

MINUTES

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

Meeting Number: 03 (District Meeting) Date: May 5, 2008
Meeting Number: 09 (for State reporting purposes)

Supervisors Present:

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

Others Present:

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

1. Chairman Talmage Layton called the Durham Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting to order at 5:44 PM
2. **Minutes and Financial Report** – A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart to accept the Financial Statement and approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal 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. They have not had a meeting since our last board meeting.
 - B. **Environmental Affairs Board Issues Update** – Vice Chairman Rosenthal reported that the new Sustainability person has started to work and we should see that the City and County will be more focused on green projects.
 - C. **Durham Farmland Protection** – Director Eddie Culberson reported that that last meeting was on April 24th. Culberson reported that they have decided to move forward with the points system. The board will be ranking each applicant that shows serious interest in putting an easement on their property. A Subcommittee will be meeting to work on the Ranking System on May 20th to try and finalize it before our regular board meeting on May 22nd.
Culberson reported that it was announced that Neil Frank's Farm of 300 acres that abuts Bill McFarlands Farm is getting an easement placed on it. Culberson reported that 50% of the funding is coming from USDA, 25% from Durham County & Neil Frank donated 25%.
 - D. **Sediment and Erosion Control Plans** – Soil Conservationist Lynwood Faison reported that since the last meeting he has reviewed six Sediment and Erosion Control Plans and six were adequate as follows: Chamberlynn Phase I lot grading; HH Gregg at Renaissance Village; Duke Parking Garage IX; Duke University Lemur Center-Phase I: Habitat Enrichment; Peace Presbyterian Church; Palladian Office Park Phase IC Soil Relocation
 - E. **Agricultural Cost Share Program** – Brent Bogue NRCS District Conservationist reported that Ellen Zeimer's design is done and has been sent off to the State office for approval. Faison reported that we have to have our strategy plan in for 2009 by June 1st.

A. 2007 Drought Response- Faison reported that the Division of Soil and Water sent out letter to every Farmer in the State letting them know that there is going to be some money available to assist them with pasture renovation and other problems due to the 2007 drought. Faison reported that they do not know yet how much Durham County will be receiving to help out the farmers and they really do not know all of the details. Culberson reported that they have to turn in their dollar needs by May 16th.

F. CCAP – Watershed Conservationist Jennifer Brooks reported that Curtis Richardson, Roger Hansard, Eddie Culberson and she met to go over the ranking system and make changes. Brooks reported that she and Culberson made some additional changes after the meeting. Brooks passed out a draft copy of the Ranking System to the Board. A motion was made by Robert Rosenthal to move Permeable Pavement down to the 3rd tier and move Well Closures up to the 2nd tier and keep everything else the same. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart to accept the Points System with changes that will be made by the next board meeting. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent. A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart to place a \$2,500 per applicant cap on practices for the 1st batching period. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Brooks reported that they might want to consider having a tie breaker question because some of the applications might score the same. Culberson reported that they had thought about using the person that is closest to a blue line stream as defined by the USGS Topo maps. A motion was made by Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart to move that the tie breaker question be determined by the BMP that is closest to the blue line stream as defined by the USGS Topo maps. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

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

H. Stream Restoration –Culberson reported that they have a new project at the Rice Diet Center on the Ellerbe Creek section. Culberson reported that they are looking at this project with John R. McAdams Engineering firm.

Culberson reported that on Lick Creek they found out that they have to do a no rise survey study to see if the FEMA map and flood plain will change due to the installation of the project.

Culberson reported that Associate Supervisor Kathryn Spann and he have been working on the easements for RN Harris and Lick Creek projects.

I. Environmental Education- Watershed Conservationist Jennifer Brooks reported that she wanted to thank Eddie Culberson and Ray Eurquhart for helping her work the booth during Earth Day.

Brooks reported that the State Envirothon was held on April 26th and Durham's middle school teams placed 8th and tied for 10th place. The 3 high school teams placed 8th, 10th and 16th.

Brooks reported that last board meeting she made a request for funding for a teachers workshop and we have a break down of charges. The workshops will be for local teachers and educators. Brooks reported that we would like to request \$800 to help pay for 15 Food, Land and People books, food for 2 days and miscellaneous supplies. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal made a motion to give \$800 to Brooks and Marochak to help pay for the cost of a Teachers Workshop in August. Secretary/Treasurer Ray Eurquhart seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

J. Administrative Officer– Lisa Marochak reported that Conservation Awareness Day is going to be held on May 28th this year. If any Supervisor would like to come and help get the word out on May 27th please contact Lisa ASAP.

Marochak Reported that our Annual Awards Banquet is coming up on May 16th. Marochak reported that she has received several door prizes but she was wondering if the board would be willing to donate some items. A motion was made by Ray Eurquhart for the board to donate 1 65 gallon rain barrel, 1 bird box, a pack of wildflower seeds and a cookbook. Vice Chairman Robert Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed without dissent.

Marochak reported that the Annual Spot Check is scheduled for May 22nd at Kathryn Spann and David Krabbe's house. Supervisors please RSVP if you are planning to attend.

- K. NRCS Report** – Brent Bogue NRCS District Conservationist reported that they still don't have a Farm bill and the cut off deadline is the end of this week. We should know soon if they are going to pass the Farm Bill or not.
- L. Director's Report** – Director Eddie Culberson reported that RC&D had a meeting on April 29th from 6pm-8pm to talk about long range goals. Culberson was unable to attend but Brooks, Layton and Wendy Jacobs (representative from City Council) attended the meeting. Culberson reported that the Annual Plan of Work is due by July 1st so the board will need to vote on the Annual Report at the next board meeting.

5. Adjourn

With no further business, Layton adjourned at 7:24 PM

Next Meeting: Monday June 2nd at 5:30 PM

Talmage Layton

Chairman

Robert Rosenthal

Vice Chairman

Division of Soil and Water Conservation District
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