

MINUTES

**Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
721 Foster Street
Durham, NC 27701**

Meeting Number: 06 (District Meeting) Date: August 4, 2008
Meeting Number: 02 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Robert Rosenthal, Vice Chairman
Brenda Howerton, Supervisor
Curtis Richardson, Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Watershed Conservationist
Lynwood Faison, Soil Conservationist
Matt Kinane, NRCS District Conservationist
Kathryn Spann, Associate Supervisor

1. Chairman Talmage Layton called the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to order at 5:41 PM
2. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal to accept the Financial Statement and approve the minutes. Supervisor Brenda Howerton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **Old Business**
 - A. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update** – Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal reported that there is no new business to report.
 - B. **Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** – Vice Chairman Rosenthal reported that the general EAB Board did not meet last month because there wasn't a quorum. Rosenthal report that they did meet to turn the Green Building Committee into the Sustainability Committee to work with the new City/County Sustainability Coordinator. They are trying to figure out which parts of the local codes/ordinances are blocking green development and more green projects in Durham. No report was given on the Bio-Defense Lab at the last meeting. An update on the Bio-Defense Lab should be presented at the next meeting.
 - C. **Durham Farmland Protection** – Associate Supervisor Kathryn Spann reported that she was unable to attend but that Eddie, Jennifer and Lisa attended. Culberson reported that the sub-committee met on July 17th and they discussed plans for having a workshop the end of January or the beginning of February of 2009. Culberson reported that the next Farmland Board meeting is scheduled for August 14th at 8:00am. Debbie Roos from Chatham County Cooperative Extension is coming to speak about small farms.
 - D. **Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that he reviewed 6 plans since the last board meeting and 6 were adequate as follows: AAA Auto Club; Walgreens #11,200; The Learning Experience Daycare; Duke University Intersection Improvements; Fayetteville Rd. Assemblage Amenity Center; Lot 106 Presidential Park West.
 - E. **Agricultural Cost Share Program** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that he has come up with a new ranking form and he has ranked the 11 applications. Faison reported that the 11 applicants

consist of 6 wells, 1 pasture renovation, 3 pond renovations & 1 new pond. Faison reported that the applicants ranked anywhere from 105 to 40. Faison reported that we have a total of \$45,895 in drought allocation funds. Faison reported that we should have enough money to pay for the 11 applications if we put a cap on wells at \$5,000. A motion was made by Supervisor Curtis Richards to accept the applications as presented. Supervisor Brenda Howerton seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal made an amendment to the motion to add a 4 month deadline for the applicant to turn in a contract or they will lose the funds awarded to them.

- F. CCAP** – Watershed Conservationist Jennifer Brooks reported that we received our allocation for this fiscal year and it was \$5,151. Brooks reported that the money we had left over from the CWMTF grant and the new fiscal year’s allocation makes our new total to be allocated for CCAP projects \$23,817. Brooks reported that right now we have 3 definite contracts and a 4th potential contract for request for assistance. Brooks reported that the batching period doesn’t end until the end of August so they still have 1 month. The board decided not to put a cap on the money at this time.
- G. Stream Restoration** –Culberson reported that there are a couple of concerned citizens that live near Lick Creek. Culberson reported that the citizens are concerned about several things but one thing is the pumping station that is being proposed down stream for all of the new development in the area. Culberson reported that the citizens are concerned about is the sediment that is running off from the development that is being established off of Sharon Rd. Culberson reported that the citizens are also concerned about our Stream Restoration Project because a revision is being done on the plan for the project. Culberson reported that the reason a revision is being done on the plan is because we want to stay out of the wetland. Culberson reported that when the plan was done originally the wetlands were not seen. Culberson reported that Baker Engineering at its own expense is going back and doing the revision. Culberson reported that in the process of Baker doing the revision they are also doing the CLOMR Study (Conditional Letter of Map Revision). Culberson reported that Triple Crown Farm is in the process of being developed and the concerned citizens think that the project has something to do with that. County Commissioner Ellen Reckhow has called a meeting for August 13th at 1:00. Ellen Reckhow, the concerned citizens, Brenda Howerton, a representative from Baker Engineering & Culberson will be present. Culberson reported that the School Board is going to be approving the Easement for the RN Harris Project in August. Culberson reported that the work will have to be done while the kids are in school.
- I. Environmental Education-** Watershed Conservationist Jennifer Brooks reported that she and Administrative Officer Lisa Marochak have been working on the upcoming Food, Land and People Workshop that is going to be held on August 12th-13th. Brooks reported that so far they have had 10 participants to sign up.
- J. Administrative Officer**– Lisa Marochak reported that the Annual Report is almost complete and that she will have it ready to pass out at the next board meeting. Marochak report that Area IV is looking for an Area IV Soil and Water office to host the 2010 Area IV Envirothon. Marochak reported that she feels like this would be a good thing for the Durham SWCD Office to take on with the commitment from the Durham Soil and Water Conservation Board that they will help get donations to pay for food, shirts, etc. The Durham Soil and Water Board agreed to help the staff out with the Envirothon.
- K. NRCS Report** – Matt Kinane NRCS District Conservationist gave a report on the Farm Security Investment Act of 2002 and on USDA Programs (EQIP & WHIP). Kinane report that NRCS will be conducting 6 Quality Assurance reviews in Durham County for Highly Erodible Lands Conservation and Wetland Conservation within the next month.
- L. Director’s Report** – Director Eddie Culberson reported that at the last Piedmont RC&D meeting was July 17th. Talmage Layton and Eddie Culberson attended. The council changed the ordinance for the representatives from each county. The new ordinance states that the representatives can all be in the “At

Large” position and do not have to come from a specific county board or department. Talmage Layton and Wendy Jacobs were voted onto the Piedmont RC&D council as representatives of Durham County. The county has two more positions to fill. Talmage Layton reported that he, along with the Piedmont Council director, Julie Elmore, met with Mr. Billy Holiday in regards to a potential RC&D project involving processing milk from local producers for local markets. Culberson also reported that the Annual North Carolina RC&D conference this year is in Kitty Hawk, NC on Sept 24-27, 2008. A motion was made by Supervisor Robert Rosenthal to send Eddie Culberson to the annual conference to represent the District for a total of \$500 or less for expenses. Supervisor Curtis Richards seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

4. New Business

- A. **Marie Roberts Easement (Revision)** - Culberson reported that Marie Roberts has requested a revision on the District’s easement to change the entity that can construct a park on the property. She wants to change it from the Little River Complex to the Northern Athletic Association. Culberson reported that he has checked with the CWMTF attorney on the issue and has been advised that this change to the easement can be made. Culberson further stated that Marie Roberts wants the Northern Athletic Association to be able to build a 20 ac. community park now if they so choose rather than wait for her passing. Culberson is to bring the proposed easement changes to the next board meeting.

5. Adjourn

With no further business, Layton adjourned at 7:20 PM

Next Meeting: Monday September 8th at 5:30 PM

Talmage Layton
Chairman

Robert Rosenthal
Vice Chairman

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