

**Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
721 Foster Street
Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 03(District Meeting) Date: April 7, 2010
Meeting Number: 08(for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Robert Rosenthal, Vice Chairman
Ray Eurquhart, Supervisor
Danielle Adams, Secretary/Treasurer
Kathryn Spann- Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Watershed Conservationist
Lynwood Faison- Soil Conservationist
Matt Kinane, NRCS District Conservationist
Steve Bennett- Area Coordinator
Julie Elmore- Piedmont RC&D Coordinator
Betty Jo Shephard- representative from Senator Richard Burr's office

The regular monthly meeting of the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District Board was held on Wednesday April 7, 2010, and called to order at 1:06 pm by the chair. The meeting was held at the Soil & Water office, the chairman being present.

1. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Danielle Adams to accept the Financial Statement and approve the minutes. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

2. **Old Business**
 - A. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update** – Effective today Danielle Adams is going to take the place of Ray Eurquhart as Soil & Water representative attending the meeting.

 - B. **Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** –Robert Rosenthal reported that on March 4th the EAB held their first retreat at the Satisfactions Restaurant to discuss what kind of goals they should have and how they can better accomplish them. Ellen Reckhow with the Board of County Commissioners and Mike Woodard from the City Council attended to the meeting to talk about what they saw as some of the upcoming issues. The EAB is still working on the banning of plastic bags in Durham.

 - C. **Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** –Lynwood Faison reported that since the last meeting they have had 7 plans and all were adequate as follows: Social Security Administration; Roxboro Road Hotel; Ravenstone Phase III; Wood Chapel Phase 2B; Verizon South, Inc.; Cardinal Lake Phases 6, 9 & 12; Building 'O' Expansion-The Street at Southpoint.

 - D. **Agricultural Cost Share Program**- Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported on the following:
 - Has a revision to a contract for Corene C. Whitfield on Ag contract # 32/10/02/09. Contract # 32/10/02/09 was previously approved by the board and the Division of Soil & Water. The original contract was for 1.4 acres of grass waterways but they have now decided to do the whole farm reworking all of their waterways. The new acre amount is 3 ½ acres. The original contract amount was \$5,007 and is now \$11, 387. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the revision for Contract #32/10/02/09 in the amount of \$11,387 for 3 ½ acres of grass waterways. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- Has 1 application for assistance for Milton Gaynard. The application is for a field boarder, grass waterways, and cropland conversion. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve application 32/10/04/09. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Has 1 application for assistance for Steve Shepherd. The application is for a pond repair/renovation. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve application 32/10/05/09. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Has 1 contract for approval for Milton Gaynard on Ag contract # 32/10/04/09 for field boarder, grass waterways & cropland conversion in the amount of \$4,498. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve contract # 32/10/04/09. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Has 1 contract for approval for Steve Shepherd on Ag contract # 32/10/05/09 for a pond repair/renovation in the amount of \$24,219. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve contract # 32/10/05/09. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- We have several drought contracts that are getting ready to expire unless the board grants them a 6 month extension. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to grant a 6 month extension on the following contracts: Patricia T. Byrd contract # 32/09/04/09 to December 2, 2010; Shelia Roberts contract # 32/09/07/09 to December 2, 2010; R. Thomas Veasey contract # 32/09/08/09 to December 2, 2010; Randy & Kellie Hamilton contract # 32/09/15/09 to October 8, 2010. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

E. CCAP – Watershed Conservationist, Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- Has revision to a contract that the board already approved last meeting. The revision is on the dollar amount for contract 32/10/503/15 on a diversion . Last month the board approved to set aside \$628 in grant funds for contract # 32/10/503/15. A re-estimation of the total cost was done and the new dollar amount that needs to be set aside for reimbursement is \$474. The new amount needed is \$154 less than projected last month. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve the revision dollar amount on contract # 32/10/503/15 pending signatures. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- \$2,348 is left in regular CCAP funds.

F. Administrative Officer– Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

- **Awards Banquet** – The Annual Awards Banquet will be held this year on May 21st. Talmage Layton reserved the Redwood Ruritan Club. Normally the board purchases an item to give away to everyone that attends the banquet. This year we would like to give away bags. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to allow staff to spend \$325 max on giveaway bags for the banquet. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **NCSTA-** Jennifer Brooks and Lisa Marochak are doing a FLP training in November at the NC Science Teachers Association and are in need of \$25 each to join the NCSTA. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to give Jennifer and Lisa \$25 each to join the NCSTA. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Signs-** We have come up with a sign to use at the CCAP sites. Lynwood Faison is going to check with Southern High School to see if they can make the sign holders for us.

