

THOMAS JEFFERSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2018

Present:

Directors: Pratley (Chair), Campbell, Collins, Easter, Meeks, Murray, Murdoch, Swanson, Thompson, Tingley

Staff: Coates, Longanecker, Hyatt, Johnson, Walton, Talley

Agencies: Cross (DCR), Kirkland (NRCS), Lipinski (NRCS)

Absent:

Directors: Goodman, McGoff (Associate Director)

Staff: Eiserman, Ela, DaMitz

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Pratley called the meeting to order at 10:25 am.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Action Items

MOTION: Mr. Murray moved to approve the March 28, 2018 Director's Meeting Minutes. Mr. Wagner provided the second, ***the motion passed.***

Agriculture Committee:

- Mr. Thompson summarized the recent Ag committee meeting and reviewed the projects recommended for approval. (*see attached minutes and reports for details*)
- Mr. Thompson briefed the board on a discussion item from the committee meeting regarding Inglewood Farm (*see attached minutes for summary*). The board discussed the complaint details as well as a planned meeting with the landowner, Ms. Coates, Mr. Campbell and Mr. Thompson.

MOTION: Mr. Easter moved to approve the minutes from the Agriculture Committee Meeting. Mr. Meeks provided the second, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Education Committee Report:

- Mr. Meeks reported that the committee had recommended awarding Youth Conservation Camp full tuition (\$550.00 each) to: Moriah Moss of Louisa County and Sebastian Provencio of Albemarle County.

MOTION: Mr. Easter moved to approve the tuition to Youth Conservation Camp in the amount of \$1,100.00 recommended by the Education Committee. Mr. Murray provided the second, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Water Resources Committee Report:

- Mr. Murray summarized the recent Water Resources committee meeting and reviewed projects recommended for approval. (*see attached minutes and reports for details*)

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the Water Resources Committee Meeting. Mr. Collins provided the second, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Finance/Budget Committee Report:

- Mr. Easter reported that Sarah Adams, CPA had submitted the monthly financial report with some recommendations including adding the Foundation to Attachment E. Additionally, 1500% in overages have been discovered believed to be due to prior financial category organization.
- Mr. Easter reported that the Ag committee had requested \$1,200.00 to help cover the costs of the planned May 2, 2018 field day. The Budget committee approved the request.
- Mr. Easter requested a donation be made to the Association Golf Tournament in the amount of \$100

MOTION: Mr. Meeks moved to approve the Finance/Budget Committee report with recommendations and expenditures. Mr. Thompson provided the second. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Personnel Operations:

- Mr. Pratley reported that the building landlord has asked the district to vacate its current space in October and move into a to-be built building next door. Mr. Pratley noted that this topic will require further discussion and evaluation of options. A sub-committee consisting of Ms. Hyatt, Mr. Tingley and Mr. Murray was formed to investigate new office space options.
- Ms. Coates reported that the Management Analyst interview committee had met with 4 possible candidates and have decided to offer the position to Ms. Amy Moyer, currently the town clerk for Scottsville. Ms. Moyer's start date will be May 29, 2018.
- Ms. Coates also reported that temporary employee Ms. Lizzie Givens has reduced her hours to 3 days per week. An additional temporary employee will begin to cover the remaining 2 days per week for approximately the next month.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Personnel Committee report. Mr. Wagner provided the second. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Dam Committee:

- Mr. Talley reported that invitations to bid had been submitted for a repair to the trash rack at Little River #4 and a midlevel gate installation at South Anna #23.
- Mr. Tally reported that DCR has proposed a group (district) procurement for engineering projects. He noted that the district is not required to participate, but that staff is recommending that we do.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Dam Committee report. Mr. Wagner provided the second. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

District Operations:

- Ms. Coates reported that after the recent review by staff, she is working on edits and updates to the Strategic Plan.
- Ms. Coates proposed allowing staff to create one cohesive document, similar to a newsletter, in lieu of individual staff reports. This document would be submitted monthly to the board and would highlight program accomplishments/updates and individual projects with narrative and photographs. The board agreed to the proposed format.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Last Name / Business	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Potential Tax Credit	Final Tax Credit	Conservation Plan Approval
Talley	02-17-0235	262358 262359 262360	CREP				✓
Triple 2 Farms	02-18-0198	303174	LE-1T		2803.40		✓
Martin McKie	02-18-0035	294831	SL-6			\$635.79	
McDaniel	02-18-0025	293381	SL-6	\$11,983.24	\$748.95		✓
Tueting	02-18-0242	304809	SL-6	\$6,068.56	\$379.29		✓
Thomas Jefferson Foundation Inc.	02-18-0254	305310	CC1-SE-1	\$13,460.00			
Thomas Jefferson Foundation Inc.	02-18-0255	305311	SL-9	\$10,654.16	\$2,663.54		✓
Falwell	02-18-0253	305309	RB-1	\$150.00			
Thomas	02-18-0256	305322	RB-1	\$150.00			
McCaslin	02-18-0243	305162	RB-1	\$150.00			
Wood	02-18-0244	305170	RB-1	\$150.00			
Golder	02-18-0245	305176	RB-1	\$150.00			
Gilbert	02-18-0247	305180	RB-1	\$150.00			
Davis	02-18-0248	305180	RB-1	\$150.00			
Heimgartner	02-18-0252	305192	RB-1	\$150.00			
Crummette	02-18-0241	304691	RB-1	\$150.00			
Hammill, C.	02-18-0251	305191	RB-1	\$150.00			
Hammill, G.	02-18-0250	305190	RB-1	\$150.00			
Project Increases Listed Below							
Fairmont Capital Partners LLC	02-15-0355	209112	SL-6	\$4,877.35			

