

DIRECTORS

Stephen J. (Steve) Lucas (Chair) – Louisa County (elected)

(Director since April 2019)

Steve and his wife Margaret operate Mountain View Farm, a cow/calf and timber operation in western Louisa County. Steve received a BS in Agronomy from Virginia Tech and has worked in the natural resource conservation field for over 40 years. His experiences include working for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in several locations around the Commonwealth of Virginia, working as a private consultant in Central and Northern Virginia, and applying the principles of managed grazing and sustainable timber management on his farm. He is currently serving as Vice President of Historic Green Springs Inc.

Mark Wastler (Vice Chair) – Albemarle County (elected)

(Director since January 2024, Associate Director from December 2021 to December 2023)

Steven G. Meeks (Treasurer) – Albemarle County (elected)

(Director since January 1991)

Mr. Meeks was born and raised in Albemarle County and Charlottesville. For most of his adult life, he has either worked or volunteered as a public servant, striving always to make his community a better place to live and work. He has researched and written extensively about local history and has taught local history for four decades. He is recognized as a premiere authority on the history of Albemarle, Charlottesville, and Scottsville. He continues to demonstrate his interest, competence, and knowledge of historic preservation through the work he has done and continues to do on historic buildings in the Scottsville Historic District. Steven Meeks was first elected to the Thomas Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District as a District Director in 1991. He served as chairman of his local board from 1994-1998 and is the current treasurer. He has served as Second and First Vice President of the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (VASWCD) and as President. He has also served as Vice President of the VASWCD Education Foundation and as VASWCD Area II Vice-Chair. He is the NACD representative member from Virginia and serves on the NACD Presidents Association as Historian. From 2019-2020 he also served on the Virginia Agricultural BMP Technical Advisory Committee. Other affiliations include being Past President of the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society. For 11 years he has overseen the operation of the Hatton Ferry, the nation's last hand-poled river ferry as it crosses the James River. He has also served on the boards of the Albemarle County Fair, the Virginia Association of Fairs, the Scottsville Museum, Albemarle County's Road Naming Committee, the Albemarle County Historic Preservation Committee, the Scottsville Planning Commission, the Biscuit Run State Park Advisory Committee, the Scottsville Architectural Review Board, and the Charlottesville Historic Resources Committee and was Chair of the Albemarle County 250th Anniversary Committee and Co-Chair of Charlottesville's Celebrate 250th Committee.

Carolyn Daughters (Secretary) – Louisa County (elected)

(Director since December 2020, Associate Director from January 2020 to November 2020)

Carolyn Daughters grew up in the Richmond suburbs of Chesterfield County, then relocated post-college to Northern Virginia for some 30 years before returning to the Central Virginia area in 2016. Her passion for conservation is born of love for the rural spaces of Virginia, which grew in tandem with equestrian pursuits. Starting with riding lessons in Gochland at age 8, she went on to train sport horses and coach riders in dressage and eventing professionally for decades, also judging dozens of dressage competitions throughout the mid-Atlantic region as a U.S. Dressage Federation judges' program graduate with distinction. With a finance career spanning some 30 years, she has "Big 4"

public accounting firm, corporate accounting/management through executive level, and broad entrepreneurial experience, managing as principal both a training operation and an accounting practice founded in 1987 and 1993, respectively. A CPA licensed in Virginia, Ms. Daughters holds a BBA from William and Mary and an MBA from George Washington University, then in 2019 received a certificate degree in cybersecurity. She participates in local historical and other community organizations, and with her husband cares for several retired horses at their home in Louisa.

Mark Campbell – Nelson County (elected)
(Director since June 2016)

Mr. Campbell is a 1993 graduate of Virginia Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science. He is a Sr. District Field Services Director in central Virginia for Virginia Farm Bureau. In this role, Mr. Campbell serves as a liaison between Virginia Farm Bureau and ten county Farm Bureaus, working with volunteer leaders and staff. In addition, Mr. Campbell works on his family farm in his free time. Deer Creek Farm is a registered Simmental and SimAngus farm, acting as a seedstock producer by selling bulls and replacement heifers to other cattlemen. Agriculture best management practices have been utilized on the farm for many years, and stream exclusion fencing and water troughs have been installed throughout the farm. Managed intensive grazing is a key management practice in the operation. He is a member of the American Simmental Association, Virginia Simmental Association as a director, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Virginia Cattlemen's Association, Nelson County Farm Bureau, and Rose Union Baptist Church, and lives in the community of Lowesville in Nelson County with his wife and sons. Mr. Campbell was a recent winner of the local Clean Water Farm Award and the state level James River Grand Basin Award.

David L. Collins – Nelson County (elected)
(Director since January 2004)

Mr. Collins resides in Nelson County with his wife. Originally from South Carolina, he has been in Virginia for about 40 years, attended Virginia Commonwealth University and received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech. He is licensed as a Land Surveyor and Professional Engineer, and has worked in the area and lived along the Rockfish River for over 25 years. Mr. Collins is a member of the Virginia Association of Land Surveyors and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

John E. Easter, II – Fluvanna County (At-Large appointment)
(At-Large Director since January 2011, Director from January 2004 to December 2007, Associate Director from January 2002 to December 2003 and from January 2008 to December 2010)

Mr. Easter lives in Fluvanna County with his wife and twin sons. He was born in Richmond, Virginia, and has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from UVA and a Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Science. He runs an expanding beef cattle farm, and has served as the TJSWCD representative to the Rivanna River Basin Commission. He is on the Board of Directors of the Heritage Trail Foundation, and has been active in both the Rivanna Conservation Society and the Fluvanna County Historical Society. Mr. Easter is retired from the U.S. military (Air Force and Army) and continues to fly.

