

**LORD FAIRFAX SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
Strasburg Community Center
Strasburg, Virginia
February 11, 2016**

| Directors Present | | County |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Comanor, Joan | | County of Shenandoah |
| Fagan, Jim | | At-large Shenandoah Co. |
| Gessner, Mary | | County of Shenandoah |
| Hoover, Richard | | County of Warren |
| Mackay-Smith, Justin | | County of Clarke |
| Neese, Michael | | Winchester City |
| Richards, Ira | | County of Warren |
| Simpson, HB | | Winchester City |
| Walls, Marietta Cather | | County of Frederick |
| Webb, Wayne | | County of Clarke |
| Directors Absent | | County |
| Childs, Corey | | Extension Agent |
| Hockman-Nicholas, Kitty | | County of Frederick |
| Associate Directors Present | | County |
| Gnegy, Karen | | County of Shenandoah |
| Martin, Jim | | County of Warren |
| Nagelvoort, Bud | | County of Clarke |
| Associate Directors Absent | | County |
| Dibenedetto, Vincent | | Winchester City |
| Showman, Geary | | County of Shenandoah |
| Stanford, Rick | | County of Shenandoah |
| Staff Absent | | |
| | | |
| Staff/Cooperating Agencies/Guests | | Affiliation |
| Campbell, Amanda | | LFSWCD Administrative Assistant |
| Chester, Amanda | | LFSWCD Conservation Specialist |
| Gochenour, Dana | | LFSWCD Conservation Specialist |
| Pinsky, Jay | | LFSWCD Ed & Info Coordinator |
| Truban, Samuel | | LFSWCD Conservation Specialist |
| Cross, Debbie | | DCR |
| Marshall, Jay | | DCR |
| Burtner, Judy | | Area I Chairman |

The meeting was called to order at 10:00.

The Chairman introduced Judy Burner, Area I Chairman.

Burtner gave an update on legislative issues.

The Area I Spring Meeting will be held on April 21st in Lexington at the Virginia Horse Center. Mountain Castles SWCD will be hosting the meeting this year.

Minutes: Motion made to approve the minutes. (Gessner, Webb)

Webb amended the minutes:

“NSVRC Regional Water Resource Policy Committee: Webb reported that they did not have a *regular board* meeting. The December meeting was a holiday dinner that he did not attend.”

Motion made to approve the amended minutes. (Gessner, Simpson, motion passed).

Chairs Report: Hoover reviewed the budgetary contributions received by neighboring Districts from their respective jurisdictions (list included in meeting folders)

Debbie Cross circulated the Operations Resource and Personnel Guide. A copy is kept in Amanda Campbell’s office.

He congratulated Dana Gochenour on receiving the Sr. Conservation Specialist position.

Hoover introduced Sheryl Ferguson, Assistant Conservation Specialist.

Treasurer’s Report: Martin reported that the operating income and expenses are in keeping with the budget.

LFSWCD Reports:

Senior Conservation Specialist Report: Gochenour reported that staff is glad to have Ferguson on board. She reviewed her written report.

Conservation Specialist Report: Truban was on sick leave.

Conservation Specialist Report: Chester had nothing to add to her written report.

Motion made to purchase Adobe software with Vehicle credit card. (Martin, Webb, motion passed).

Conservation Specialist Report: (Vacant)

Education & Info Coordinator: Pinsky reviewed his written report. He designed two new programs, a youth natural resource leadership program and a two-person environmental debate program. They are moving forward with strong support within the Virginia Governor’s School at Mt. Vista. He will use many agencies to facilitate the programs.

The Envirothon will be held April 6th at Sherando Park. Three teams have registered.

May 14th the Friends of the North Fork will be sponsoring an event at Seven Bends. Gessner added that it is Family Fun Day.

Nagelvoort asked if any contacts have been made to the Winchester Star to get District articles in the newspaper.

Conservation Easement Committee: Richards had nothing to report.

Conservation Technical Committee: Gessner reviewed the committee report.

Motion made to approve the tax credit retroactively. (Gessner, Simpson, motion passed)

Motion made to approve the Conservation Technical Committee minutes. (Gessner, Simpson, motion passed).

Dam Safety Committee: Fagan received some press coverage from the Shenandoah Valley Herald on the dams. Work is ongoing on both dams. The gates are scheduled to be installed in March and the lake is on schedule to begin refilling in early spring.

Representatives from DCR and LFSWCD had a follow up meeting with the owners of Bird Haven in January. Meetings of the principals are scheduled every two weeks to monitor the progress on these projects. Overall project completion is scheduled for the fall.

Education & Information Committee: Comanor reported that the committee met following the January board meeting and reviewed progress and actions for the next 6 month. The committee will meet next immediately following the March Board meeting. Comanor plans to attend the Strengthening Economies Together forum on Feb. 11 at Lord Fairfax Community College.

Finance Committee: Martin reported that the Finance Committee will meet after the Board meeting today to discuss the draft budget template for jurisdictions in the District.

Legislative Committee: Nagelvoort gave the latest status update on Feb. 7th from Don Wells. The following items are of interest to LFSWCD.

- HB 238 related to making it clear that District Board Members are eligible for cost-share without conflict of interest has passed the House and Senate.
- House Joint Resolution commending 10 River Basin Grand Award winners of Clear Water Farm Award passed House and Senate.
- Budget legislation for cost-share of \$22 million in fiscal 2017 and \$86 million in fiscal 2018 along with operating funds of \$1,637,000 in fiscal 1017 and \$1,891,000 and funding for engineering support for 4 full-time employees is in budget subcommittees.

VASWCD Legislative should communicate with Senator Obenshain to support District funding interests.

NSVRC Regional Water Resource Policy Committee: Webb reported that Brandon Davis was appointed by the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission as the agency's executive director.

Operations Committee: Martin met with the committee to consider an option to consider a repository under.lfswcd.org.

Motion made that the Board approve the measure to capture and retain all electronic correspondence within the District by setting up an additional email address to the current @lfswcd.org account, and that all future correspondence be forwarded to this address through use of the "bcc" address function. (Walls, Gessner, motion passed).

Personnel Committee: Simpson reported that the deadline for submission of resumes for the Conservation Specialist position is February 22.

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Comanor had nothing to report.

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Gessner was unable to attend the meeting. Wayne Webb submitted a written report.

Urban BMP Committee: Neese had nothing to add. They had their first meeting this morning.

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Liskey had nothing to add to his written report.

Dept. of Conservation & Recreation: Jay Marshall had nothing to report.
Debbie Cross reviewed her written report.

Motion made that the District sign the Voluntary BMP Agreement. (Comanor, Webb, motion passed)

Virginia Dept. of Forestry: Lehnem submitted a written report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: No written report.

Department of Environmental Quality: Robert Peer submitted a written report.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 11:30. (Comanor, Webb, the motion passed)

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

Approved