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722-B East Queen Street
 Strasburg, VA 22657
 (540) 465-2424, Ext. 5
 www.lfswcd.org

MINUTES

The March 10, 2022, LFSWCD Board of Director’s Meeting was held, in person, at the Strasburg Community Center Room located at 726 E Queen Street, Strasburg, VA 22657.

Those attending were:

LFSWCD Directors and Associate Directors

Richard Hoover, Chairman
 Joan Comanor, Vice Chairwoman
 Paul Burkholder
 Justin Mackay-Smith
 Kitty Hockman-Nicholas
 Ira Richards
 Mary Gessner

Associate Directors

Bud Nagelvoort

Cooperating Agency Representatives in Attendance:

Brent Barriteau, NRCS
 Debbie Dross, CDC/DCR

LFSWCD Staff Members

Dana Gochenour
 Nick Livesay
 Sarah Fleming
 Madison Coffey
 Allyson Ponn

Absent Directors or Staff:

James Fagan
 HB Simpson
 Corey Childs
 Kermit Gaither
 Wayne Webb
 Sheryl Ferguson

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hoover at 10:05 am.

- Approval of the February 2022 Minutes

Motion: Board approval of the February 2022 minutes. **Motion made by Paul Burkholder, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain		Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Richard Hoover	X				*Kermit Gaither			
Joan Comanor	X				Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X				*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs					Paul Burkholder	X		



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Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

Chairman’s Report: Richard Hoover

Chairman Hoover reviewed his written report.

- Asked Dana on applicant process for Vacancies – 6 resumes have been received thus far; 1st look will be given to those received by end of day March 18th.
- When asked where we were with allocating funds Dana reported that pending the CTC motions for approval the District would be at 83.9% w/o Variance projects and at 95.6% with projects needing variance approval. These numbers include those projects that were recently canceled.
- Kudos to Dana and Allyson on their presentation at the Clarke County Budget Request Meeting.
 - Kitty Hockman-Nicholas has spoken with Frederick County
 - Joan Comanor and Mary Gessner will present to Shenandoah County Board of Supervisors on 3/10/2022.

Treasurer’s Report: Bernard Nagelvoort

- Mr. Nagelvoort reviewed his written report.
 - Review of the Bank Statements and other financial documents for February indicate no issues.
- Financial Reports were provided in the board meeting packet for review to accept and file for audit.

Motion: to Accept and File for audit the Treasurer’s Report/Documents (as presented in the Board Packet). Motion made by Wayne Webb, seconded by Kitty Hockman-Nicholas. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Richard Hoover	X			*Kermit Gaither			
Joan Comanor	X			Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X			*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

Board Secretary: Sarah Fleming

- Presented the Board with an updated Director/Staff Directory and reminded everyone to please reach out via work cells or email if unable to reach Staff at the office.



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Technical Reports:

Senior Conservation Specialist, Dana Gochenour:

- Met with staff from Piedmont Environmental Council. PEC may have some programs that may be able to assist Clarke County participants when we cannot. They will be working together to get more information.

Conservation Specialist, Nick Livesay:

- Met with Jeff Feaga, the new Clarke County Conservation Planner/GIS Coordinator about riparian planting funding; this would be good for smaller plantings that do not qualify through the district.
- Possible funding opportunities through VA/MD Milk Producers for Farmers who have out of pocket expenses on Dairy BMP's.

Conservation Specialist, Madison Coffey:

- Informed the Board that we have a producer who failed their spot check and has made no effort to comply. She will be sending out a letter seeking reimbursement of approximately \$9,000.

Education and Program Support Specialist, Allyson Ponn:

- We will be holding a Local Envirothon! Scheduled to take place April 6, 2022, at Sherando Park.
 - Approximately 80-100 participants from area schools
- Area 1 Envirothon is scheduled for April 28, 2022, in Grottoes, VA.
- State Envirothon is scheduled for May 15/16, 2022, at Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA
- She has also been speaking with Winchester Parks and Rec and will be participating in their National Trails Day event. Allyson will be set up with a demonstration at Shenandoah University by the pond.
- Allyson encouraged participation by the Board Members and Staff at all events.

Contractor for Conservation Services, Sheryl Ferguson: Not in attendance.

Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley: Joan Comanor

- Joan reviewed her written report. Shared that the 1st of the Solar Workshops went very well. The 2nd Workshop is to be held on March 11, 2022. She was glad to report the workshops are encouraging landowners not to take up prime farmland for these projects



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Conservation Easements Committee: Ira Richards

- Mr. Richards had nothing to report at this time.