Enrique (Rick) Hernandez – Fluvanna County (Extension Agent appointment)
(Director since April 2022)

Angus A. Murdoch – Fluvanna County (elected)
(Director since January 2016)

Angus Murdoch lives in Fluvanna County near Kents Store with his wife, Kristen Parker, and their two young children. They farm part time, raising beef cattle, sheep, dairy goats, and forest products on

family land and neighboring properties, where Mr. Murdoch has gained experience with the installation, maintenance, and use of many of the stream protection and water supply improvement techniques supported by TJSWCD and others (while also marveling at the speed and efficiency of natural forest regeneration where stream buffers are simply allowed to grow back on their own). Since 1993, Mr. Murdoch has served on the board of directors of the Rivanna Conservation Society (RCS), and he remains active in the Rivanna Conservation Alliance, which recently merged RCS with the StreamWatch local volunteer-driven surface water monitoring program which combined and greatly enhanced the monitoring efforts of several public and private groups in the Rivanna basin beginning in 2002. Prior to returning to Virginia, Mr. Murdoch worked as a volunteer with environmental restoration and community development NGOs (non-governmental organization) in Southern Africa and Central America and stream restoration and urban forestry projects in the US Pacific Northwest and western Canada. Mr. Murdoch holds a 1992 bachelors degree from the School for International Training, where he majored in environmental studies. Since 1999, Mr. Murdoch has owned and operated Byrd Creek Building and Landscape, LLC, specializing in historic restoration and energy efficient design-build services for new and existing structures.

Charles H. (Haden) Parrish – City of Charlottesville (elected)
(Director since January 2024)

John Pfaltz – Albemarle County (elected)
(Director since January 2024)

Mr. Pfaltz is retired from the Engineering School at the University of Virginia where he was involved with the Arboretum Committee (20+ years) and Housing Committee (chair). He spent 40 years commuting to his work by bicycle. John is an avid hiker/backpacker and Life member of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. He has canoed in the Boundary Waters (Minnesota) and fought forest fires with the USDA in Alaska (summer job in college). His son and two daughters have small agricultural operations in Albemarle, Louisa and Nelson counties. His son-in-law raises grass fed beef on his 140-acre organic farm in Waupun, Wisconsin.

Joseph Thompson – City of Charlottesville (elected)
(Director since June 2016)

After serving as an Associate Director for the TJSWCD, Mr. Thompson was appointed as a full Board member in June 2016 and reelected in 2019 and 2023. Joe also serves as Chair of the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation. He brings over 44 years of experience in the planning and implementation of conservation and environmental restoration programs. He started his career working 30 years with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Oregon, California, Nevada, and Virginia, retiring in 2007. Upon retirement from NRCS, Joe spent 13 years as a consultant providing conservation easement assistance and organic and conventional agricultural land management services to NGOs and private landowners in Virginia and Maryland. He currently serves as Chair of the Thomas Jefferson Water Resources Protection Foundation, which administers the conservation easement program for the TJSWCD. Joe and his wife Nina reside in Charlottesville and enjoy spending time on Nina's Century family organic grain farm in the Northern Neck.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Julie C. Jones – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since January 2024, Director from October 2020 to December 2023)

Rosalyn Koontz – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since January 2024, Director from December 2022 to December 2023)

Lonnie Murray – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since April 2022, Director from January 2012 to April 2022) – Mr. Murray has been involved for many years in local environmental and community planning initiatives, including the Charlottesville Citizens Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Albemarle County Natural Heritage Committee, and Biscuit Run State Park Master Plan Advisory Committee, and was one of the founders of Charlottesville Earth Week. He lives in Albemarle County with his wife and children.

Dr. Aaron Mills – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since January 2024)

Carrie Swanson – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since April 2022, Director from April 2007 to March 2022) – Ms. Swanson is a Senior Extension Agent with the Albemarle County office of Virginia Cooperative Extension, specializing in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Animal Science. Prior to her current position, Ms. Swanson was an Equine/Livestock Extension Agent with Cornell Cooperative Extension in Ithaca, NY. She has also been an Adjunct Professor at Lord Fairfax Community College and a Nursing Technician at Marion DuPont Scott Equine Medical Center in Leesburg VA. Ms. Swanson has an MS degree in Animal Science – Equine Nutrition, and a BS in Animal Science, from Virginia Tech.

Thomas A. Pratley – Associate Director (appointed)

(Associate Director since January 2024, Director from January 2012 to December 2023)

Mr. Pratley and his wife, Phyllis Montellese, reside on a small farm in Palmyra. Mr. Pratley has an Associate's degree in Civil Engineering Technology and worked as a survey crew chief for a Pittsburgh engineering firm. He also served on the board of a small Pittsburgh-area land trust. In 2008, he and his wife moved to Fluvanna County, where they are vendors at the Fluvanna Farmer's Market. He served on the Fluvanna County Rural Zoning Task Force in 2010. Mr. Pratley is also active with the James River Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society as Habitat Chair.