

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 04(District Meeting) Date: May 4, 2009
Meeting Number: 10 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

Talmage Layton, Chairman
Robert Rosenthal, Vice Chairman
Curtis Richardson, Supervisor
Ray Eurquhart, Supervisor
Kathryn Spann- Associate Supervisor
Roger Hansard, Associate Supervisor
Gus Gray, Associate Supervisor

Others Present:

Eddie Culberson, Director
Lisa Marochak, Administrative officer
Jennifer Brooks, Watershed Conservationist
Lynwood Faison, Soil Conservationist
Matt Kinane, NRCS District Conservationist
Hope Taylor, Clean Water for NC

1. Chairman Talmage Layton called the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to order at 5:37 PM
2. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart to accept the Financial Statement and approve the minutes. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.
3. **Old Business**
 - A. **Durham Farmland Protection-** Kathryn Spann gave an update on the Farmland Tour that was held April 16th. Kathryn Spann reported that 4 County Commissioners along with the County Manager attended the Farmland tour.
Kathryn Spann reported that Jennifer Brooks organized and held two open forum meetings for the public to comment on the Farmland Plan. The 1st meeting was held on April 28th at the Little River Community Complex and the second meeting was held at the E. Regional Library on April 30th.
The next Farmland Protection Board meeting is scheduled for May 21st at 8:00am.
 - B. **Upper Neuse River Basin Issues Update** – Robert Rosenthal reported that the Upper Neuse River Basin Association is extremely concerned about the watershed rules and all of the requirements. They are still trying to figure out how active the Upper Neuse River Basin Association should be versus the individual members.
 - C. **Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** –Robert Rosenthal reported that the current chair of the EAB board is coming up on her 1st year as the board chair. The chair is trying to focus more on water quality. The current theme for her water quality program is “imagine Durham”. They are currently in the process of getting information out to the public explaining the program.
Robert Rosenthal reported that this years judging is complete with the Appearance Commission of Sustainable Property. King Daughters Inn will be receiving 1 of the top 3 spots from the Appearance Commission this year.
 - D. **Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** –Lynwood Faison reported that since the last meeting they have had 0 plans.

E. Agricultural Cost Share Program –

A. Approval of AG Cost Share and CCAP Strategy Plan- Lynwood Faison and Jennifer Brooks presented the FY 2010 Strategy Plan to the board. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve the FY 2010 Strategy Plan. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

B. Spot Check- Lynwood Faison reported that they need to set the Annual Spot check date. The board decided to have the spot check on June 25th at noon.

F. CCAP – Watershed Conservationist, Jennifer Brooks reported that she has one application for assistance for a rain garden to capture roof top runoff. The contract # is 32-09-508-15. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to approve the application as presented. Curtis Richardson seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

G. Stream Restoration –

1. Extension of funds- Culberson reported that he received notice today that CWMTF has granted the 1 year extension that the board requested on Gerald Thacker’s Stream Restoration Project and on the Lick Creek Watershed Project.

2. R.N. Harris – Culberson reported that they did a tour with some state officials and showed them the RN Harris project and a couple more that Durham SWCD has been working on around the county. The RN Harris Project is about 3 weeks away from completion.

3. Lick Creek- Culberson reported that he is still answering some questions about the easements. This project is not supposed to start until this fall.

4. Tour: Culberson reported that it would be nice to have a legislative/County Commissioner tour of some of the projects the district board has done.

H. Environmental Education- Jennifer Brooks reported on the following:

1. State Envirothon - Brooks reported that the State Envirothon was held on April 24th-25th at Cedar Rock Park in Burlington. The two high school teams placed 4th and 11th. The middle school team place 33rd. 1 high school team placed 1st on the soils test.

2. Area IV Envirothon - Brooks reported that next year Durham SWCD will host the Area IV Envirothon. Quail Roost Farm has generously agreed to let us hold the event on their property.

I. Administrative Officer– Lisa Marochak reported on the following:

1. E-notes – please contact Lisa Marochak if you are interested in receiving the NACD newsletter via email.

2. Conservation Sale- Our next rain barrel, bird boxes and wildflowers seed sale will take place on May 6th 3pm-6pm in the Soil & Water parking lot.

J. NRCS Report - Matt Kinane, NRCS District Conservationist reported WHIP and EQIP applications deadline was Friday, April 24th. Matt Kinane reported that they are in the process of going through all of the applications and ranking them.

K. Director’s Report – Eddie Culberson reported on the following:

1. Piedmont RC&D- On April 16th Talmage Layton was sworn in as the new Vice Chairman of the Piedmont RC&D and Eddie Culberson was voted in as an executive board member. The next meeting is set for May 5th at 6pm.

2. Budget Retreat- Culberson reported that there will be a budget retreat on May 18th.

4. New Business:

1. Jordan Lake – Hope Taylor with Clean Water for NC spoke to the board about using stimulus money or some other pot of money to do rain gardens and swales in neighborhoods. This would not require any additional land.

2. **Fall Lake-** Jennifer Brooks reported that the Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is in the process of modeling the Falls Lake Watershed. DWQ is using some land cover data from 2001 and they have labeled 78,000 acres of pastured hayland and only 5,000 acres of cropland in the whole Falls Lake watershed. It is very important to get the word out to farmers to come to the next 3 Falls Lake meeting if they want their voice heard. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21st in Durham from 1pm-4pm. The second meeting will be on June 18th and the 3rd on July 16th.

5. Adjourn:

The chairman adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Next Meeting: June 25, 2009 at 12:00pm/ spot check tour

Talmage Layton

Chairman

Robert Rosenthal

Vice Chairman