

THOMAS JEFFERSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
October 31, 2018

Present:

Directors: Campbell, Collins, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Swanson, Thompson, Tingley

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

Agencies: Cross (DCR), Kirkland (NRCS)

Guests: Charlotte Rea

Absent:

Directors: Pratley (Chair), Easter, Wagner, McGoff (Associate Director)

Staff: DaMitz, Eiserman

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Meeks called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Mr. Meeks chaired the meeting in the absence of the chair and vice chair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Daily Progress Award: Ms. Hyatt related that the District won \$5,000 of advertising from the *Daily Progress* for use on digital and newsprint platforms through December 31. Ms. Hyatt will schedule a meeting with the sales representative to discuss advertising options.

Clean Water Farm Award: Ms. Cross shared that District staff submitted local award winners Magnolia Farm and Greeno Farm for consideration for Grand Basin Awards, and Magnolia Farm won the James River Grand Basin Award. DCR will pay for luncheon tickets for winners to be recognized at the VASWCD Annual Meeting. Ms. Coates suggesting featuring past winners in the office and on the website.

Holiday Meeting: Ms. Coates announced the holiday meeting to be held December 12 at 5:30 p.m. at Michie Tavern.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: Mr. Longanecker noted that two Agriculture Committee topics will require a vote.

CLOSED SESSION:

MOTION: *Mr. Thompson moved to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, in accordance with Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(1). Ms. Swanson seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.** Ms. Coates and Ms. Moyer were invited to attend the Closed Session; all others in attendance removed themselves from the meeting.*

CERTIFICATION: *Upon returning to open session, Mr. Thompson stated that pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3712(D), he moves 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. Swanson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was conducted, and **the motion passed 8 to 0.***

MOTION: *Mr. Thompson moved to approve the recommendations that were made relative to personnel and funding during the Closed Session. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ACTION ITEMS:

Directors' Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Meeks asked for additions or corrections to the minutes from September 26, 2018. Hearing none, Mr. Meeks stated that the minutes stand approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Agriculture Committee:

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to extend the standard planting dates for cover crops by 14 days for the SL-8, SL-8B, SL-8H, and WQ-4 practices, based on excessive precipitation received this year. Rainfall data is attached to the original of these minutes. Mr. Murray seconded the motion, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to extend the practice performance criteria date to December 15, 2018, allowing extra time to determine whether the cover crop is successfully established, based on the later planting date. Mr. Murray seconded the motion, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Mr. Thompson noted that the approved extension is just for this year, but the committee would like to see it become a permanent change.

Mr. Thompson explained the Agriculture Committee's recommendation to waive maintenance obligations on a stream exclusion contract where the participant is deceased and attempts to contact heirs have been unsuccessful, noting that this is the last year of contract obligation.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to waive the maintenance obligation for Charles Webb's SL-6 contract. Mr. Campbell seconded the motion, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Mr. Thompson summarized other discussions from the Agriculture Committee meeting and complimented staff efforts (*see attached minutes and reports for details*).

Mr. Murray suggested consideration of shoreline programs and planting recommendations.

MOTION: Mr. Murray moved to accept the Agriculture Committee report. Ms. Swanson seconded the motion, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Water Resources Committee:

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

Mr. Murray related that Albemarle County staff submitted a budget request to establish the Albemarle Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP), which would be similar to CCAP.

MOTION: Ms. Swanson moved to approve the Water Resources Committee report. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and ***the motion passed unanimously.***

Finance/Budget Committee:

Mr. Meeks reported that the Finance/Budget Committee reviewed monthly financial reports and discussed donation policies. The committee agreed that donations listed in the budget do not require a new donation proposal form. The standing donations are the VASWCD Educational Foundation golf tournament and the Holiday Lake Forestry Camp.

MOTION: *Mr. Tingley moved to approve the Finance/Budget Committee report. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

Dam Committee:

Mr. Talley reported on staff response during the recent storms. Ms. Coates related that a dam tour with John Peterson is scheduled for November 19. Ms. Coates spoke to concerns regarding staffing levels and safety during emergency flood response. They continue to research options for emergency radios and gauge monitoring.

Mr. Talley stated that fire/rescue volunteers and the emergency services coordinator have offered to assist with dam monitoring. Ms. Swanson suggested formalizing this agreement with Louisa County. Ms. Coates noted that the staff gauge observers in the EAPs should be updated.

Mr. Tingley reported on his discussions to-date with John Peterson about considerations for dam decommissioning or transfer of responsibilities. Directors were asked to inform staff of their intentions to attend the December 19 dam tour.

Legislative Committee:

Mr. Meeks reported that after discussions with DEQ, Jim Gehlsen recommended dropping the legislative agenda item regarding linear utility projects due to the federal preemption of local regulation. Mr. Thompson suggesting keeping the discussion topic at the Annual Meeting to apprise districts of potentially serious erosion problems from pipeline projects. Mr. Collins expressed concern that pipeline plans on significant grade do not include the typical erosion controls for private construction projects on flat ground. Mr. Murray and Ms. Swanson encouraged further legislative and regulatory efforts to address these plan concerns. Directors discussed organizations to contact for assistance. Ms. Rea offered comments on this topic.

