

## MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 07(District Meeting)                      Date: September 17, 2009  
Meeting Number: 02 (for State reporting purposes)

**Supervisors Present:**

Talmage Layton, Chairman  
Robert Rosenthal, Vice Chairman  
Danielle Adams, Treasurer /Secretary  
Ray Eurquhart, Supervisor  
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- DENR

1. Chairman Talmage Layton called the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to order at 5:35 PM
2. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Danielle Adams to accept the Financial Statement and approve the minutes. Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **Old Business**
  - A. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update** – Ray Eurquhart reported on the following:
    - Ray Eurquhart attended the last Falls Lake meeting that was held on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be held October 6<sup>th</sup> off of Reedy Creek Rd.
  - B. **Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** –Robert Rosenthal reported they only have 6 members out of 11 seats.
  - C. **Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** –Lynwood Faison reported that since the last meeting they have had 2 plans and all are adequate as follows: RTI Central Utilities Expansion Phase I and Virgil Road-Westside.
  - D. **Agricultural Cost Share Program** – Lynwood Faison reported:
    - Has 1 application for assistance for Bill Lee Jr. The application is for cropland conversion on 11.2 acres. A motion was Ray Eurquhart to approve application 32/10/01/09. Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
    - Lynwood Faison reported that he has 1 contract that needs to be approved. The contract is for Bill Lee Jr. for \$2,520. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve contract # 32/10/01/09 for cropland conversion on 11.2 acres. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
    - Has 1 application for assistance for Corene Whitfield 32/10/02/09. The application is for grass waterways. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve application 32/10/02/09. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

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

- Durham SWCD is starting to receive interest in the CCAP program from Government entities. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to place a cap on all governmental entities that apply for CCAP funds. A 25% cost-share rate will apply for all governmental entities on all CCAP practices up to \$2,500 cap per applicant/per year. A batching period will be held for all governmental entities. The first batching period will run from now until November 30, 2009.
- Has 1 Application for Assistance that needs to be approved. The application is for 123 sq ft rain garden. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve application for assistance on 32/10/506/15. Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Has 1 contract that needs to be approved. The contract is for a 123 sq. ft. rain garden in the amount of \$390. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve contract # 32/10/506/15 for 123 sq. ft. rain garden. Danielle Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- Has 1 Application for Assistance that needs to be approved. The application is for the City of Durham on a bio-retention. A motion was made by Danielle Adams to approve the Application for Assistance on 32/10/507/09. Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

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

- **Area IV Envirothon-** Area IV Envirothon Committee is asking for our support again this year. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to give \$100 to the Area IV Envirothon. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Land Trust Alliance-** Membership for the Land Trust Alliance will expire this month. The cost to renew the membership is \$250. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to pay the \$250 dues to Land Trust Alliance. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **State Fair-** We will be working at the State Fair again this year on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will be working at the Soil & Water Booth highlighting the Durham Soil & Water District. If you are interested in helping out on October 22<sup>nd</sup> please call or email Lisa Marochak.

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

- **NC Wildlife Resource Center-** The store will be closing down soon and is currently have a ½ off sale on everything in the store. We are in need of some more resource materials for our Envirothon boxes. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to allow Jennifer Brooks to spend up to \$250 at the NC Wildlife Store for resource materials. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- **Big Sweep-** National Big Sweep Day is October 3 but since we have clean-up throughout the whole month of October we thought it would be great to declare the whole month of October Big Sweep Month for Durham County. Jennifer Brooks reported that this will be an agenda action item at the September 28 BOCC meeting.  
Jennifer Brooks reported that normally the captain of each Big Sweep Group is given a Big Sweep T-shirt. The cost of the t-shirts is \$10 each. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to approve for staff to purchase 1 shirt for each group captain.
- **Field Days-** will be held October 13 & 15. If you would like to volunteer to help out please contact the Soil & Water office.

**H. Durham Farmland Protection-** Jennifer reported that the Durham County Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Plan (Public Draft) has been posted to the Durham Soil & Water website so that the public can have a chance to review the plan and make comments back to the plan consultant Gerry Cohn by October 2.

Kathryn Spann reported that the Farmland Board has several vacant positions. The board discussed possible candidates to fill the vacant position at the last board meeting. They also discussed potential tax incentives for the agricultural community.

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

- 1) **CWMTF** held a telephone conference today to discuss the CWMTF budget. CWMTF was given back 50 million and will be reallocating 44.2 million. Of the 2008 applicants that were awarded, 3 of

our grants were taken by Governor Purdue. CWMTF has reallocated \$490,000 back to Durham Soil & Water on the Sandy Creek grant. Two of the grants were not reallocated this go round but CWMTF is still planning on awarding us the funds but just not at this time.

- 2) **RN Harris**- The bio-retention basin has been fixed and is no longer leaking.
- 3) **Gerald Thacker**- holding off on recording the easement for Thacker to make sure this easement does not conflict with the Durham County easement he has applied for..
- 4) **Lick Creek**- All 3 of the Lick Creek Easements have been filed with the register of deeds office.
- 5) **Sandy Creek**- Phase 4- Reach 2 has been designed

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

- **EQIP Listening Session**- sign up to attend 1 of the listening sessions going on across the state. Mary Combs is looking for comments back on the listening sessions.
  - **EQIP & WHIP**- Kinane reported that he has 1 WHIP contract approved for Dr. and Mrs. Clark. He also has 1 EQIP contract approved for Mr. William O'Quinn.
  - **Conservation Stewardship Program**- The batching period is going on now through September 30<sup>th</sup>. The second batching period will be October 1st- January 10<sup>th</sup>

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

- **SENACD** – Eddie Culberson attended the SENACD Meeting in Charleston, SC August 23-26. The District was asked to attend the meeting because they wanted to highlight the Durham Soil & Water district during one of the meetings.
- **Farm Family Judging**- September 22-24 he (Eddie Culberson) has been asked to be a State Farm Family Judge.
- **RC&D Meeting**- Culberson reported that he attended the RC&D Annual Meeting that took place August 30-September 2 at the Grove Park in Asheville. Senator Richard Burr spoke to the group and stated he will support the house Bill of the RC&D Budget.
  - \* Talmage Layton reported at last months meeting the board approved to send Eddie Culberson to the RC&D Meeting but a cap was place at \$600. The cost of the trip was over \$700. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to give Eddie Culberson an addition \$100 to help cover his expenses. Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

**L. Area Coordinator**- Steve Bennett reported on the following:

- **National Envirothon**- Steve Bennett reported on the success of the National Envirothon.
- **Supervisor Breakfast**- The Soil and Water Commission voted to suspend the breakfast allowance for all Supervisors effective September 19, 2009.
- **NASCA**- this is a training program for approximately 270 District Employees. Employees used to be able to attend training programs that NRCS provided but they are no longer available. The NASCA program would offer training classes for Administrative, Technical and Education.

**4. New Business:**

- a. **Jordan Lake**- Jennifer Brooks reported that she attended the Jordan Lake AG Rules Meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> and they announced that as of today a 50ft buffer is required on streams.

**5. Adjourn:**

The chairman adjourned at 7:31 PM.

**Next Meeting: October 5, 2009 at 5:30 pm**

Talmage Layton

Chairman

Robert Rosenthal

Vice Chairman