

**LORD FAIRFAX SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES
Strasburg Community Center
Strasburg, Virginia
April 13, 2017**

Directors Present		County
Childs, Corey	Extension Agent	
Comanor, Joan	County of Shenandoah	
Fagan, Jim	County of Shenandoah	
Gessner, Mary	County of Shenandoah	
Hockman-Nicholas, Kitty	County of Frederick	
Mackay-Smith, Justin	County of Clarke	
Neese, Michael	Winchester City	
Richards, Ira B.	County of Warren	
Simpson, HB	Winchester City	
Walls, Marietta Cather	County of Frederick	
Webb, Wayne	County of Clarke	
Directors Absent		County
Hoover, Richard	County of Warren	
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		
Gochenour, Dana	Sr. Conservation Specialist	
Livesay, Nick	LFSWCD Conservation Specialist	
Sloop, Alison	LFSWCD Conservation Specialist	
		Affiliation
Campbell, Amanda	LFSWCD Administrative Assistant	
Truban, Sam	LFSWCD Conservation Specialist	
Pinsky, James	Ed & Info Coordinator	
Cross, Debbie	DCR	
Brent Barriteau, Brian Brezinski	NRCS	

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00.

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

Comanor distributed news articles. Sloop and Livesay are in training and Gochenour needed personal time.

Chair's Report:

Comanor reported on the letter that is to be sent to Congressmen and Senators regarding the funding cuts of the EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program and the USDA's conservation operations.

Motion made to authorize the Chair to sign the letter. (Simpson, Walls, motion passed)

Webb reported that he volunteered to help with the State Envirothon.

Motion made to approve Wayne lodging and mileage. (Gessner, Simpson, motion passed)

Corey Childs is taking the lead in completing the Chesapeake Bay Funders Network survey.

Motion made to authorize the Chairman to sign the DEQ Agreement for the Deering Project. DEQ is providing 75% of the funds. (Gessner, Neese, motion passed)

Motion was made to approve the draft letter (see packets) from the Board Chairman to State Conservationist Jack Bricker acquiescing in Bricker's request to close out the Opequon Creek Watershed. Webb, Neese, motion passed).

Comanor asked who will be attending the Area 1 Spring Meeting. Webb and Comanor will attend. If anyone else is interested in attending, please let Campbell know by April 17th.

Treasurer's Report: Martin reviewed the report. Bank statements and Credit Card Statements were received and reviewed.

Wayne Webb gave a PowerPoint presentation on "Chesapeake Bay Cleanup Challenge – It's the Rain"

LFSWCD Reports:

Senior Conservation Specialist Report: Gochenour submitted a written report. She took personal time.

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

Conservation Specialist Report: Sloop submitted a written report. She was in training.

Conservation Specialist Report: Livesay submitted a written report. He was in training.

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

Education & Info Coordinator: Pinsky reported that there is a Memo of Understanding with Lord Fairfax Community College regarding the Envirothon. All stations may be used for training. Pinsky would like to host the District Envirothon there next year.

He presented Truban with a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding services at the Envirothon.

He also reported that we had a successful Envirothon at the No. Virginia 4-H Center. Five teams competed. Strasburg's "A" Team won the overall championship for a second straight year.

The District's 2017 Annual Awards Luncheon will be held at Triplett Tech.

Our Water Where campaign is in full development with a local software developer. This campaign is also funded externally through a \$2000 grant from DEQ via the Pure Water Forum.

Motion made that Pinsky send a letter to the VASWCD asking that oral presentation be sent in the fall. (Childs, Webb, motion passed)

Conservation Easement Committee: Richards had nothing to report.

Conservation Technical Committee: Gessner gave a report on the County Farm Field Day. They didn't get the turnout they had hoped for. The County owns the farm, but leases it to a local landowner.

Gessner reviewed the Committee report. They are running short of funds. They had one increase of \$561 and a couple of cancellations. There are three pending SL-6's.

Motion made to approve the Technical Committee report and their recommendations contained therein. (Gessner, Webb, motion passed)

Dam Safety Committee: Fagan had nothing to add to his written report.

Education & Information Committee: Comanor had nothing to add to her written report.

Triplett Tech was selected to hold the annual awards luncheon. It is located in Mt. Jackson. They received one scholarship application.

Webb added that the Strategic Plan should be on the website.

Finance Committee: Martin reported that the Committee will meet after the Board meeting.

Legislative Committee: Legislative letter written by Gessner has already been approved.

NSVRC Regional Water Resource Policy Committee: Webb reported that Sloop arranged to present to the Commission on April 20th at 5 p.m. about the VCAP program.

Operations Committee: Martin reported that the committee will conduct a review of the staff health insurance premiums to recommend measures to ameliorate this increase. The County approved the 13.99 percent increase.

Motion made to continue health insurance coverage for employees through the County. (Mackay-Smith, Walls, motion carried)

The Strategic Plan draft was sent to the committee. They will have a draft for the May meeting.

Personnel Committee: Simpson had nothing to report.

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Comanor reviewed her written report. Their next meeting will be held at the farm of the Committee Chair and organic farmer, Gary Lantz/

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Gessner had nothing to report.

Urban BMP Committee: Neese reviewed the Committee minutes.

NACD Urban Conservation Ag Grant.

Motion made to delegate the Committee to submit the proposal. (Neese, Gessner, motion passed)

Agency Reports:

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Barriteau reviewed the Memo of Understanding – Civil Rights. The District agreed to the civil rights policies.

The Agreement has been reviewed and individual directors must sign.

Motion made that the Board sign the agreement. (Gessner, McKay-Smith, motion passed.)

Dept. of Conservation & Recreation: Cross reviewed her written report. Attach D is due by June 15th.

Virginia Dept. of Forestry: Nothing to report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: Childs gave an update on VCE activities and the drought. There is no frost damage on apples and peaches. There is some damage in wheat.

Department of Environmental Quality: Written report submitted.

Matt Kowalski gave an update on the CBF budget.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 (Webb, Childs, motion passed).

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

Approved