

**LORD FAIRFAX SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
Strasburg Community Center
Strasburg, Virginia
February 9, 2017**

Directors Present		County
Comanor, Joan		County of Shenandoah
Fagan, Jim		County of Shenandoah
Gessner, Mary		County of Shenandoah
Hockman-Nicholas, Kitty		County of Frederick
Hoover, Richard		County of Warren
Mackay-Smith, Justin		County of Clarke
Richards, Ira B.		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
Associate Directors Present		County
Martin, Jim		County of Warren
Nagelvoort, Bud		County of Clarke
Gnegy, Karen		County of Shenandoah
Associate Directors Absent		County
Dibenedetto, Vincent		Winchester City
Stanford, Rick		County of Shenandoah
Staff Absent		
Staff/Cooperating Agencies/Guests		Affiliation
Campbell, Amanda		LFSWCD Administrative Assistant
Gochenour, Dana		LFSWCD Sr. Conservation Specialist
Livesay, Nick		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Sloop, Alison		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Truban, Sam		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Pinsky, James		Ed & Info Coordinator
Cross, Debbie		DCR
Brent Barriteau, Brian Brezinski		NRCS
Kowalski, Matt		CBF

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10:00.

Pinsky introduced Alison Cooper, student at Mtn. Vista Governor's School and Rosanne Williamson, Director, Mtn. Vista Governor's School.

Minutes: Motion made to approve the minutes. (Gessner, Mackay-Smith, motion passed).

Chair's Report:

Hoover reported that the Board that the Shenandoah County Administrator had informed the District that staff health insurance premium will be increasing 13.99 percent in FY18. Hoover asked the Operations Committee, working with Finance and Personnel, to recommend measures to ameliorate this increase.

Hoover informed the Board that a letter needs to be sent to Jack Bricker, USDA, NRCS, giving approval for Alison to attend Boot Camp. Boot Camp trainings will be held March 27 thru the 30th.

Motion made to send Alison to Boot Camp. (Comanor, Neese, motion passed).

Phase III, Watershed Implementation Plan: The development process is in its early stages. Outreach meeting will be held February 16th at DEQ's Valley Regional Office for District Staff.

Outreach meeting for Board members will be held March 6th.

Treasurer's Report: Martin reviewed the report. Everything looks good.

LFSWCD Reports:

Senior Conservation Specialist Report: Gochenour had nothing to add. She reported that Alison is going to Boot Camp. She is trying to get Nick online (linc pass). He is not eligible to attend Boot Camp yet.

Conservation Specialist Report: Truban had nothing to add to his report.

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

Conservation Specialist Report: Livesay had nothing to add to his written report. He gave an update on DuPont - \$50,000 grant. Shenandoah Valley SWCD can use funding for BMP's and education.

Kowalski added that Regional Conservation Partnership Program funds \$800,000 has been approved all but \$40,000 remains.

Asst. Conservation Specialist Report: Ferguson submitted a written report.

Education & Info Coordinator: Pinsky reported that he attended the VASWCD Education Committee meeting. He passed the Envirothon sign-up sheet around. The Envirothon will be held at the Northern VA. 4-H Center. The same food will be provided. Two trunks have been purchased. Neese, Pinsky and Livesay will work to get the Boy Scouts involved with the Envirothon.

April 8th Friends of the North Fork are doing a river cleanup.

Conservation Easement Committee: Richards had nothing to report.

Conservation Technical Committee: Gessner reviewed the Tech Committee Report. There were three increases. One SL-6 already completed one project to submit to DEQ-TMDL and one tax credit.

.Motion made to approve the Technical Committee report with the new project and increases. Gessner, Simpson, the motion passed.

Dam Safety Committee: Fagan had nothing to report. They need to update the Emergency Action Plan.

Education & Information Committee: Comanor asked Pinsky to show slide presentation after the Board meeting. She reported that she received an appreciation letter from Senator Obenshain (included in meeting folder). It is time to start planning the Envirothon on April 5th. The Education & Info Committee will meet following the Board meeting to review progress on Envirothon planning, awards banquet and other action items.

Finance Committee: Martin reported that he provided Shenandoah Co. with FY18 staff projection of \$360,000.

Legislative Committee: Fagan reported that he participated in the January 12th Legislative Day.

Debbie Cross added that the Senate and the House supported our request to transfer \$8.3 million from Water Quality Fund to the VA. Natural Resource Commitment Fund (VNRCF) to be used for Ag BMP cost share program and tech assistance. This in addition to the Governor's recommended budget to continue use of the recordation fee, providing just over \$8 million though this amount remains dependent on home sales, would line approximately a \$16 million cost share/technical assistance program for FY18. The Senate budget has included a proposed line of credit for \$30 million to be used for agriculture BMP's. They will adjourn February 25th. Next week we should have a good sense of where we are going.

The Legislative committee did not meet with Senators Vogel or Obenshain, but she encouraged directors to send than you notes to legislators.

NSVRC Regional Water Resource Policy Committee: Webb had nothing to add to his report.

Operations Committee: Martin reported that the committee met to review the Annual Plan of Work. The committee has been busy taking the Strategic Plan to Warren and Shenandoah Cos. Board members are welcome to attend these meetings. Gessner suggested directors to remind people that the meetings are taking place. Clarke Co. will be held at the Boyce Volunteer Fire Co. on February 14th. Frederick & Winchester will be held on February 21st at the Board of Supervisors Room at 7-8 p.m. The general wrap up of the Strategic Plan will be March 7th from 7-8 p.m. at Strasburg.

Personnel Committee: Simpson reported that the committee did mid-year reviews January 26th.

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

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Gessner had nothing to add to her written report.

Urban BMP Committee: Neese reported that the District will send two staff to the March 8 & 9th VCE Horticulture Day at the Northern VA 4-H Center in Front Royal. There is a \$75 registration fee.

Motion made to pay the \$75 each for two staff members registration fee. (Neese, Simpson, motion passed).

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Barriteau commended the LFSWCD staff for assisting with projects and getting into to Brent.

NRCS has to make a special request to hire another person.

Justin Mackay-Smith left the meeting at 11:30.

Discussion was held on engineering positions.

Nagelvoort suggested that the SWCD end a letter to our delegation advising them of the engineering situation.

Hoover asked Dana to work with Fagan to draft a letter telling them the impact his is having on doing work. Send it by email.

Dept. of Conservation & Recreation: Debbie Cross reviewed her written report. She noted that third quarter disbursements will be coming next week. The 2019 budget template is due in June.

Virginia Dept. of Forestry: John Hisghman reported that they are down another person. If the VDF is needed for any projects please give them plenty of time.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: No written report submitted.

Department of Environmental Quality: Written report submitted.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 (Simpson, Walls , motion passed).

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

March 9, 2017

Approved