



GUILFORD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FY 2019 Meeting Number 6; January 2, 2019 Minutes

Supervisors Present:

George Teague, Chairman
Harold Alexander, Vice Chairman
Ray Briggs – Sec/Treasurer
Josh Myers- Member
Anna Amoriello- Member

Others Present:

Millie Langley – Soil Conservationist
Jamey Walker – Soil Conservation Technician
Kyleene Rooks- Soil & Water Coordinator
Ralston James- Regional Coordinator
Dan Marcum - Guest

The board meeting was called to order by Chairman, George Teague, at 9:00 a.m. He read the Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any conflicts of interest. None were stated.

Agenda

Josh Myers moved to approve the agenda. Harold Alexander seconded. The motion carried.

Minutes

Harold Alexander moved that appropriate wording be corrected in the November minutes regarding the approval of the MOU “in substantial form”. Ray Briggs seconded. The motion carried.

Ray Briggs moved to approve the December 5, 2018 minutes. Josh Myers seconded. The motion carried.

District Conservation Programs

- Jamey Walker presented the Cost Share Programs Update
 - Millie and Jamey are working with landowners on Florence and Michael damages
- There was 1 NC-ACSP Florence Contract to Approve (FFR) = \$7,500.00 each
 - Contract 41-2019-007, Ann Somers, Non-Field Farm Road Repair

Ray Briggs moved to approve the payment of the NC-ACSP Florence Contract. Josh Myers seconded. The motion was carried.

- Millie Langley reported this month’s activity:
 - Jeffery Turner (SWCD intern) is working on adding updated soil maps to the conservation plans he’s logged.
 - Jamey Walker is working with Brian Loadholt (NRCS) and Cindy Safrit to get Job Approval Authority for wells and pipelines.
 - Millie is working on the logistics for the 2019 NCF-Envirothon.
- **VAD or EVAD Applications Approved to Date:** no new changes in VAD.
Totals: 385 parcels; 16,902.90 acres
 - Total VAD: 346 parcels 15,229.22 acres

- Total EVAD: 39 parcels 1,673.68 acres
- **State Funds Cost Share (ACSP, AgWRAP & CCAP) Total Allocation for 2018= \$74,951**
2018 Matching Funds: \$30,150
Total: \$105,101
- **USDA Dollars Guilford County: 2018 EQUIP: \$75,133; 2017 EQUIP: \$65,558; 2016 EQUIP: \$65,658; 2015 EQUIP: \$25,052; EQUIP Total 2015-2018= \$233,402**

Comment from County

- Leslie Bell was unable to attend today's meeting, but was able to email the board an update: the budget process will begin early this year.

NRCS

Brian Loadholt was unable to attend the January board meeting but emailed the board an update:

- NRCS is open for business. During this period of partial shutdown, the NRCS field office is open. Farm Service Agency is currently on furlough along with some of our sister agencies/departments.
- Starting Jan 7th Brian Loadholt will move on to become the state easement specialist. Brent Bogue has been named acting Supervisor for our team for the time being. And Mark Ferguson from Area 1 has been name Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Area 2 until further notice.

EQIP Applications:

- **Current Application # for Team 7: 79 applications** (26 applications for high tunnel across the team)
- **Guilford: 9 applications**. Pools include Seasonal High Tunnel, Pasture, and Crop, Waste Storage Facility.

NRCS has visited 8 of the 9 farms to inventory the resource concerns and are currently evaluating the resource concerns to develop both the conservation plan and cost estimates for potential contract. The team has an objective to provide each participant with time enough to review the plan and determine if it meets their objectives and that they are aware of both the plan requirements and the amount of cost share that will be provided. 3 of the current applications have cost estimates available.

All participants have been mailed eligibility reminder letters during the week of Nov 5th. The letter will include instructions on updating Farm Service Agency Records. Each participant is given 30 days to update their records. We will also attempt to call each participant to make them aware that the letters have been sent.

District Operations

- The Monthly Expenditure Report contained no unusual expenses. We have received a \$300 donation from Farm Credit to help relieve some of the costs in hosting the FFA Land Judging Contest previously held in November 2018. We have also begun to receive pre-orders for the District's Annual Tree Seedling Sale (February 11-15 8AM-6PM). Staff will begin looking into the expense for a cover for the No-Till Drill and Weed Wiper.
- The Annual Meeting (January 6-9) is now open for registration; the location and hotel are the same as last year. The DEA and Association are holding a Bass Pro Gift Card raffle to raise money for their respective organizations.
- Millie reported that Piedmont Conservation Council (RC&D) is working with the district and other local groups on possible projects in stream restorations at locations such as Revolution Mills and N. Buffalo Creek Greenway. The next PCC meeting will be Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 5PM at Revolution Mills.

- There was a change (due to room availability) to the Annual Awards Banquet date this year. It will now be held Thursday, May 23, 2019. The banquet may be held in conjunction with the VAD, similar to last year.
- Upcoming events include:
 - Bundling tree orders after the February board meeting
 - Area 3 Envirothon March 26, 2019 at Elon
 - State Envirothon May 3 – 4, 2018 at Cedarrock Park

New Business

No new business was discussed.

Division Update

Ralston James updated the board:

- How to officially submit Josh Myers as the Legislative Liaison for the district.
- New supervisors are recommended to attend training with the UNC School of Government; with the Feb. 26 location being the closest at the Wake Commons Building. (Anna Amoriello and Josh Myers are registered for this training.)

Adjournment:

With no business to discuss, Harold moved that the meeting be adjourned, Anna seconded and the motion was approved unanimously at 10:15AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 6, 2019, 9AM at the Guilford County Agriculture Building Conference Room. It will be George Teague's turn to bring snack.



Secretary/Treasurer