Conservation Technical Committee: Corey Childs

- Mary Gessner reviewed the CTC written report.

Motion: Board Approval of increase to CREP contracts: 13-18-0040 & 13-18-0041 totalling \$899.00, an increase to SL-6W contract:13-22-0044 of \$16,200.00 and approval of new SL-6W contracts :13-22-0064 and SL-6W contract: 13-22-0065, as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 3/3/2022. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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Richard Hoover	X			*Kermit Gaither			
Joan Comanor	X			Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X			*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

Motion: Board Approval of recommendation to deny contract: 13-22-0058 (SI-6W and SL-7) due to lack of resource concerns, as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 3/3/2022. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Kitty Hockman-Nicholas. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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Joan Comanor	X			Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X			*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

Motion: Board Approval of recommendation to deny participation in the MOU - DCR Tillage Survey due to current lack of staff, as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 3/3/2022. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		



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*James Fagan					*Wayne Webb			
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- There was an issue with a project that originally had been approved but was recently deemed ineligible by DCR Engineering staff. Amanda Pennington with DCR will be providing a letter to present to the producer to accompany a cancellation letter signed by our District Chairman. The producer will be supplying LFSWCD with invoices for Engineered drawings and labor that had taken place prior to cancellation.

Dam Safety Committee: James Fagan

- Mr. Fagan was absent.

Education and Information Committee: Joan Comanor

- Scholarship Nominations will be taking place soon, however the timeline does not coincide with our next Board Meeting.

Motion: To delegate authority to the Education & Information Committee for the final choice of awarding the 2022 scholarship(s). **Motion made by Joan Comanor, seconded by Mary Gessner. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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Joan Comanor	X			Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X			*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

Legislative Committee: Paul Burkholder

- Spoke of available resources he had found. Applauded the work Don Wells has put in to keep us informed of happenings in Legislation by the VA General Assembly.

Finance Committee: Wayne Webb

- Mr. Webb was absent.

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Committee: Wayne Webb

- Mr. Webb was absent.



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Operations Committee: Justin MacKay-Smith

- Waiting on survey responses as they are working on the new Strategic Plan. Hoping to have this ready for review/approval in May 2022.

Personnel Committee: HB Simpson

In Mr. Simpson's absence Joan Comanor gave the Personnel Committee report.

- Shared that Jeanette w/ FSA complimented our current staff on their work and character.
- The Committee has had several meetings and has much going on.
 - Staff IDP's (Individual Development Plans)
 - Upcoming review of benefits, re: Health Benefits & District contribution to Family plans
 - Upcoming; Vacancy Interviews

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Joan Comanor

- The next meeting is May 11, 2022.

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Dick Hoover

- Mr. Hoover had nothing to report at time of meeting.

Urban BMP Committee: Kermit Gaither

- Mr. Gaither was absent.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Brent Barriteau

- NRCS is not at the same funding level as Soil & Water. So many of their projects go unfunded.
 - Out of 77 agriculture applicants only 11 were funded. None of the 11 were from the Strasburg office.
- As his Staff is now fully trained – he offered to check with his higher-ups to see if they could assist us in training our new staff members as they come on and his staff has time.

Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation: Debbie Cross

Debbie reviewed her written report.

- FY23 Budget should be to Board by May 2022
- Districts will receive \$1,500.00 more on each Dam in FY23 – bringing total per Dam to \$4,500.00
 - From recent reports Dam Rehab should get a good bit of funding in for FY23
- VCU, Division of Environmental Studies students will be performing the Tillage Surveys



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Virginia Cooperative Extension: Corey Childs

- Mr. Childs was absent

Virginia Department of Forestry: Matt Wolanski

- Not in attendance.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Matt Kowalski

- Not in attendance.

Department of Environmental Quality: Sara Bottenfield

- Not in attendance.

Other:

Motion to adjourn the March 10, 2022, Board of Director’s Meeting. Motion Made by Richard Hoover, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. * James Fagan, HB Simpson, Corey Childs, Kermit Gaither, and Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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Joan Comanor	X			Kitty Hockman-Nicholas	X		
Ira Richards	X			*HB Simpson			
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			Justin MacKay-Smith	X		
*James Fagan				*Wayne Webb			

The meeting adjourned at 11:37a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah R. Fleming