

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

Present:

Directors: Pratley (Chair), Easter, Meeks, Murdoch, Swanson, Thompson, Wagner

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

Agencies: Cross (DCR), Kirkland (NRCS)

Absent:

Directors: Collins (arrived at 11:10 a.m.), Campbell, Murray, Tingley, McGoff (Associate Director)

Staff: Eiserman

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Pratley called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mr. Pratley shared that Brian Walton will be leaving for a new position in August. Mr. Pratley presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Walton.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: None.

CLOSED SESSION:

MOTION: *Mr. Thompson moved to go into Closed Session as provided in the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) to discuss personnel matters. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously**. Ms. Coates was invited to attend the Closed Session; all others in attendance removed themselves from the meeting.*

CERTIFICATION: *Upon returning to open session, Mr. Thompson moved, "Pursuant to the Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3712(D), I move to certify that to the best of the Board's knowledge, only matters lawfully exempted and as identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard or discussed by this Board during the Closed Session." Mr. Easter seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and **the motion passed 7 to 0**.*

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved for the adoption of the personal recommendations presented by the District Manager, as amended. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously**.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ACTION ITEMS:

Directors' Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved to approve the June 27, 2018, Directors' Meeting Minutes. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously**.*

Easter At-Large Reappointment:

- Mr. Easter's term as an At-Large Director expires December 31, 2018. Mr. Pratley stated that Mr. Easter wishes to be reappointed by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board.
- Ms. Cross noted that the district would need to send a letter to its local jurisdictions as part of the appointment process. VSWCB will make the appointments in December.

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved to request that the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board reappoint John Easter as an at-large director. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously**.*

DCR Grant Agreements for FY 2019:

- Ms. Cross noted that there are two grant agreements – one for Administration and Operations and the other for Cost-Share and Technical Assistance.

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to accept the DCR grant agreements for FY 2019. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

WIP III Recommendation and Action:

- Mr. Longanecker reported that they have had two WIP III meetings to discuss proposals for the submittal due July 30. They were tasked with preparing recommendations and solutions to meet the 2025 goals for the Chesapeake Bay. Discussion has focused on BMPs, policies, incentives, and cost efficiency. Copies of the draft recommendations were made available for Board review.
- Mr. Wagner commented that the plan will be a continuous conversation over the next four to six months, with additional opportunities for input.
- Ms. Cross shared that the comment list will be reviewed at the Area II WIP III meeting in Culpeper on August 24.
- Mr. Thompson spoke regarding the rationales for the proposed funding changes, such as removing vulnerable and erosive soils from production and embedding practices such as forest cover and wetland/stream buffers for longer terms.
- Mr. Meeks thanked Mr. Longanecker and the committee members for their efforts.

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved to support the committee recommendations. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

Legislative Agenda Recommendation:

- Ms. Coates led a discussion of legislative agenda topics in preparation for the Area II conference call on July 26. She shared the legislative agendas from the Culpeper and Prince William SWCDs.
- Ms. Cross noted that a director must be on the call to have a vote. The Area II legislative agenda will be submitted to VASWCD for consideration in August. Ms. Cross emphasized that the focus is legislative, not programmatic. Mr. Thompson agreed to participate on the conference call.
- Ms. Swanson suggested working with the National Agricultural Statistics Service for the equine survey. Survey numbers could support future eligibility for VACS funding.
- Ms. Swanson commented on the ineffectiveness of resource management plans if not implemented. Board members noted the need for funding for plan implementation.
- Board members agreed to support several items from Culpeper and Prince William. Top priorities were increased overall funding and urban cost share.
- Mr. Collins proposed an item supporting the requirement for erosion and sediment control standards, water quality standards, and site-specific plans for multi-jurisdictional utility projects.
- A copy of the legislative agenda as compiled during the meeting is attached to the original of these minutes.

