

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 11 (District Meeting) Date: December 10, 2007
Meeting Number: 06 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Robert Rosenthal, Vice Chairman
Ray Eurquhart, Secretary/Treasurer
Curtis Richardson, Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Water Conservationist
Lynwood Faison, Soil Conservationist
Roger Hansard, Associate Supervisor
Brent Bogue, NRCS District Conservationist

1. Chairman Talmage Layton called the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to order at 6:00 PM
2. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart to accept the Financial Statement. Supervisor Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. A motion was made by Supervisor Curtis Richardson to approve the minutes. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **Old Business**
 - A. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update** – Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal reported that the request for adoption on the Jordan Lake reservoir rules scheduled for January 08' with the Environmental Commission has been changed to March 08'.
Rosenthal reported that they have started interviewing people to replace Sarah Bruce in her old job since she has already started her new job.
Rosenthal reported that a gentleman came and spoke to the Upper Neuse River Basin Association about an Environmental Stewardship Certification in the Wilmington area. The speaker is going to try and work with Triangle J COG to bring this to the Triangle area for landowners that are doing good environmental things.
 - B. **Durham Farmland Protection** – Director Eddie Culberson reported that the last Farmland board meeting was December 6th. We are in the process of submitting an application to the NC Department of Agricultural for purchase of development rights on two farms. 1 application is for Roger Tilley and the other is for Bill McFarland's Farm.
Brooks reported that she is also submitting a grant to the NC Department of Agricultural for the Farmland Protection plan to get a consultant. The Farmland Protection Board approved \$5,000 in matching funds for this project contingent that the money is approved for our FY 09 budget.
Culberson reported that the next Farmland Protection meeting is scheduled for January 17th 8:00am at the Soil and Water office. Culberson reported he will be submitting a grant application to the state to place an easement on 225 acres for Gerald Thacker. He stated that there are eight entities partnering on the project.

- C. Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** –Vice Chairman Rosenthal reported that the EAB had a presentation from the top sustainability person at Duke. Rosenthal reported that the board is still trying to figure out what impact Duke has on the County as far as Green House gases, Water quality, etc are concerned.

Supervisor Curtis Richardson also a Professor at Duke reported that he met with Duke on their water quality for the whole campus and Duke is planning a development of \$500,000,000 for a central campus development over the next 8 years. Richardson reported that they are planning to build some reservoirs and restore some streams on campus by partnering with the Durham Soil & Water Conservation District. Rosenthal reported that the Board is still looking for an Environmental Law person that lives within the City limits to sit on the board.

Rosenthal reported that the Green Building Award is going to be called the Sustainable Properties Award. This is going to be part of the Golden Leaf Award presented at the ceremony and judged by the same judges as the Golden Leaf Award.

Rosenthal reported that the Appearance Commission wanted to know if anyone is interested in sponsoring the awards or anyone that would like to attend the awards ceremony to please contact Robert Rosenthal.

- D. Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that since the last meeting he has reviewed five Soil and Erosion Control Plans and four were adequate as follows: Golden Belt, National Institute of Statistical Sciences, Harris Teeter #254, Highland Park Subdivision. 1 was inadequate due to no seedling plan as follows: Hotel Indigo.

- E. Agricultural Cost Share Program** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that we have a request for payment from David Krabbe on contract # 32/07/05/09 on 32.75 acres of cropland conversion to grass for \$8,719.00. Faison reported that we have another request for payment from Wilma S. Garrett on contract #32/07/04/09 on 1.45 acres of grass waterways and 1.4 acres of long term no till for a total of \$2,105. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart made a motion that we pay David Krabbe on contract #32/07/05/09 and Wilma S. Garrett on contract #32/07/04/09. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