MOTION: Mr. Wagner moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Collins provided the second. **The motion passed unanimously.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Pipeline Update:

- Mr. Meeks reported that the “voluntary mitigation funds” from the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) are being delayed until 2019 due to public opposition issues. He noted that there will be a meeting with the districts affected in September. Mr. Meeks reported the VASWB had met with the Secretary of Natural Resources to discuss the pipeline and the BMP’s proposed in the mitigation plan; talks on the matter are continuing. Mr. Collins noted that tree clearing for the ACP has already begun and that FERC has given the

project the green light. He further noted the pipeline contractors have already reported to DEQ that they have compromised wetland areas and that some of the pipeline route through Wintergreen has been clear-cut. He expressed concern for Dominion's perceived dismissal of environmental impact requirements. Mr. Collins went on to note that the State Water Control Board has opened a public comment period. Ms. Swanson asked if the district had submitted any comments. Mr. Pratley replied that the district had submitted comments 2 years prior to DEQ. Ms. Swanson proposed that the district update the previous letter and re-submit to the State Water Control Board in order to voice their concerns regarding the environmental impact of the ACP.

Ms. Coates agreed to locate the letter that was submitted to DEQ and to send it to directors for edits and comments. The board agreed to allow Mr. Pratley to sign the letter after the edits.

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to allow the district to re-submit, with Mr. Pratley's signature, an updated letter regarding the environmental impact of the ACP to the State Water Control Board. Mr. Collins provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.*

Area Meeting:

- Ms. Coates reported that seven directors had RSVP'd for the Area II Spring Meeting, she noted that registration is still open if any additional directors wished to attend.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS:

DCR:

- Ms. Cross reviewed her monthly report with the Board and pointed out some notable topics. See attached report for full details.

NRCS:

- Mr. Kirkland reported that his agency has obligated nearly 90% of their funding to date and that CSP applications are currently being submitted.
- Mr. Kirkland also reported that FSA made revisions in January to what an eligible waterbody for buffers is under the CRP program. Since then several questions have come up and have been discussed with FSA National Headquarters. Headquarters staff have since advised that NRCS go back and use the language previous to the revision: Ponds less than 5 acres are again eligible waterbodies to protect using the CRP program as long as they have seasonal flow off the farm.

VCE:

- Ms. Swanson reported that her agency will hold a well water testing day for Albemarle & Nelson Counties on 5/21 & 5/23.

DEQ:

- See attached report

TJSWRP:

- Mr. Thompson reported that the Foundation board is considering amending its easement verification policy to exempt from yearly physical inspections landowners who are good standing and can affirm in writing that they have not made any significant changes to their property. He noted that all affirmed properties will undergo physical inspection, but that it will be on a rotational system and that a review of aerial photos of all properties will be conducted annually. Mr. Thompson further noted that for inspections that do require a physical presence, board members will assist after they have received training. He noted that the annual costs for the foundation are still being discussed and will be presented to the district board soon.

- Mr. Johnson reported that he had given a presentation on the benefits of easements in regards to storm water management to Charlottesville City and Louisa County developers and planners. He has also been in contact with the Blue Ridge Building Association to promote the easement program.
- Mr. Johnson reported that the Foundation has agreed to relinquish the co-hold agreement on the Loving Easement, allowing The Virginia Outdoors Foundation to take sole ownership.

STAFF REPORTS:

- Mrs. Eiserman reported that she will be tabling at the Spring Plant Sale at the Center for Historic Plants on April 28th. Mrs. Eiserman also asked for RSVP's to the TJSWCD Spring Field Day.
- Mr. Longanecker invited any directors to attend the annual Ag BMP spot checks in May.
- Ms. Coates noted that she is open to providing refreshments at the board meetings at the directors request. She reported that she had recently met with Steve Clark of Nelson County who has some ideas for the pipeline mitigation funds. She reported that the Building & Safety director for Nelson County will be taking over the counties E& S review; she noted that the districts funding will remain unchanged. Louisa County had sent a budget request letter, Ms. Coates will submit soon. Julia Ela is available to assist the Foundation for 15-20 hours per week.

DIRECTOR REPORTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: *Mr. Murray moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Meeks provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.*

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm

Submitted by: _____
Recording Secretary

Approved: _____
Chair