

Minutes
Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
January 8, 2009

The Forsyth SWCD Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2009 in the Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Auditorium A. The meeting was called to order by Grover McPherson, Chairman.

Present: Grover McPherson, Chairman
Ed Wall, Secretary-Treasurer
Toby Bost, Member
Steven Anderson, Member
Mark Tucker, Director, Cooperative Extension
Mike Bowman, Soil & Water Conservationist
Wendi Hartup, Assistant Extension Agent, Cooperative Extension
Linda Birdsong, Soil and Water Community Conservation Coordinator
Michelle Lovejoy, Area 2 Coordinator
Gary Cox, District Conservationist

Minutes/Financial Report

Minutes of the regular session of the SWCD Board meeting on December 11, 2008 were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented.

The Financial Report of the SWCD Board was reviewed. The item was approved as presented.

Forsyth County

Mark Tucker reminded members that all county departments have been requested to hold a percentage of their budget in reserve. This amount is approximately 6% of the Cooperative Extension operating budget.

Two appointments on the Agricultural Advisory Board expire in February, 2009. Interested applicants may apply online through the Forsyth County website. Current members have been notified of their term expiration. General consensus was for the current board members to be reappointed if they desire.

The Lake Hills project has been approved for \$130,000 by DWR. A budget amendment will be submitted for approval at an upcoming County Commissioners meeting.

A general conservation newsletter will be sent out quarterly to county residents and will touch on topics including CES and SWCD programs. Attendees discussed targeted audience, postage costs, and the possibility of creating an electronic list serve. One newsletter per year (after the Conservation Award is presented) will be from the Soil and Water Board.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Gary Cox reported that the first phase of a national NRCS audit has been completed. The future EQIP project on a large cattle operation may be funded in fiscal year '09.

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Michelle Lovejoy gave updates on Area 2, Commission, and Division, and highlighted upcoming meetings and events. She reported that SWCC has approved development of a Water Conservation Assistance Program to promote water reuse and increase water storage capacity. Michelle also announced the appointment of Dee Freeman as the new Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources.

NC Agriculture Cost Share Program Report

Contract Requests for Payment

A Request for Payment was presented from Steve Walton for CPO 34-09-02-12 in the amount of \$1,080. Ed Wall made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Steven Anderson and it was passed unanimously.

Mike Bowman reported that Marvin Eaton has received a dam safety permit.

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)

Job Approval Authority

Mike Bowman has applied for CCAP Job approval authority for three practices, Impervious Surface Conversion, Grassed Swale, and Critical Area Planting. Linda Birdsong will meet with David Bare of the Winston-Salem Journal to discuss Community Conservation information to be included in a future news article.

Old Business

A news article on Leo Whicker will be published in the Winston-Salem Journal Community Milestones column.

New Business

Election of SWCD Board Officers

Grover McPherson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Chairman. Ed Wall nominated Grover McPherson for Chairman. Grover McPherson was elected Chairman.

Grover McPherson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman. Steve Anderson nominated Toby Bost for Vice Chairman. Toby Bost was elected Vice Chairman.

Grover McPherson opened the floor for nominations for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. Steve Anderson nominated Ed Wall for Secretary-Treasurer. Ed Wall was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting date:

February 12, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

The Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Auditorium A

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

Chairman, Forsyth SWCD

cc: NCDENR: Division of Soil and Water
Michelle Lovejoy, Area 2 Coordinator
Angela Little, Assistant State Conservationist
Damon Sanders-Pratt, Deputy County Manager