



# MINUTES

## ALEXANDER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Held at the District office in Taylorsville, NC

Meeting Number     1    

Date: July 24, 2008

**SUPERVISORS PRESENT:**

Bill Chapman, Chairman  
Myles Payne, Vice-Chairman  
Wendell Kirkham, Secretary

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Leslie Meadows, Education Coordinator/Admin.  
Lee Holcomb, Soil and Water Conservationist  
Michelle Lovejoy, DSWC Area II Coordinator

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON **JULY 24, 2008** ARE APPROVED AS: READ ( ) / CORRECTED ( )

**CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION**

Chairman Bill Chapman officially called the meeting to order at approximately 8:16 a.m. Invocation was given by Wendell Kirkham.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes from last meeting, held June 26, 2008, were evaluated. Myles Payne made a motion to approve the meeting's minutes as presented. Wendell Kirkham seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in approval.

**BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report for the month of June was reviewed in detail for the awareness of the Board. Leslie also presented several internal audit reports, as well as the DSWCD Matching Funds request. Arrangements were made for notarization at the County Finance Department, once the meeting adjourned.

**LEE HOLCOMB'S REPORT:**

**North Carolina Agricultural Cost Share Program (NCACSP):**

ACSP Contract Update – The Board was updated on the status of all contract activity. (*See Attached Tables*) Lee reported no action items to present at this time.

PY 08 CCAP Update – Lee informed the Board that upon further evaluation by DSWC, P.E., Cindy Safrit, the WAMS Stormwater Wetland Area may need to be redesigned as a Bioretention Area. A design change has yet to be determined.

PY 09 Allocation - Lee announced that official allocations for PY 09 have been received from the Division. The Board was presented with initial funding amounts for general ACSP (\$52,834), CREP Earmark (\$5,000), CCAP (\$3,604), Drought Response (\$56,091), and Drought Earmark (\$12,145). It was clarified that there will be no Division penalty on returned CREP funds this program year.

Drought Response Program – Lee reminded the Board that all drought response funds must be allotted, contract practices completed, and payment made to landowners within one year; by April 30, 2009. Policy of the program was discussed. Due to continued drought conditions and the large number of poultry and cattle operations, Myles Payne made a motion to fund as many applicants in need of well assistance, before addressing pasture renovation issues. Wendell Kirkham seconded this motion, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement with said prioritization. Lee and Livestock Extension Agent, Allison Brown, will hold a pasture management/drought response public information meeting on Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, at H & H Arena, just before the local Cattlemen's Meeting.

**LESLIE MEADOWS' REPORT:**

**Farm Family Regional Judging:**

Regional judges visited Payne Dairy, Inc. on July 18<sup>th</sup>. A tent was set up at the Environmental Field Days site, a tour was given, and homemade ice cream was served. Leslie announced that the Payne's were chosen as Mountain Region Conservation Farm Family, and will be presented with an award at the upcoming Area 2 Fall Meeting. A slide show will need to be designed for this presentation. Travel expenses will also need to be provided for the family to attend the NCASWCD Annual Meeting in January for formal recognition. It was noted that no Coastal farm entered the competition this year, so the State level judging, to take place in September, will be against the Piedmont regional winner only. Should the Payne's win State Farm Family of the Year; funds will have to be raised for holding a state-wide Farm Family Celebration Day on the farm.

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**District Issues Committee Meeting:**

Leslie and Lee attended the Area 2 District Issues Committee meeting held July 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Valle Crucis Park, by Watauga SWCD. Leslie reported that discussion continued concerning the suggestion of changing our NCASWCD state contests theme rotation to align with the National NACD poster contest themes. Other topics included procedures for new programs, such as, CCAP, CREP, and the Drought Response.

**Executive Committee Meeting:**

Leslie reminded the Board that she and Myles, who currently sits as Vice-chairman of the Area 2 Executive Committee, must attend a meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup>, at the Avery SWCD office. Preparations will be made for the Area 2 Fall Meeting to be held on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Resource Conservation Workshop Student:**

Lastly, Leslie brought to the Board’s attention the fact that our sponsored RCW student, Chucky Culley, did not attend the workshop as agreed. Discussion was held as to how the Board should respond to this failure to participate, after funding had been provided. Myles Payne made a motion that a letter be drafted to Chucky’s parents, signed by Chairman Bill Chapman, and sent certified mail; requesting full-reimbursement (\$471.34) of RCW sponsorship. Sponsorship included: \$350.00 registration fee to NCSU, \$100.00 travel expense stipend, and \$21.34 for a plaque of recognition (T-sport Shop). Treasurer Wendell Kirkham seconded Myles’ motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the reimbursement request. Leslie agreed to inform the Culleys of the Board’s decision.

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

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Co-operative Groundwater Study Initiative:**

Wendell Kirkham stated he had received word via email from Robin Pulver, Vice-President of Rural Research and Innovation at The Rural Center, that our groundwater study project did not make the cut for fiscal year 2008 funding. The Rural Center will reevaluate our project for possible 2009 funding.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:15 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Leslie M. Meadows*

Next Meeting Date: <u>August 28, 2008</u>	Time: <u>8:00 a.m.</u>	Place: <u>District Office</u>
_____ Signed		_____ Date