



MINUTES

ALEXANDER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Held at the District office in Taylorsville, NC

Meeting Number 5

Date: November 20, 2008

SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON **NOVEMBER 20, 2008** ARE APPROVED AS: READ () / CORRECTED ()

CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION

Vice-Chairman Myles Payne presided; officially calling the meeting to order at approximately 8:14 a.m. Invocation was given by Kent Herman.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from last meeting, held October 23, 2008, were evaluated. Richie Herman 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 report for the month of October was reviewed in detail for the awareness of the Board.

LEE HOLCOMB'S REPORT:

North Carolina Agricultural Cost Share Program (NCACSP):

ACSP Contract Update – A prioritized list of current PY09 ACSP applications was reviewed by the Board. (*See Handout*) Lee presented a RFP on completed supplemental contract #: 02-09-01-16 Supp, in the amount of \$1, 902, for the Board's approval. Richie Herman motioned that payment be granted. Kent Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement of payment. Contract approval and RFP was submitted on PY08 Emergency Drought Response repair contract #: 02-09-02-16 R. Lee suggested that the reseeding of the 33.3 acres be repaired at the same pay rate as designated in PY08 when the contract was written, in the amount of \$2,475. Richie Herman made a motion that all repair contracts from previous drought response program years receive the same pay rate as the PY the contract was written. Kent Herman seconded this motion, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement. For repair contract #: 02-09-02-16 R, Kent Herman motioned that said contract and RFP be reimbursed at the PY08 rate of 75% actual cost, or up to \$75.00/acre, in the suggested amount of \$2, 475. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in approval of both contract and payment.

Drought Response Grant Program – Several PY09 drought response contracts were brought before the Board (*See Handout*): Livestock exclusion contract #: 02-09-103-03 in the amount of \$14, 380, was presented for approval. Kent Herman motioned that the exclusion contract be approved as written. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in acceptance. Kent Herman made a motion that 38 acre pasture renovation contract # 02-09-106-16 be approved as well; up to \$5, 685. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in concurrence. Kent Herman also motioned that the RFP for 12 acre pasture renovation contract #: 02-09-108-03, totaling \$996, be permitted. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board unanimously agreed to fund payment.

CCAP Update – Lee informed the Board that the WAMS Stormwater Wetland project still awaits engineer's design.

LESLIE MEADOWS' REPORT:

Supervisor Re-Election/Appointment:

Leslie announced that Kent Herman was reelected to the Board, along with Wendell Kirkham's reappointment. Official forms and oath of office statements must be notarized and returned to the Division by Dec. 15th. Arrangements have been made to visit Board of Elections for notarization following today's meeting.

Regional Farm Family Award & the Annual Meeting:

Payne Dairy Inc. will be formally recognized at the upcoming NCASWCD Annual Meeting, January 4th-7th at the Sheraton in Durham, NC. Leslie collected conformation forms and registration fees from those Board members

MINUTES ALEXANDER SWCD – November 20, 2008

planning to attend. Money and stubs from current Gator raffle were turned in. Leslie distributed the proposed NCASWCD By-Laws amendments to be reviewed and voted on at the annual meeting Business Session.

3rd Grade Agricultural History Tours:

Leslie reported that she and Lee aided Cooperative Extension on Friday, Nov. 14th, by leading school groups along the 3rd Grade Agricultural History Tour of Alexander County. Stops included the farms of Roger Miller, Coy Reese, and Deal Orchards.

EE Certification Program Revisions:

The NC Office of Environmental Education has notified all participants currently working toward their environmental educator’s certification that revised program requirements will go into effect in 2009. These additional requirements will improve the quality of EE instruction and are aligned to meet National NAAEE standards. For a small additional fee, current program participants in NC can achieve a nationally recognized EE certification. All requirements met to date will carry over toward the improved certification. Leslie requested that she be permitted to pursue said “nationally accredited” EE certification. Richie Herman made a motion that the Board support Leslie’s revised EE certification attempt and sponsor re-enrollment fees. Wendell Kirkham seconded Richie’s motion, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement.

NCASWCD Executive Director Position:

Leslie presented the Board with a donation request from NCASWCD President, Bobby Stanley, urging each SWCD to contribute \$1,000.00 toward procurement of a full-time NCASWCD Executive Director position. Consideration packets included an Association needs/benefits summary and a draft job description for the position. It was unanimously determined that, due to financial uncertainty, our district should sustain contribution until a later date.

FRED ALEXANDER’S REPORT: (Please see the attached report)

MICHELLE LOVEJOY’S REPORT: (Please see the attached report)

Waterkeeper Alliance:

As a revisited item, Leslie stated Michelle Lovejoy wished to relay that the Waterkeeper Alliance draft rules’ requiring water quality monitoring at animal operations, were passed by the Environmental Management Commission (EMC). DWQ will hold public comment meetings throughout the months of January and February; time/location to be announced. The EMC Agricultural Representative is Mr. Tom Ellis.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Farmland Preservation Program:

Lee and Leslie updated the Board on the quarterly VAD Board meeting held Nov. 19th. Revisions to the County VFPP VAD map were suggested, and an additional 50+ acres of (Charles) Johnson Farms were enrolled in the program. A topic of concern was brought forth concerning VAD board member length of service/term reappointment by the County Commissioners; which Leslie agreed to research. Register of Deeds, Ben Hines, was unable to attend. He will be invited back again next quarter to discuss the possibility of issuing a “Notice of VAD” to prospective land purchasers.

December Board Meeting/Executive Session:

Leslie reminded the Board of the fact that our regularly scheduled 4th Thursday meeting falls on Christmas Day in December. Kent Herman motioned that the December meeting be canceled, as long as there was no urgent business. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the December cancelation. In lieu of being the last meeting of PY08, Richie Herman also declared an executive session in order to discuss end-of-year salary supplements.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie M. Meadows

Next Meeting Date: <u>January 22, 2008</u>	Time: <u>8:00 a.m.</u>	Place: <u>District Office</u>
_____ Signed		_____ Date