



GUILFORD SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3309 Burlington Road, Greensboro, North Carolina, 27405-7605 / (336) 641-2440

FY 2022 – 2023 Meeting Number 10 June 7, 2023 Minutes

Supervisors Present:

George Teague, Chair
Josh Myers, Vice Chair
Anna Amoriello, Secretary/Treasurer
Ray Briggs, Member
Grace Summers, Member

Others Present:

Jamey Walker, S&W Conservation Manager
Gary Cox, S&W Conservation Technician
Nicole Carolan, Soil & Water Coordinator
Millie Langley, Soil Conservationist
Brandon King, NRCS Sup. Soil Conservationist

The board meeting was called to order by Chairman, George Teague, at 9:15 AM at the Guilford Agriculture Center Auditorium. George Teague welcomed everyone in attendance.

He then read the Conflict of Interest Statement and asked if there were any conflicts of interest; none were stated. He then noted the Statement of Professionalism that the Commission recently recommended including at each board meeting.

Agenda

George Teague asked everyone to review the agenda as presented. *Josh Myers moved to approve the agenda adding Commissioner Troxler's letter of support to New Business. Ray Briggs seconded, and the motion was approved.*

Minutes

George asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes from the May 2023 meeting. *Ray moved to approve the May minutes as presented. Josh seconded, and the motion was approved.*

Comments from County

No report in Leslie's absence.

NRCS

Brandon King gave the NRCS update. He mentioned that in addition to Roman, that he had another NRCS intern RJ and is expecting another in early July. He will be planning some field training for them over the summer.

District Conservation Programs

- Gary Cox presented the Cost Share Program update including the following contracts needing extensions. All have work underway except 41-2019-803, which is pending for Engineering approval:

41-2019-803	Aaron Sink	Irrigation Pond	35,000 (Pended for Engineering)
41-2021-001	Ryan Blankenship	CAT, Field Borders	13,259
41-2021-002	Colton Perdue	Well, Waters	13,918
41-2021-010	Colton Perdue	Supplement	6,453
41-2021-801	Mike Morgan	Well	8,993
41-2021-803	Craven Smith	Micro-Irrigation	24,967

Note that a Supervisor, in addition to George, must attend the July Commission meeting in person or virtually. Josh is planning to attend.

- The county approved two new VAD applications for Eric and Cristy Minnis of Burlington for 16.38 acres; two parcels for Sam and Tomasita Jacobowitz of Whitsett for 20.12 acres. Guilford County's Voluntary Ag District totals are now VAD, 397 parcels and 17,420.70 acres and EVAD 43 parcels and 1,765.68 acres; total of both VAD and EVAD is 440 parcels and 19,186.38 acres.

- Gary reported that the spot checks went well and are complete with no outstanding deficiencies; only a few were found to have maintenance needed.

District Education

- Nicole reported that the RCW Applicant cancelled.
- Nicole noted that the Foundation report included \$40 for a Wood Duck box sale and an expenditure of \$391.00 for No-Till Drill parts.
- Nicole had a tour for a group of Greensboro Day School students on May 16th. She took them to George's and to Craven Smith's farm. The next day Nicole showed them the cisterns and rain gardens at the Ag Center.
- Nicole reminded the board that we will be ordering the tree seedlings on July 5th, opening day of Tree Sale Season. She asked if they had any requests or preferences for species to order. They agreed that staff could decide what sold best and what would be available by the time we get our call answered.
- Millie reported that she will be attending the NCF-Envirothon in New Brunswick, Canada July 23-28.

District Operations

- Nicole reported that Brandon Emert sent a report to her on the number of applications and types of assistance for the beaver program. They program assisted with removing 25 beavers, and 12 beaver dams. This saved potentially \$170,667 in resources that would have been borne by the home/landowners.
- Jamey gave an update on the Munis Report for the regular district expenses. He reported that the window film had been installed. There were several things that hasn't shown up yet. He also noted that \$800 was moved from Education and Training (532200) to Routine Building Maintenance and Repair (531000). \$1,800 was also moved from Education and Training (532200) to Part-time Salaries (510200) for potential intern salary. Approximately \$300 is left in Education and Training after these items were moved and the C.E.T. registration (\$800) was paid (C.E.T. to be held in Greensboro Sept. 18-21, 2023).
- Jamey reported on the \$500 donation to the NC Foundation for Soil & Water that was voted on by the District Board at the April board meeting. Jamey spoke to County Finance about the donation from the foundation account. Finance referred to the County Attorney on the matter, the County Attorney did not believe this to be appropriate based on the information. There is a question of whether the board can legally give donations without a direct service being provided. George will be following up with Leslie.
- Jamey also reported that he is already receiving applications for the intern position that will focus on an audit of the VAD and EVAD program. He and Millie will be working on the Scope of Work, interviews and potential timeline for the intern position.
- The Conservation Employee Training will be held September 18-21, 2023 in Greensboro at the Embassy Suites Hotel, out near the airport. The staff is working with DSWC staff Sydney Mucha and Josh Vetter to determine potential tour sites.
- Millie asked for support to attend the SE RC&D Conference in Cherokee Sept. 10-12. She asked for registration in the amount of \$225 and hotel for \$603. *Grace moved to approve this request either from funds remaining in Education & Training for either this FY or next. Anna seconded and the motion was approved.*


New Business

- George informed the board that he sent a letter of support for Ag Commissioner Steve Troxler to assist Rockingham SWCD in submitting him for the NCASWCD Hall of Fame.

Adjournment

With no other business to discuss, Josh moved to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 am. Grace seconded, and the motion was approved.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 2nd, 2023 at 9:00 am in the Guilford Ag Center Barn Kitchen Meeting Room



 Secretary/Treasurer