

Minutes
Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
October 16, 2008

The Forsyth SWCD Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 16, in Room 12 of the Forsyth County Agriculture Building. The meeting was called to order by Grover McPherson, Chairman.

Present: Grover McPherson, Chairman
Wes Schollander, Vice Chairman
Ed Wall, Secretary
Toby Bost, Member
Beth Tucker, Member
Mark Tucker, Director Cooperative Extension
Mike Bowman, Soil & Water Conservationist
Linda Birdsong, Soil and Water Community Conservation Coordinator
Gary Cox, District Conservationist

Minutes/Financial Report

Minutes of the regular session of the SWCD Board meeting on September 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.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Gary Cox reported that he is no longer assigned to work in Randolph County. He and Mike Bowman recently completed the status reviews of conservation plans. Gary also reported that an engineer will do the design work for a horse manure composter as part of a cost share contract with Tanglewood Park.

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Michelle Lovejoy's October Area 2 update was reviewed. Board members were reminded of the upcoming SWCD Working Lands Easement Program Workshop to be held at the WSRO in Winston-Salem on October 28th. Grover McPherson added that Dick Fowler is now the District Programs Outreach Coordinator for the DSWC.

NC Agriculture Cost Share Program Report

Contract Actions

An application was presented from Wayne Woosley for Pasture Renovation. Wes Schollander made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Toby Bost and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Wayne Woosley in the amount of \$2,250 for CPO 34-09-18-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Wes Schollander, and was seconded by Toby Bost. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from William Wetherall for Cropland Conversion Repair. Wes Schollander made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Toby Bost and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for William Wetherall in the amount of \$1,620 for CPO 34-09-13-12 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Wes Schollander, and was seconded by Toby Bost. The motion was passed unanimously.

A Supplement and Request for Payment was presented from Ed Wall for Pasture Renovation in the amount of \$270. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Beth Tucker and it was passed unanimously, with Ed Wall abstaining.

Beth Tucker made a motion to approve a Request for Payment from Leo Whicker on CPO 34-09-11-16 in the amount of \$3,510. Wes Schollander seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Wes Schollander made a motion to approve a Request for Payment from Gray Bowman on CPO 34-09-14-12 in the amount of \$1,350. Beth Tucker seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Community Conservation Assistance Program

Contract Actions

An application was presented from Anne Long for a Cistern and a Rain Garden. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander, and it was passed unanimously. The contract for Anne Long in the amount of \$1,507 for CPO 34-09-504-16 was presented. A motion for approval was made by Toby Bost and seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application for two Cisterns was presented by Donald Hartman. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The contract for Donald Hartman in the amount of \$5,295 for CPO 34-09-505-12 was presented. A motion for approval was made by Toby Bost and seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion for approval was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Chris Boyd for a Rain Garden. Beth Tucker made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The contract for Chris Boyd in the amount of \$378 for CPO 34-09-506-16 was presented. A motion for approval was made by Beth Tucker and seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

A request for payment for North Carolina School of The Arts in the amount of \$4,099 for CPO 34-08-501-16 was presented. A motion for approval was made by Wes Schollander and seconded by Beth Tucker. The motion was passed unanimously.

Old Business

Stimpson Application

Reimbursement for Mr. Stimpson would require post approval of a CPO, and Ed Wall stated that this action could potentially set a precedent for the FSWCD. Following discussion, Ed Wall made a motion to deny Mr. Stimpson's request. The motion was seconded by Beth Tucker. The motion was passed unanimously. Mike Bowman will inform Mr. Stimpson.

New Business

Watershed Dams

Mark Tucker reported that he and Damon Sanders-Pratt, Deputy County Manager, recently visited the four county watershed dams. The county's department of General Services has been performing necessary maintenance and will continue to do so.

Farm City Banquet

The annual Farm City Banquet will be held at the Fairgrounds on November 18th or 25th. A letter of support to help offset the costs associated with the banquet was read by Grover McPherson. The amount of money contributed will be decided upon at the November SWCD meeting. A keynote speaker is being sought to talk about biodiesel or

other renewable fuels. Grover McPherson will obtain the name of the speaker who gave a presentation on energy producing alternatives at the 2008 NCASWCD annual meeting. Toby Bost suggested Bob Barton as a possible speaker on the utilization of wood products as biofuels. Toby also suggested that the district recognize Bob Cooper, Forestry Conservation winner, at the banquet.

Cisterns

The board discussed the possibility of having the ACSP include cisterns as a cost share practice given the drought conditions most farmers have recently experienced. Grover McPherson will write a letter to David Williams requesting that the TRC look into adding cisterns.

DEA Cookbook

In support of the DEA's fund raising project, Ed Wall made a motion for the FSWCD to purchase five DEA cookbooks to use as gifts or door prizes. Beth Tucker seconded the motion, and the motion was passed unanimously.

CREP Agreement

Grover McPherson gave a brief history of the CREP program which currently exists in 76 counties. If the district wants to make the program available to landowners, it must enter into agreement with the Division. Following discussion, Ed Wall made a motion to sign the agreement. Beth Tucker seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Forsyth SWCD Newsletter

Beth Tucker showed the Board a copy of the Fall Allegheny SWCD Newsletter and suggested that the Forsyth SWCD resume publication of a biannual (Spring/Summer, Fall/Winter) newsletter. Linda Birdsong will develop a plan for publishing a newsletter highlighting district programs and events.

Adjourn

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

The next meeting date:

November 13, 2008 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