F. Stream Restoration

- 1. Baker Agreement** – Culberson reported that he has an agreement that needs to be executed. The agreement is between Baker Engineering and the Durham Soil & Water District Board stating that the District Board agrees that the engineering firm will implement the plan as agreed on. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal made a motion to approve the agreement as negotiated between Culberson and Baker Engineering Firm. Supervisor Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 2. Unnamed Tributary on Lake Michie-** Culberson reported that he has 4 contracts that need to be executed by the Chairman for a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Contract on the UT on Lake Michie for \$275,000 on 2000 foot of stream. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal made a motion for the board to approve the contract for the Unnamed Tributary on Lake Michie. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
- 3. Phase V of the Sandy Creek Project-** Culberson reported that Curtis Richardson is interested in the district partnering with Duke on Phase V of the Sandy Creek Stream Restoration project. The District will submit a Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant for approximately 1 million dollars in February 2008.
- 4. John R. McAdams Engineering Firm-** Culberson reported that we are working with the John R. McAdams Engineering firm on a 400 acre tract that is going to be developed. The stream restoration project would be done before the houses are built. This project is located at Chin Page & Page Rd. The district is planning to submit a grant for the project.

- G. Forestry** –No report, Wayne Williams County Ranger was not present.

- I. Environmental Education-** Watershed Conservationist Jennifer Brooks reported that Lisa Marochak & she will be attending a workshop with the Tobacco Trust Fund for the grant money we are receiving for the signs.

Brooks reported we just received the signs with the Farm Bureau logo on them today so we will start putting them up next week.

Brooks reported that she has already started with the Envirothon Team; we should have 3 Middle School teams and 5 High School.

J. Administrative Officer-

Milton Heath- Administrative Officer Lisa Marochak reported that the board received a letter from the Association asking each district to give money to help pay for the plaque. The board asked Culberson to call Ned Hudson and ask him how much we should give and Culberson can make the decision on the amount to send. Supervisor Curtis Richardson made a motion to allow Layton & Culberson to pay up to \$500 to the association for Milton Heath. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

2008 Resolutions – Marochak passed out a copy of the 2008 Resolutions that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

- K. NRCS Report** – Brent Bogue NRCS District Conservationist reported that the farm bill had stopped but it now moving again. There was an issue with the 300 amendments that were attached to the farm bill so they have agreed to cut it down to 40 amendments.

Bogue reported that we have had a couple of people in Durham County interested in EQIP.

Bogue reported that Julie Elmore is the new RC& D Coordinator and Mike Suggs brought her by the Orange County office. Bogue reported that Julie Elmore told him that she was going to come to one of the board meetings.

- L. Director's Report** – Director Eddie Culberson reported that the County is closed for the holidays December 24th, 25th & 26th and also January 1st.

Culberson reported that the office will be closed January 6-January 9 while the staff attends the NC Association of Soil & Water Annual Conference in Asheville, NC.

Culberson reported that the Lake Vista Project is not complete yet. Ben Wilson is in the middle of doing his as built profile. Culberson reported that one of the landowners Shelia Carpenter is planning to have a meeting soon with Becky Heron to try and get some funds to pave the top of Lake Vista Dam. Culberson reported that he has asked Shelia Carpenter to invite him to sit in on that meeting.

Lisa Marochak reported that she would like the board to consider reinstating the employee bonus program. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal said that this matter should be discussed when all board members are present and since Brenda Howerton was not present the board decided to table any further discussion.

Culberson reported that the County Commissioners budget retreat for the Department Heads is January 10th.

4. New Business

- A. NACD fund raiser** – Administrative Officer Lisa Marochak reported that NACD is requesting \$200 from each district and \$100 per each past president to help with renovation to the National Soil & Water office that is located in Washington, DC. The Durham SWCD has had two past presidents so the total NACD is asking for is \$400. The board decided to have Eddie Culberson contact Ned Hudson in regards to the letter and let Culberson make the decision on how much is appropriate for the district to contribute.

- B. Job Approval** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that something he has been doing for 30 years the PE Board has decided is illegal. Faison reported that all he needs is the board's approval and Brent Bogue's. Supervisor Curtis made a motion to allow the Chairman to sign the necessary forms for

Lynwood Faison and Eddie Culberson to have Job Approval. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

- C. Banquet date** –Marochak reported that we need to set a date for the 2008 Awards banquet so we can start looking for a place to hold the banquet and solicit for door prizes. The board decide to set the banquet date for Friday May 16th

5. Adjourn

With no further business, Layton adjourned at 7:25 PM

Next Meeting: Monday February 4th at 5:30 PM

Talmage Layton

Chairman

Robert Rosenthal

Vice Chairman

Division of Soil and Water Conservation District
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