

**Minutes**  
**Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting**  
**September 11, 2008**

The Forsyth SWCD Board met at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 11, in Auditorium A 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  
Mike Bowman, Soil & Water Conservationist  
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 August 11 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 engineering spot checks had been completed in Forsyth County. Due to a new staffing plan, Gary will be working in Guilford and Randolph Counties in addition of Forsyth. Grover McPherson stated that he felt this was extremely poor management on the part of Mary Combs and the Area Office to make changes with no notification to the Board.

**Division of Soil and Water Conservation**

Michelle Lovejoy highlighted upcoming important meetings including District Issues, Farm Family, CCAP Job Approval, and Fall Area II. She encouraged all Board members and staff to attend the Area II Fall meeting if possible. Mike Bowman suggested that we take a van if enough people are interested in attending the meeting.

**NC Agriculture Cost Share Program Report**

Contract Actions

An application was presented from Dorothy Pyrtle for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Dorothy Pyrtle in the amount of \$540 for CPO 34-09-06-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Leo Whicker for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Leo Whicker in the amount of \$3,510 for CPO

34-09-11-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Ray Cates for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Ray Cates in the amount of \$2,700 for CPO 34-09-12-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Gray Bowman for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Gray Bowman in the amount of \$1,350 for CPO 34-09-14-12 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Robert Long for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Robert Long in the amount of \$2,970 for CPO 34-09-15-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

An application was presented from Tim Disher for Pasture Renovation. Toby Bost made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Wes Schollander and it was passed unanimously. The Contract for Tim Disher in the amount of \$1,800 for CPO 34-09-16-16 was presented and a motion for approval was made by Toby Bost, and was seconded by Wes Schollander. The motion was passed unanimously.

Beth Tucker made a motion to approve a Request for Payment from Daren Ziglar on CPO 34-09-03-12 in the amount of \$810. Wes Schollander seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Toby Bost made a motion to approve a Request for Payment from Ed Wall on CPO 34-08-10-16 in the amount of \$1,350. Wes Schollander seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously, with Ed Wall abstaining.

The Board members discussed the Drought Recovery Grant. Pasture Renovation applicants who qualify for the 90% rates are eligible to receive a reimbursement up to \$270 per acre. Applicants who applied for the same practice using 2008 funds were limited to a cap of up to \$225 per acre, regardless of whether or not they qualified for the 75% or the 90% reimbursement rate. Wes Schollander made a motion to use 2009 DRG funds to pay up to an additional \$45 per acre to the 90% applicants from 2008 for Pasture Renovation, subject to approval from the DSWC. Toby Bost seconded and the motion was approved unanimously, with Ed Wall and Beth Tucker abstaining.

### **Community Conservation Assistance Program**

Linda Birdsong reported that CCAP applications 34-09-501-16 and 34-09-502-16 were submitted and approved by the Division. Interest in the program continues to grow, especially for installation of cisterns and rain gardens. Linda gave a brief review of the DEW, her completion of CCAP Training, and Division parameters for Job Approval Authority.

The Board discussed past and future support of environmental education programs including Envirothon, outdoor learning centers, Tanglewood gardens and arboretum, and Big Sweep. Grover McPherson said that Forsyth SWCD supports these and other educational opportunities.

Grover McPherson reported that he had received letters from the two Conservation Workshop recipients thanking the Board for their sponsorship. As a result of the Workshop, both students have decided to continue their education beyond high school.

## **Old Business**

### Stimpson Application

Grover McPherson reported that he had spoken with David Williams to discuss the possibility of reimbursement for Mr. Stimpson. David Williams told Grover that the TRC had met and decided not to include connection to city water supply in the drought recovery program. The practice is, however, covered in the ACSP. Grover suggested that we could send a letter requesting permission for post approval of a CPO to the Commission instead of driving to the meeting. Mike Bowman said that for post approvals, a Board member must appear before the Commission. Grover said that he would bring it up on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 at the Association's Strategic Planning and Executive Committee meetings.

### No Till Drill

The Board reviewed an email sent from Cecil Settle to districts included in the Foundation's request for the purchase of no-till grass drills with funding provided by Golden LEAF Foundation. The letter requested that these districts provide a letter of support and information on the use of the drill to Cecil no later than September 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **New Business**

### Ordinance 4613

Grover McPherson reported that he had received a letter from Mayor Allen Joines informing him that for properties grandfathered in, the original fencing guidelines will be permitted; however, the amended manure handling guidelines will be enforced for all property owners. Beth Tucker added that the City Council intends to re-visit the issues surrounding animal waste. She also reported that she had sent a letter of thanks to the City Council on behalf of the Board, and that Gloria Wisenhunt will keep her updated on the issue.

Grover McPherson reported that he had received notification that most of the funding for the Water Resources Development Project grant application for Lake Hills Dam Removal and Stream Restoration Project was approved. Due to the high costs involved, the project will require a county budget revision.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

### **The next meeting date:**

October 16, 2008 9:00 a.m.

The Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Auditorium A

Respectfully submitted,

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Recording Secretary

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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