

THOMAS JEFFERSON SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
May 27, 2020

Remote Participants:

Directors: Pratley (Chair), Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch (joined at 10:12 a.m.), Murray, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Assoc. Directors: Cowger, Daughters, Merle-Smith, Tingley

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

Absent:

Assoc. Directors: Tweardy

The Board of Directors convened a decentralized meeting via telephone conference to comply with assembly limits and social distancing recommendations arising from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Pratley called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Pratley called the roll to confirm a quorum of Directors. Attendance was confirmed as listed above.

Electronic Meeting Determination:

Mr. Pratley explained the necessary determination for the meeting to proceed.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved that it has been determined by this Board that the nature of the declared emergency by the Governor of Virginia makes it impracticable or unsafe for the public body or governing board to assemble in a single location and therefore they agree to an electronic decentralized meeting. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murray, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

Not Voting: Bartz, Pratley

Absent: Murdoch

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Pratley asked if any comments were received from the public. Ms. Moyer confirmed that no public comments were submitted.

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA: None.

ACTION ITEMS:

Mr. Pratley noted that committees are operating under delated authority.

Agriculture Committee Report:

Mr. Thompson noted that agricultural projects are listed on the ratification agenda. He related that the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation will vote on VACS cost-share allocations for the upcoming fiscal year on June 3. The proposed allocation for Thomas Jefferson SWCD is \$1.4 million. VSWCB will also approve grant agreements and the new VACS BMP manual at that meeting.

Mr. Thompson reported that the balance remaining of current VACS funds after project approvals is

approximately \$95,000. Staff plan to allocate all funds this year and have a waiting list for next year. Details will be forthcoming for an electronic committee meeting in June.

MOTION: Mr. Collins moved to accept the Agriculture Committee report. Mr. Bartz seconded the motion. The motion passed 11-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

Not Voting: Murdoch

Mr. Murdoch joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m., just prior to the vote.

Budget Committee Report:

Mr. Meeks reported that he reviewed the financial reports and everything seems to be in order. He is going in every other week to sign checks.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Budget Committee report and treasurer's report for April 2020. Mr. Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

Water Resources Committee Report:

Mr. Murray noted the list of projects approved under delegated authority and offered to answer any questions on those. He commented that all VCAP funding has been allocated, so local CAP funding is important.

MOTION: Mr. Meeks moved to approve the Water Resources Committee report. Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

Education Committee Report:

Mr. Meeks noted the list of scholarship recipients recommended by the committee. Mr. Pratley stated that scholarships were approved by delegated authority and on the ratification list today.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Education Committee report. Ms. Willis seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

Directors Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Mr. Lucas moved to approve the Directors Meeting Minutes for April 23, 2020, and April 29, 2020, as submitted. Mr. Murdoch seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Committee Minutes: Agriculture Committee (4-29-20)

MOTION: Mr. Meeks moved to adopt the Consent Agenda. Mr. Murray seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

RATIFICATION AGENDA:

1. Ratification List: Agriculture Cost Share and Tax Credits (if applicable), Water Resources Committee, Education Committee.

Agricultural Projects

Last Name / Business	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Potential Tax Credit	Final Tax Credit	Conservation Plan Approval	Delegated Authority Joe Thompson Approval Date
Harrison Cattle Co. LLC	02-20-0058	371967	SL-6W				yes	5/22/2020
Gabe Engle	02-20-0202	389681	SL-6W 35'	\$32,151.83	-		yes	5/22/2020
Gabe Engle	02-20-0203	389680	SL-6W 50'	\$59,511.81	-		yes	5/22/2020
Gabe Engle	02-20-0204	389682	FR-3	\$5,758.50	-		yes	5/22/2020
James Goodwin	02-20-0049	374653	WP-4	-	-	\$5,312.50	-	5/22/2020
Creamfield Farm	02-20-0196	389526	NM-5N	\$6,425.60	-		N/A	5/22/2020
Creamfield Farm	02-20-0196	389527	NM-5P	\$6,425.60	-		N/A	5/22/2020
Double L Farms LLC	02-20-0197	389546	CCI-SL-6N	\$4,514.50	-		N/A	5/22/2020
Double L Farms LLC	02-20-0197	389547	CCI-SL-6W	\$12,242.50	-		N/A	5/22/2020
Wolftrap Stables / April Fletcher	02-20-0201	389673	SL-6W 50'	\$91,473.40	-		yes	5/22/2020
Wolftrap Stables / April Fletcher	EQ-20-0019	n/a	Compost facilities / gutters	\$27,965.63	-	-	-	5/22/2020
Tucked Away Farm / Clark	02-20-0198	389661	SL-1	\$1,848.75	-		yes	5/22/2020
Billy Wayson	02-20-0205	389702	CCI-SL-6W	\$17,032.50	-		yes	5/22/2020
Billy Wayson	02-20-0205	389703	WP-2W	\$20,781.76	-		yes	5/22/2020
Jennifer Ligon	02-20-0022	389713	SL-6N	\$21,329.06	\$2,871.22		yes	5/22/2020
Increases								
Hebron Hill, LLC	02-20-0102	380230	SL-6W	\$2,692.55	-	-	-	5/8/2020