G. Environmental Education- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

- **Envirothon Teams** – This year Durham SWCD had 5 teams to place in the top 7 at the area Envirothon so they will be advancing to the State Envirothon on April 23-24. The Vicious Vipers a high school team from Durham, won 1st place. The registration cost to send each team is \$25 and the board usually pays this expense. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to pay \$250 for the 5 teams to attend the state Envirothon. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- **2010 Resource Conservation Workshop-** The 2010 RCW sponsored by the NC Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts and the Division of Soil and Water will be held June . We would like to have a student from Durham County attend the workshop this year. If you know of a rising Junior or Senior that is interested in attending please have them contact Jennifer Brooks. Lisa Marochak reported that Danielle Adams has graciously volunteered to be a RCW counselor this year.

H. Durham Farmland Protection- Kathryn Spann reported on the following:

- **Legislative Tour** – a Legislative tour is planned for May 5th
- **Members-** Will Wilson is now in the Eno VAD position. The board is now getting close to full capacity.
- **Farmland Plan** – Kathryn Spann tried to present the Farmland plan to the City Council on March 18th but they never called on her to present the plan even though she was on the agenda.
- **Next meeting-** The next meeting date is scheduled for March 18th at 8am.

I. Stream Restoration – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **CWMTF-**
 - 1) On March 24th some visitors from CWMTF came to Durham to look at the Lick Creek and Thacker projects. Both of the projects look outstanding and everyone that can should try and attend the Legislative Tour on May 5th. We will be showing at least 1 of these projects on the tour.
 - 2) Last year we had some grants that were awarded to the board and the Governor had to make up for some budget short falls and CWMTF took the 3 grants back. We have since received one of the grants back from CWMTF. CWMTF still plans to make the other two grants good. CWMTF has asked the board to fill out a questionnaire pertaining to the project. The staff has been able to answer all of the questions but they would like input on one of the questions from the board. Out of the two grant applications that CWMTF took from us last year (Stirrup Iron Creek & Phase V Sandy Creek) they would like to know which project we think is priority out of the two. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to send the questionnaire back to CWMTF with a priority for funding on Sandy Creek Phase V. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

J. Area Coordinator- Steve Bennett reported on the following:

- **RCW-** The board needs to be thinking of a student(s) they may want to send to the RCW this year. The RCW will be held the week of Jun21st.
- **State Envirothon** – The State Envirothon will be held April 23rd and 24th at Cedar Rock Park in Alamance Co. They are in need of volunteers, if you are interested contact Steve Bennett.
- **319 deadline-** The deadline to submit applications for the 319 grant is April 29th.
- **CCAP/cistern training-** There will be a CCAP/cistern training in Durham on April 20th at SEEDS.

K. Falls Lake Watershed Rules – Jennifer Brooks reported that the rules were presented to EMC in March and they passed the rules. The rules now have to go to the State auditor's office for a fiscal review to determine the dollar amount the rules are going to cost the counties. Public meetings could be held as early as May or June. The big thing Ag is concerned with now is their definition of a stream they are using in the rules.

L. NRCS Report - Matt Kinane, NRCS District Conservationist reported on the following:

- **EQIP** - the application process is wrapping up.
- **Conservation Plan** – Matt Kinane presented a Conservation Plan to the board for approval for Barry Blalock. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the conservation plan for Barry Blalock. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **New State Conservationist-** J.B Martin who was the acting State Conservationist is now the new official State Conservationist.

M. Director's Report – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

- **New position-** Effective May 1st Jennifer Brooks will be moving latterly into Lynwood Faison's current position. Jennifer will be responsible for Ag Cost Share and Environmental Education. Jennifer's current position has been advertised externally. The job will be posted until April 23rd. The advertised position will be responsible for the CCAP program, Falls & Jordan rules, and the Ag Economic position.
- **DEA Training Committee** – Eddie Culberson reported that he is currently serving on the DEA Training Committee. The board met on March 29th with Pat Harris from the Division of Soil & Water and Ray Leatherwood to discuss the training initiative for the NC District Employees.
- **FLP Tour** – Durham SWCD has been asked to come up with a tour site for the National Food, Land & People Board Meeting on April 30th.

3. New Business:

- A. Representative from Senator Richard Burr's office-** Betty Jo Shephard, a representative from Senator Richard Burr's office, reported that Danielle Adams asked that someone from Burr's office come to Durham Soil & Water's Board meeting. Danielle Adams reported that this board is very concerned about the RC&D funding being left out of the proposed budget. Also the board would like to address other funding needs in Durham County. Julie Elmore with Piedmont RC&D reported on the following:
- **Grants** – has applied for 1.3 million dollars in grant money this year. Out of the 1.3 million, 70 thousand will be coming to Durham for a FAB lab.
 - **RC&D budget** – The president has zeroed out the RC&D budget again this year.
 - **FY 2009 Accomplishments** – passed out a copy of the Piedmont and NC RC&D FY2009 accomplishments.

4. Adjourn: The chairman adjourned at 2:11 PM.

Next Meeting: May 12th at 2pm

Talmage Layton

Chairman

Robert Rosenthal

Vice Chairman