

Minutes

Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

February 9, 2006

The Forsyth SWCD Board met at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday February 9, 2006 in room 39 of the Forsyth County Agriculture Bldg. The meeting was called to order by Kerry Venable, Chairman.

Present: Kerry Venable, Chairman
Grover McPherson, Vice Chairman
Ed Wall, Secretary/Treasurer
Wes Schollander, Member
Stacey Manning, Member
Randy Blackwood, District Conservationist
Michelle Lovejoy, Area II Coordinator

1. Minutes/Financial Report

- A. Minutes of the regular session of the SWCD for January were reviewed. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Ed Wall motioned for approval. Second by Stacey Manning. Approved unanimously.
- B. Financial Report for SWCD Board was reviewed. Kerry Venable asked for motion of approval. Grover McPherson motioned for approval. Second by Ed Wall. Approved unanimously.

2. Natural Resources Conservation Service

- A. Update on EQIP Applications: 3 applications were received by allocating \$90,000 to \$95,000 this is a substantial increase over last years \$32,000.

3. Cost Share Program Report

- A. Cost Share Meeting 02/22/2006 – Guilford Agriculture Building. Board voted to approve Mike Bowman to attend
- B. Contract Worth Masencup (34-06-10-16) \$6692 – Heavy Use Area, Fencing, Critical Area Planting, French Drain, Animal Trail and Walkway. Kerry Venable asked for motion to table for further review. Board determined they would make a site visit to view resource concerns and decide the best course of action looking at project cost versus environmental benefits. Date of site visit to be determined. Grover McPherson made motion. Second by Ed Wall. Approved unanimously.

4. Farmland Preservation

- A. 2006 Reviews – Board agreed that Mike Bowman should get with Ed Wall to review tracts. During discussion the board decided to review tracts on the FPP Review list and make inspections to tracts in close proximity to their residence or place of business to facilitate the review process.

5. Old Business

- A. Grover McPherson has researched the boards concerns with holding easements for EEP and other stream bank restoration projects and does not see any major problems with the district accepting easements. There are a couple of questions that need to be answered. Will the staff have enough time to annually inspect these easements? Research is needed to determine what potential for reimbursement exists. Mr. McPherson advised that the district may modify these agreements to suit the board's situation. The district could agree to monitor the site and report any noncompliance or they could take full responsibility for getting any improvements put back in. This decision would require more funding. Board would need to review each easement from a legal stand point.

6. New Business

- A. Area II Spring Meeting March 09, 2006 Wilkesboro, NC – Grover McPherson and Wes Schollander will be attending the Spring Meeting. Remaining board members to advise if attending within one week. Board discussed moving the board meeting to March 02, 2006 (tentative) due to the Spring Meeting falling on the same day as the usual board meeting.

Adjourn

The next meeting date:

March 02, 2006 8:30 AM (tentative)

The Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Room 39

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

Chairman, Forsyth SWCD

cc: NCDENR: Division of Soil and Water
Jerry Dorsett, Acting DSWC Area 2 Coordinator
Jacquie Simon, Assistant State Conservationist
Ron Graham, Deputy County Manager