motioned that the RFP be pre-approved, pending completion is inspected and meets all NCACSP specifications. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board unanimously consented. Lee also made the Board aware that because of the large amount of PY12 supplemental funding that will be needed to complete PY11 poultry drystack Contract #: 02-11-06-03, the Division will most likely decline this applicant. A back-up PY11 application needs to be chosen; otherwise we will be obligated to return the remaining PY11 funds. Myles Payne stated that if said drystack application is denied by the Division, the district should proceed with the next highest ranking application for which we still have sufficient funding. Myles' statement was seconded by Kent Herman, and the Board unanimously concurred. In the case of a needed replacement contract, a special meeting for approval will need to be called in order to meet the June 1<sup>st</sup> PY11 deadline. Random PY11 Spot Checks must be performed and reported to the Division by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Lee will be contacting Supervisors to accompany him in the next two weeks.

#### **PY12 District Strategy Plan:**

Upon reviewing the proposed district strategy plan for PY12, Board members noted additions such as completion of the OELC grant project at the WAMS wetland site, continued involvement in development of the County's future Rocky Face Park, and observation of a second ACSP batching period. Kent Herman made a motion that said Strategy Plan be approved as amended, and was seconded by Wendell Kirkham. The Board unanimously agreed. The NCACSP PY12 prioritization form for ranking applications was presented without amendments. The same prioritization form will be used for both PY12 batching periods. Myles Payne made a motion that the PY 12 prioritization form be approved as is. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in acceptance.

#### **Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP) Update:**

CCAP Repair Contract #: 02-10-502-03 R, for the WAMS wetland area, will be completed by the end of May. Repairs include installing plastic lining within the four primary pools, to ensure waster is contained, and restoring the eroded entrance channel; adding additional riprap. In order to comply with the Jun. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 deadline, Myles Payne made a motion that the Board should pre-approve the repair contract's RFP, in the amount of 75%, or up to the maximum amount of \$3,750.00. Kent Herman seconded, and the Board unanimously agreed.

**Waste Storage Pond Closeout:**

Upon contact with the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation (NCFSWC) concerning available funds for waste storage pond closeout projects, Lee reported that the program only pays for waste storage pond pumping out and breach. The program does not cover waste storage pond closeout cost for filling in. Lee awaits operator's decision about the desired close out method of two waste storage ponds on a retired dairy farm within the district. Pond closeouts will still require a bid process for project labor.

**No-Till Drill Demo Day:**

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, Lee and Leslie took part in a No-till Drill Demo Day hosted by Yadkin SWCD. Calibration of a Truax no-till drill model, similar to those provided through another recent NCFSWC grant program, was demonstrated. Those districts present that have received Truax no-till drills from the Foundation shared their experiences with owning, renting out, and maintaining no-till drills for local farmers to use. The Board discussed storage and maintenance issues pertaining to our district, should we ever have the opportunity to obtain said type drill.

**LESLIE MEADOWS' REPORT:****2011 State Envirothon Results:**

Leslie reported having attended and volunteered as a station guide at the NC Envirothon in Burlington, Apr. 29<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>. The two WAMS teams representing our area from our district placed 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> out of a total of 56 middle school teams state-wide. To show appreciation and ensure continued support and participation in our Envirothon program, Leslie suggested that the Board reimburse WAMS for a portion of their team registration fees and travel expenses. Having travel funds remaining in our departmental budget for this fiscal year, Myles Payne recommended that an Envirothon travel stipend in the amount of \$200.00 (\$100/team) be reimbursed to WAMS for taking part. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board unanimously agreed.

**2011 RCW Applicant Interview:**

The Division's 2011 Resource Conservation Workshop (RCW) is set for Jun. 26<sup>th</sup> – Jul. 1<sup>st</sup>, on the campus of NCSU. ACHS student applicant, Amber Willis, was present for interview. Myles Payne made the motion to accept Amber's RCW application and provide registration sponsorship in the amount of \$350.00. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement. Travel expenses in the amount of \$100.00 from the district checking account was suggested by Kent Herman, and seconded by Myles Payne. The Board unanimously approved. Leslie agreed to officially register Amber online, and to arrange for her return to a future Board meeting to report on her experience.

**“Soil to Seed” EE Workshop:**

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, Leslie attended an EE workshop designed on protecting water quality through soil erosion and sediment control for high-school level enrichment curriculums. Produced by NC Cooperative Extension, the “Soil to Seed” education manual includes many activities require soil rain boxes. The possibility of having the ACHS “shop” class students construct rain boxes for the district was discussed, provided we supply the materials.

**AM Radio Talk Show:**

In gratitude of Melvin York's donation of locally produced potting soil, *Big Daddy Pete's Plant Pleaser*, for our 2011 Awards Banquet attendees, Leslie agreed to sit in as a guest speaker on Melvin's early morning AM Radio talk show. On May 21<sup>st</sup>, Leslie went on air for station WSIC 1400 AM out of Statesville, to discuss home & garden/lawn water conservation tips. Melvin has asked Leslie to return to the show for future topics.

**EE Presentations on Soils:**

On May 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, Leslie and Agricultural Extension Agent Allison Brown performed soils EE programs for Hiddenite and Sugar Loaf Elementary, respectively. At Hiddenite, Leslie demonstrated the differences in soil particle size; utilizing the PLT “Perc through the Pores” activity with 1<sup>st</sup> graders. At Sugar Loaf, Leslie aided 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders not involved in EOG retesting, to create edible soil profiles and plant sunflower seeds in cups to be taken home. Lastly, Leslie announced that she has completed all Environmental Educator certification requirements; expect the *Basics of EE* community-college course and the outdoor community project.

**RICK GRANT'S REPORT:**

Rick Grant provided a monthly report of all ongoing NRCS programs within the District. Rick announced that the District will hold its annual NRCS Local Workgroup session immediately following next month's Board of Supervisor meeting, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**VFPP/VAD Quarterly Board Meeting:**

On May 17<sup>th</sup>, the quarterly meeting of the VAD Board was held. Guest speaker Sam Bingham, an independent land management consultant, was invited at the VAD Board’s request, to speak toward how to develop a County-Wide Farmland Protection Plan. Mr. Bingham has aided other mountain counties, such as Buncombe and Clay counties, with compiling and adoption of such said plan. However, only two VAD Board members were present. Thus, no official business or VFPP application approvals could occur, due to low attendance. Leslie Meadows expressed concern and regret at having such little participation; taking up Mr. Bingham’s time and resulting travel expenses.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 11:18 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Leslie M. Meadows*

Next Meeting Date: <u>June 23, 2011</u>	Time: <u>8:00 a.m.</u>	Place: <u>District Office</u>
_____ Signed		_____ Date