

LORD FAIRFAX SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Strasburg, Virginia
January 9, 2019

Directors Present		County
Comanor, Joan		County of Shenandoah
Fagan, Jim		County of Shenandoah
Gessner, Mary		County of Shenandoah
Hoover, Richard		County of Warren
Mackay-Smith, Justin		County of Clarke
Walls, Marietta Cather		County of Frederick
Webb, Wayne		County of Clarke
Directors Absent		County
Childs, Corey		Extension Agent
Hockman-Nicholas, Kitty		County of Frederick
Richards, Ira		County of Warren
Simpson, HB		Winchester City
		County
Martin, Jim		County of Warren
Nagelvoort, Bud		County of Clarke
Associate Directors Absent		County
Dibenedetto, Vincent		Winchester City
Stanford, Rick		County of Shenandoah
Staff Absent		
Staff Present		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
Barriteau, Brent		NRCS
Cross, Debbie		DCR
Wolanski, Matt		VDF

Meeting called to order at 10:00.

Minutes: Motion made to approve the minutes as distributed. (Comanor, Webb), motion passed.

Chair's Report: Hoover reviewed his written report.

Campbell reported that she hasn't received any responses to the advertisement in the Winchester Star for a new Winchester Director.

VCAP Public Comment Form:

- Commented on the need for contractor trainings in our district area. There is a lack of knowledge on how to implement these urban BMP's.
- Asked the steering committee to consider having more flexibility with VCAP deadlines for larger projects that would act as showcases for a district/region and that are a part of a municipality's capital improvement project.
- Commented on the need for additional training for homeowners and new district employees – training and guidelines for those without any knowledge of storm water management.
- Would be helpful to have a webinar on VCAP process from start to finish so that staff and applicants could refer to that.
- Requested more homeowner-friendly BMP design resources for practices that homeowners could install themselves.

Livesay gave an update on the Strasburg Community Garden and interns. He has only had one contact with a student interested in being an intern.

The Legislative Day Team will be leaving directly after the Board meeting for the General Assembly tomorrow. Fagan said that the committee will eat lunch and to Richmond Today. Appointments have been set up with representatives.

Fagan took his oath for the Director at Large position. It has been extended 4 more years.

Gochenour reported that IT Training Awareness has been completed by everyone. The Virginia Forage Grassland Conference will be held this month.

Cross reported that Sam and Dana are certified. It will be a while until the rest of the staff is certified. Hoover asked Dana to help his draft a letter to Glover to expedite certification for the remaining staff.

Ponn reported that the 2019 scholarship applications have been sent to the VASWCD.

Comanor reported that Karen Gnegy sent an email to her that she resigned as an Associate Director due to health reasons.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Martin reported that he received a request from Shenandoah County for the salary budget.

LFSWCD Reports:

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

Conservation Specialist Report: Truban had nothing to add to his written report. He noted that he attended an Animal Waste TAC meeting in Goochland yesterday

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

Comanor asked about the Virginia Farm Table Conference. Dana reported that it had good attendance and topics were good that were covered. The purpose of the conference is that it is a good opportunity to get caught up on the topics.

Livesay – permaculture-fruit trees. Dana attended vegetable production.

Conservation Specialist Report: Livesay reviewed his written report. He met with Lantham in Front Royal to visit the initial VCAP site to discuss possible projects.

Livesay discussed TAC meeting. SL_6 cap was set higher to \$100,000.

Contractor for Conservation Services Report: December report submitted for review.

Education & Program Support Specialist: Ponn gave a list of activity dates. Education Committee minutes on December 13th are included in the meeting folders. She reported that the contractor training went well. Twenty one attended.

Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley: Comanor reviewed her written report. The Strategic Plan is included in the meeting folders. Key items to be included:

- Continued monitoring of I-81 improvements
- Opposition to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline
- Advocating increased funding for conservation programs
- Bay cleanup
- Adding 2 Board members from Warren, Page and/or Rockingham Counties
- Exploring a formal arrangement/partnership/merger with Scenic 340 NGO.