Septic Projects

Last Name	Contract #	Instance	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Delegated Authority Lonnie Murray Approval Date
Hobgood	02-20-0151	386903	RB-1	\$280.00	5/1/2020
Long	02-20-0169	388235	RB-1	\$175.00	5/1/2020
Page	02-20-0149	386897	RB-1	\$175.00	5/1/2020
Rudder	02-20-0150	386898	RB-5	\$12,000.00	5/1/2020
Joyner	02-20-0152	388243	RB-4P	\$6,000.00	5/1/2020
Joyner	02-20-0152	388242	RB-4P	\$6,000.00	5/1/2020
Mead	02-20-0148	386896	RB-4	\$6,000.00	5/1/2020
Pampalone	02-20-0172	388260	RB-4	\$4,000.00	5/1/2020
Agee	02-20-0086	378617	RB-4	\$6,400.00	5/1/2020
Ellis	02-20-0176	388304	RB-4	\$4,000.00	5/1/2020
Sawyer	02-20-0173	388261	RB-1	\$175.00	5/1/2020
Lepage	02-20-0200	389663	RB-4	\$4,400.00	5/22/2020
Freiert	02-20-0199	389662	RB-1	\$175.00	5/22/2020

Residential Conservation Projects

Last Name / Business	Contract #	Practice Code	Estimated Cost Share	Delegated Authority Lonnie Murray Approval Date
Baumann	02-20-008	PP	\$11,977.50	5/1/2020
Hurley	02-20-009	RG	\$3,500.00	5/1/2020
Schoenig	02-20-010	CL-1	\$3,500.00	5/1/2020
Kaufman-Horner	02-20-011	CL-3	\$424.31	5/1/2020
Lahue	02-20-012	PP	\$14,760.00	5/1/2020
Collmus	02-20-016	RG	\$1,615.00	5/1/2020
Collmus	02-20-017	CL-3	\$788.00	5/22/2020
Harder	02-20-018	CL-3	\$2,225.25	5/22/2020

Education

2020 Scholarship Applicant / Locality	2020 Scholarship Award Amount	Delegated Authority Steven Meeks Approval Date	Alternate Delegated Authority David Collins Approval Date
Moss, Moriah / Louisa	\$2,000.00	5/13/2020	5/12/2020
Fain, Mackenzie / Fluvanna	\$1,000.00	5/13/2020	5/12/2020
Manclark, Emma / Albemarle	\$500.00	5/13/2020	5/12/2020

TJSWCD's Scholarship Applicant Nominee for VASWCDEF 2020 Scholarship / Locality	Delegated Authority Steven Meeks Approval Date	Alternate Delegated Authority David Collins Approval Date
Moss, Moriah / Louisa	5/13/2020	5/12/2020

Mr. Pratley explained that the above-listed projects and actions were approved under delegated authority, and Directors may request to pull items from the Ratification Agenda for individual consideration or approve the list as presented.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to approve the Ratification Agenda. Mr. Collins seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

COOPERATING AGENCIES REPORTS:

DCR: DCR provided the attached written report.

DEQ: DEQ provided the attached written report.

VCE: No updates.

NRCS: No updates.

DOF: No updates.

TJWRPF: Mr. Thompson reported that there is interest in two easement projects. The Foundation Board meeting was postponed.

STAFF REPORTS:

Ms. Coates reported on the NACD grant application to assist NCRS with CSP contracts and small farm site visits. VEE grants are coming this summer. No new watersheds in the District are eligible for funding in the DEQ 319 grant announcement, but they partnered with Culpeper on the Goldmine application, and additional Hardware funding is a possibility.

Ms. Coates complimented Mr. Gyurisin's work with the conservation assistance programs, noting that there is about \$2,000 left in local ACAP and CCAP funding reserved for cost overruns. The District will receive \$32,000 from Albemarle and \$32,000 from Charlottesville next year to continue those programs.

Ms. Coates thanked Ms. Hyatt for her efforts on the staff newsletter. Staff site visits are listed on the site visit log.

Mr. Pratley noted that they decided not to pursue the RCPP grant at this time. Ms. Coates said they need more information from Three Rivers on the pilot program and may look at a joint application in future.

DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Mr. Thompson congratulated the ag staff on an incredible job with projects this year. He found the staff newsletter informative and entertaining.

Mr. Collins will talk to homeschoolers about the District's education resources for homeschool projects.

Mr. Pratley discussed future meeting plans and whether to meet in person following social distancing requirements or to continue electronic meetings as allowed. He noted that remote participation due to personal reasons for a meeting with an in-person quorum is limited to two times per year. Directors preferred electronic meetings for long as legally authorized due to health and safety concerns.

Mr. Merle-Smith asked if they can do meetings with video. Ms. Coates replied that they looked into video meeting options, but not everyone has cameras or adequate internet to support video, and some people may be uncomfortable sharing video of their home in a public meeting. Ms. Coates said video may be helpful for sharing project plans and documents, so staff will test options for next month.

Ms. Moyer noted that the Governor's emergency declaration was extended, so they should be able to continue electronic meetings until further notice.

Mr. Pratley expressed appreciation to staff and Directors for their efforts in adapting to changes.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bartz seconded the motion. The motion passed 12-0 by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bartz, Campbell, Collins, Easter, Lucas, Meeks, Murdoch, Murray, Pratley, Swanson, Thompson, Willis

Nays: None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Submitted by: _____
Recording Secretary

Approved: _____
Chair