



# MINUTES

## ALEXANDER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Held at the District office in Taylorsville, NC

Meeting Number   2  

Date: August 28, 2008

### SUPERVISORS PRESENT:

Bill Chapman, Chairman  
Myles Payne, Vice-Chairman  
Wendell Kirkham, Treasurer  
Richie Herman, Member  
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 **AUGUST 28, 2008** ARE APPROVED AS: READ ( ) / CORRECTED ( )

### CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION

Chairman Bill Chapman officially called the meeting to order at approximately 8:18 a.m. Invocation was given by Wendell Kirkham.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from last meeting, held July 24, 2008, were evaluated. Wendell Kirkham made a motion to approve the meeting's minutes, following a minor correction in sentence structure/wording; concerning the Regional Farm Family's invitation to the Annual Meeting in January. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in approval.

### BUDGET REPORT

The budget report for the month of July was reviewed in detail for the awareness of the Board.

### 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 presented requests for payments on both Harold Mitchell's stock trail contract (Contract #: 02-07-04-16) and supplemental erosion control contract (Contract #: 02-08-01-16 S). Fencing being the only component left for completion. Richie Herman made a motion that both contract RFPs be approved, pending the fencing and other contract items meet NRCS standards and specifications. Kent Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in approval of payment. Lee presented the list of PY09 applications received as of the first batching period. After much deliberation, a motion was made by Richie Herman that incinerator BMPs be excluded from PY09, due to high fuel costs, environmental/air quality concerns, and reoccurring mismanagement. Myles Payne seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of omitting incinerators for PY09.

Drought Response Program – Lee and Livestock Extension Agent, Allison Brown, held a pasture management/drought response information meeting on Aug 12<sup>th</sup>, at H & H Arena for those landowners who have submitted applications (*See Attached Table*). Lee will now begin to prioritize and allocate drought response funds. Myles Payne made a motion to accept the eligible applications, to be ranked and contracted, once determined to meet all program requirements. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement.

PY 08 CCAP Update – Lee updated the Board on the WAMS Stormwater Wetland project; stating that we still await further site evaluation and surveying by the DSWC.

### LESLIE MEADOWS' REPORT:

#### **2008 DEW:**

Leslie reported that she and Lee had attended annual DEW training, August 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, in Atlantic Beach, NC. This year's theme, "Turning the Tide of Conservation", offered several training tracks. Leslie gained EE certification credits by participating in the environmental education track, while Lee took part in hands-on CCAP efforts.

#### **Regional Farm Family Award & State Judging:**

Leslie reminded the Board that Payne Dairy, Inc. was chosen as the Mountain Region Conservation Farm Family, and will be presented with an award at the upcoming Area 2 Fall Meeting. A plaque and slide show will need to be designed for this presentation. Travel expenses will also need to be provided, from the district checking account, for the family to attend the NCASWCD Annual Meeting in January. State judging will be held on the farm, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Environmental Field Days:**

Leslie announced that Field Days would be held a few weeks later in October this year, due to the Alexander County Agricultural Fair and the Area 2 Fall Meeting. Tentative dates are October 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. Leslie has begun contacting schools and presenters. The county has one known special needs 5<sup>th</sup> grader, who will need transportation and handicap restroom facilities/unit. Myles agreed to contact John Deere of Statesville to arrange for a Gator.

**Resource Conservation Workshop Student:**

Leslie informed the Board that a letter had been sent certified mail, to Chucky Culley’s parents, requesting reimbursement for Chucky’s failure to attend the RCW in June. A notice was received stating that the letter was signed for on August 13<sup>th</sup>. No further response or contact with the family has taken place. Chairman Bill Chapman agreed to follow-up with the Culleys by phone. Myles Payne made a motion that payment be stopped on the \$100.00 travel check presented to Chucky, upon the results of Bill’s call. Kent Herman seconded Myles’ motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of stopping payment (costing \$30.00). The Board will revisit the possibility of a written parental agreement for next year’s RCW student.

**Supervisor Travel Reimbursement:**

Leslie approached the Board with a travel reimbursement request for Myles’ trip to the Area 2 Executive Committee Meeting, held July 29<sup>th</sup> in Avery County, as he serves as Area 2 Vice-Chairman. Leslie suggested that the Board reimburse Myles .50¢/mile for 140 miles, plus \$10.00 for lunch, totaling \$80.00. Wendell Kirkham made a motion that said reimbursement be approved out of the district checking account. Richie Herman seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in agreement.

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

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

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**VAD Board Meeting:**

Leslie noted that the quarterly scheduled VAD Board meeting that was to be held on August 19<sup>th</sup> had been cancelled due to DEW. The meeting was not rescheduled for this quarter because there were no Farmland Preservation applications currently on file, awaiting approval. Quarterly VAD meetings will resume on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

**Co-operative Groundwater Study Initiative:**

As the Rural Center has agreed to reevaluate our groundwater study for possible 2009 funding, Leslie reported meeting with Dan McClure, of RC&D, and local legislators, Senator Steve Goss and Representative Ray Warren, on August 6<sup>th</sup>. A plan was devised to complete and submit a formal grant application and have our legislators make direct calls to the Rural Center on our behalf. It was stated that the outlook of this project was becoming much less promising, based on decreased funding and growing opposition.

**Rocky Face Project:**

Leslie informed the Board that ACHS GIS teacher, Eric Walker, has recommended three senior students to take on the Rocky Face Trail/Park project. Each student will need a mentor and at least 15 hours of hands-on experience to fulfill senior project graduation requirements. Leslie will attend a meeting to be arranged with Dan McClure (RC&D), George Brown (IT Dept.), and the GIS students to discuss project details.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:54 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted, Leslie M. Meadows*

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|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Next Meeting Date: <u>September 25, 2008</u> | Time: <u>8:00 a.m.</u> | Place: <u>District Office</u> |
| _____<br>Signed                              |                        | _____<br>Date                 |