Alternate Funding Committee: Richards had nothing to report.

Conservation Easement Committee: Richards had nothing to report.

Conservation Technical Committee: Gochenour reported that it was not justified in having a tech meeting.

New cost share approvals, cancellations and under budget projects.

Correction for 10/4/18 CTC meeting minutes. Morris SL-1 (13-17-0048) was cancelled. It was not under budget. Corrections for 11/1/18 CTC meeting minutes (Martin SL-1 (13-17-0043 under budget by \$67.37 funds returned to 2017 VACS. Fletcher SL-6 (13-15-0105) increase of \$1,597.86 should have been taken out of 2018 VACS CB Transfer funds. Hockman WQ-12 (13-19-0034) was approved for \$11,250 out of 2019 VACS funds, but was previously approved at the 9/6/18 CTC meeting; Errors in data and calculations resulted in an

inaccurate total funds available amount for 2019 VACS correct amount available as of 12/13/18 CTC meeting is \$210,626.68.

Motion to approve the two cover crops and canceled/under budget projects. Snapp SL-8B (13-19-055) and Polk SL-8H (13-19-0033). (Webb, Comanor, motion passed).

Dam Safety Committee: Fagan reported that the Dam Owner’s meeting will be held on February 21st.

Education & Information Committee: Comanor reviewed her written report. The committee will meet following the February board meeting to select a location for the 2019 awards luncheon and get updates on the 2nd Annual Youth Leadership Symposium, Envirothon, and VASWCD Scholarship nomination efforts.

Finance Committee: Martin reported that Webb will review the Desktop Procedure Policy and the Purchasing Policy.

Legislative Committee: Fagan reported that Kendall Tyree sent a talking points email.

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission: Webb had nothing to report. There was no meeting held in December

Operations Committee: Martin reported that he met with Justin Mackay-Smith to turn over the chairmanship of the committee. Discussed reviewing grant deliverables to include annual and semi-annual reviews of the District Strategic Plan and Annual Plan of Work; monthly reporting requirement, committee meetings; reviewing district policies as necessary.

Personnel Committee: Comanor reported that mid-year reviews have been scheduled for January 29th.

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Comanor had nothing to report. No meeting has been scheduled at this time.

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Gessner had nothing to report.

Urban BMP Committee: Davis VCAP application (13-180001)

- Project in Shenandoah County is complete
- Project came in slightly over budget.

Motion to send a request for increase of cost share to the VCAP Steering Committee of \$235.43, making the applicant’s total approved cost share, \$3,041.93. (Comanor, Mackay-Smith, motion passed)

Deadline for the grant has been extended until March 31st, 2019 to use up the remaining grant funds.

Livesay discussed a Conservation Landscaping Project, Phyllis Partain, Warren County. Conservation landscape project contains native plants that attract pollinators. Extra water will be taken up by flowers in the bed. The total cost is \$3,500 She was approved for \$3,500.

Motion made to approve passing Phyllis Partain conservation landscaping project in the amount of \$3,500. (Comanor, Mackay-Smith, motion passed)

Agency Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Barriteau reported on the employee furlough.

Updates on:

- Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Wetlands Reserve Program/Easement (WRP, WRE)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)
- Farm & Ranch Protection Program & Agricultural Land Easement (FRPP, ALE)
- Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP)
- Conservation Compliance
- Non-Program Conservation Planning

Dept. of Conservation & Recreation: Cross reviewed her written report.

- Officer Elections
- Committee Membership appointed by Chair
- Directory Changes should be sent to VASWCD
- Quarterly Reports are due January 15.
- IRS Forms provided to Participants no later than 1/31/19

DCR hired David Bryan as the new Agricultural Incentive Program Manager. He will begin on January 10th.

Virginia Dept. of Forestry: No written report.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: No written report.

Department of Environmental Quality: Shiflet submitted a written report.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

Approved