Mr. Meeks related that PDCs have expressed interest in VCAP. The VASWCD legislative agenda includes a funding request for a statewide urban BMP cost-share program to be implemented by SWCDs. Mr. Meeks said the new NFWF grant for VCAP was unsuccessful, but DEQ has awarded funding to cover the project backlog.

Annual Plan of Work:

Ms. Coates noted that the Annual Plan of Work was approved in August and must be reviewed twice a year.

MOTION: *Mr. Murray moved to approve the review of the Annual Plan of Work. Mr. Tingley seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.***

Strategic Plan:

Ms. Coates noted that the four-year Strategic Plan must be reviewed once a year.

MOTION: Mr. Murray moved to approve the review of the Strategic Plan. Mr. Tingley seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

Foundation Appointments:

Mr. Thompson reported that there are two openings on the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation Board of Directors. Jeff Sitler has been recommended by the TJWRPF Board of Directors for appointment as a representative for Albemarle County.

MOTION: Mr. Tingley moved to recommend the appointment of Jeff Sitler to the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation Board of Directors as a representative for Albemarle County. Mr. Murray seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Thompson reported that Kay Slaughter has been suggested for appointment to an at-large position. Deborah Murdoch met with Ms. Slaughter, but the full foundation board has not yet considered this appointment.

MOTION: Mr. Murray moved to appoint Kay Slaughter to the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation Board of Directors as an at-large representative, pending approval of the foundation board. Mr. Collins seconded the motion, and **the motion passed unanimously.**

Louisa Board of Director Vacancy:

Ms. Coates reported that staff continues to reach out to potential candidates. Mr. Tingley prefers that Board members contact interested candidates, rather than staff.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Committee Minutes: Budget Committee 9-26-2018; Personnel/Operations Committee 8-29-2018, Water Resources Committee 9-26-2018 with Consent Items; and Agriculture Committee 10-31-2018 with Consent Items.

Agriculture Practices

Last Name / Business	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Potential Tax Credit	Final Tax Credit	Conservation Plan Approval
Oakencroft Holdings, LLC	02-19-0081	330800	SL-6	\$50,425.82	\$3,151.61		yes
Nuckols	02-19-0077	330750	SL-6	\$13,732.64	\$757.59		yes
Riverview Farms Cattle, LLC	02-19-0070	330545	SL-6	\$14,030.66	\$894.42		yes
Vere-Nicoll	02-19-0080	330785	SL-6	\$34,385.22	\$2,149.08		yes
Vere-Nicoll	02-19-0080	330788	SL-6	\$15,280.17	\$955.01		yes
J.R. & J.G. Goodwin	02-19-0084	330809	SL-1	\$12,487.50	\$115.63		yes
Madison	02-19-0079	330753	SL-8B	\$840.00	\$420.00		
Burnley	02-19-0078	330752	SL-8B	\$1,288.00	\$322.00		

Septic Practices

Last Name	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share
Miller	02-19-0071	330596	RB-1	\$150.00
Andercyk	02-19-0072	330598	RB-1	\$150.00
Mays	02-19-0073	330599	RB-1	\$225.00
Marshall	02-19-0074	330600	RB-1	\$150.00
Ginter	02-19-0082	330807	RB-1	\$150.00
Brogden	02-19-0083	330808	RB-1	\$150.00
Reese	02-19-0075	330604	RB-3	\$3,000.00
Morel	02-19-0075	330604	RB-4	\$4,000.00
Dolan	02-19-0086	330836	RB-3	\$4,800.00
Searcy	02-19-0085	330835	RB-4	\$5,200.00
Penn	02-18-0026	330333	RB-4P	\$6,000.00

MOTION: Mr. Tingley moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

WIP III Update: Ms. Coates, Ms. Swanson, and Mr. Longanecker reported on recent WIP III meetings.

VASWCD Annual Meeting: Ms. Coates related that the District will reimburse for expenses. Rooms reserved at the higher rate may be exchanged for the VASWCD discounted rate if rooms are released in the block. Ms. Cross noted that the registration deadline is November 8.

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS:

DCR: Ms. Cross summarized information from her monthly report (*see attached report for details*). She encouraged Directors to attend the COIA training at the Annual Meeting. She noted the joint SWCD and PDC WIP III meeting on December 6 and the District Dam Owners meeting on November 7.

NRCS: Mr. Kirkland reported on emergency funding for flooding and tornado damage and other project funding approval processes. He attended the North Folk Rivanna TMDL meeting.

DEQ: DEQ provided the attached written report.

TJWRPF: Mr. Thompson reported on revisions to the easement cost worksheet. Mr. Johnson will give a presentation to the Blue Ridge Homebuilders Association tomorrow.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Mr. Murray reported that the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors has endorsed the Albemarle County Biodiversity Action Plan.

STAFF REPORTS:

Ms. Coates reported that Chris Gyurisin accepted the Conservation Technician position and will start November 26.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Recording Secretary

Approved: _____
Chair

Rainfall Data as of October 31, 2018

Rainfall Amounts to date (Central Virginia Averages 3.6" /month or 36" over 10 months)

- Albemarle 47.4 inches in 10 months
- Louisa 49.9 inches in 10 months