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to approve the legislative agenda of the district. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

Records Officer Appointment:

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to appoint Amy Moyer as Records Officer. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.*

Easement Program – Deeds of Assignment of Co-Holder Interest:

- Mr. Thompson read the proposed authorizing statement. He explained that the Virginia Outdoors Foundation was originally required to have a local co-holder to provide financial assistance to individuals to place an

easement with them. VOF no longer has that requirement and is seeking to simplify the management of these co-held easements. The TJWRPF board recommends approval.

MOTION: *Mr. Thompson moved that the chair be given authority to sign the deeds of assignment for co-holder interest with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation for two easements currently co-held, the Borzelleca and Loving easements. Mr. Meeks seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Agriculture Committee:

- Mr. Thompson summarized the Agriculture Committee meeting (*see attached minutes and reports for details*). He noted that districts may retain 10 percent of the unobligated funds for cost overruns, but the remaining unobligated cost-share funds on the final carryover report will have to be returned to DCR. Ms. Cross explained that the new system requires checks to be sent to DCR to return the funds, rather than simply moving the allocations forward.

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to accept the carryover report. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to accept the Agriculture Committee report. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

Water Resources Committee Report:

- Mr. Thompson summarized the recent Water Resources Committee meeting and reviewed projects recommended for approval (*see attached minutes and reports for details*). Mr. Thompson complimented Ms. Eiserman's work on the CCAP program.

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved to approve the Water Resources Committee report and recommendations for septic project approvals. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

Finance/Budget Committee Report:

- Mr. Easter called for questions on the profit and loss statement, treasurer's report, and uncleared check report; there were none.
- Mr. Easter reported that the FY 2019 Budget proposal is balanced, despite a significant decrease in operating revenues.

MOTION: *Mr. Easter moved to approve the FY 2019 Budget. Mr. Meeks seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

- Ms. Coates noted that Attachment E was completed on time and is available for Board members to review.

MOTION: *Mr. Meeks moved to accept the Finance/Budget Committee Report. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

Dam Committee:

- Mr. Pratley reported that they have a request for bids out on two dam repair projects. A subcommittee is researching dam decommissioning options, to be presented in September.
- Mr. Talley shared information about DCR's new dam database.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

Committee Minutes: Budget Committee 6-27-2018; Water Resource Committee 6-27-2018; and Agriculture Committee 7-25-2018 with Consent Items.

Last Name / Business	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Potential Tax Credit	Final Tax Credit	Conservation Plan Approval
Johnson, Ralph C.	02-15-0302	208575	SL-6				✓
Thomas Burnett	02-17-0315	268885	SL-6			\$1,846.03	✓
Dragonfly Farms, LLC	02-18-0033	294743	SL-1			\$95.86	
Hunt	02-19-0005	314512	RB-1	\$150.00			
Scheib	02-19-0006	314515	RB-1	\$150.00			
Summers	02-19-0007	314516	RB-1	\$150.00			

MOTION: Mr. Meeks moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Mr. Pratley noted the sale of the 2000 Dodge Ram. The sales price was \$1,305.
- No confirmed candidates have expressed interest in the Louisa director vacancy. Postings will be placed with local publications and agencies.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS:

DCR:

- Ms. Cross presented the FY 2018 Grant Agreement Assessment and summarized information from her monthly report (*see attached report for details*).
- Ms. Cross noted that COIA training will be offered at area meetings. Every director must receive COIA training within 24 months.

NRCS:

- Mr. Kirkland reported that assistance with debris removal and fence restoration will be available.
- FY 2019 project funding will not be available until February, due to contract administration changes.

DEQ:

- DEQ provided the attached written report.

TJWRPF:

- Mr. Thompson reported on an easement application from a landowner at Lake Anna.
- Mr. Thompson noted John Conover has resigned from the foundation board. He suggested a joint resolution of thanks.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

- Mr. Collins shared the Friends of Nelson newsletter and expressed concern about the pipeline construction.
- Mr. Meeks noted he will attend the Southeast Region Meeting in Williamsburg next week.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: *Mr. Wagner moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Easter seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Recording Secretary

Approved: _____
Chair