



We work with the people who work the land.

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

November 10, 2021

**MINUTES**

The November 10, 2021, 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  
 Ira Richards  
 Paul Burkholder  
 Bud Nagelvoort  
 Corey Childs  
 Mary Gessner  
 HB Simpson  
 James Fagan  
 Kitty Hockman-Nicolas

**Cooperating Agency Representatives in Attendance:**

Debbie Dross, CDC/DCR

**LFSWCD Staff Members**

Dana Gochenour  
 Nick Livesay  
 Sarah Fleming  
 Madison Coffey  
 Sam Truban  
 Allyson Ponn

**Absent Directors or Staff:**

Kermit Gaither  
 Sheryl Ferguson  
 Corey Childs  
 Justin Mackay-Smith  
 Wayne Webb

***The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hoover at 10:00 am.***

- Approval of October 2021 Minutes

**Motion:** Board approval of the September 2021 minutes. **Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Kitty Hockman-Nicolas. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** \* Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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



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### **Chairman's Report:**

- Chairman Hoover reviewed his written report.
  - The District will have an Audit on December 2, 2021.
  - Area I Winter Business Meeting, November 15 at 2:30.
  - Dana will work with Sarah and staff to prepare the budget request for Warren County due 11/29 & Frederick County due 11/30 in the upcoming week. Mary Blowe is the contact for City of Winchester, we will need to contact her with/for a vendor# to ease the request process to them. To date we have not received funding from Warren County.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Mr. Nagelvoort, Interim Treasurer had nothing to add to his written report.

### **Board Secretary:**

- Sarah Fleming, Board Secretary had nothing to add to her written report.

### **Technical Reports:**

**Senior Conservation Specialist, Dana Gochenour:** Field review has been completed with Carl for her recertification.

**Conservation Specialist, Sam Truban:** Staff are super busy with many projects going on.

**Conservation Specialist, Ali Sloop:** Not in attendance.

**Conservation Specialist, Nick Livesay:** Certification Completed!

**Conservation Specialist, Madison Coffey:** Nothing to add to written report.

**Education and Program Support Specialist, Allyson Ponn:** Nothing to add to written report.

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

### **Misc. Tech Discussion:**

-Contract for Alison Sloop has been finalized and is awaiting signatures from both parties.

-Discussion of WIP III regulation mandates and the grading of "The State of The Bay" by Paul B., Joan C., Bud N, and Allyson Ponn.



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**Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley: Joan Comanor**

- The Alliance submitted a Letter of Support for the Smith Creek Watershed Grant addressed to Jake Reilly, Director, Chesapeake Bay Programs, for Board approval.

**Motion: Board approval of the submitted Letter of Approval for the Smith Creek Watershed Grant. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Kitty Hockman-Nicholas. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. \* Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.**

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

**Conservation Easements Committee:**

- Mr. Richards had nothing to report.

**Conservation Technical Committee:**

- Mary Gessner reviewed the CTC written report.

**Motion: To approve increase; contract no. 13-21-0022 as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 11/04/2021. Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Paul Burkholder. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows. . \*Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.**

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



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**Motion:** To approve the obligation of funds, contract no. 13-22-0007, as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 11/04/2021. **Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** \*Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & 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	X		
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			*Justin MacKay-Smith			
James Fagan	X			*Wayne Webb			

**Motion:** To approve to send, contract no. 13-22-0025 to the Variance Committee, as outlined in the CTC meeting minutes from 11/04/2021. **Motion made by Mary Gessner, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** \*Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & 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	X		
*Corey Childs				Paul Burkholder	X		
Mary Gessner	X			*Justin MacKay-Smith			
James Fagan	X			*Wayne Webb			

- Cover Crops will be presented at the December CTC & Board Meetings.

**Dam Safety Committee:**

- 11/18 there is a scheduled Sate Dam Safety Meeting
- Our Dams are due inspection - Coordinating this with Dana Gochenour and Charles Wilson.
  - What is done during an inspections?
    - Main items = Walk the property looking for any signs of seepage, exercise and operate controls to the Gates to ensure they are working properly, look for any brush or tree trimming needs.
- Dams are now rated at 1,000-year vs 100-year (this was in response to Mr. Nagelvoort’ s question on any concerns for climate changes and greater amounts of rainfall that may come in the future)
- The State will be funding the purchase and install of camera monitoring systems for area Dams



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**Education and Information Committee:**

- Any thoughts or suggestion are welcome on what to do for the previously postponed Annual Awards Luncheon.
- There will be a Committee meeting directly following the December Board meeting.

**Finance Committee:**

- Mr. Webb was not present.

**Legislative Committee: Paul Burkholder**

- Mr. Burkholder had a few questions and will be reaching out to Jill Vogel to discuss.
- Mr. Nagelvoort suggests sending Congratulations to Wendy Gooditis on her recent victory on behalf of LFSWCD.

**Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Committee: Wayne Webb**

- Mr. Webb was not present.

**Operations Committee: Justin MacKay-Smith**

- Mr. Mackay-Smith had nothing to report.

**Personnel Committee: HB Simpson**

- During discussion the point of interest on tax credits arose. Mr. Hoover suggested a motion to delegate authority.

**Motion:** Move to delegate authority to the co-chairs of the CTC to take action on any approvals, increases and tax credits between the December LFSWCD meeting of 12/9/2021 and 12/31/2021 **Motion made by HB Simpson, seconded by Joan Comanor. Motion Passed. Voting Ballot is as follows.** \*Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & 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	X		
*Corey Childs					Paul Burkholder	X		
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**Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Joan Comanor**

- Mrs. Comanor had nothing to report.

**Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Dick Hoover**

- Mr. Hoover had nothing to report.

**Urban BMP Committee: Kermit Gaither**

- Mr. Gaither was not present.

**Natural Resources Conservation Service: Brent Barriteau**

- Mr. Barriteau was not present.

**Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation: Debbie Cross**

Debbie reviewed her written report.

- Reminded Directors to take their Bi-Annual COIA training. Must be completed by 12/31/2021.
- Area I virtual meeting to be held November 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30pm
- Association Annual Meeting will be held virtually December 6 & 7, 2021. The General Business meeting for Directors will be on the December 7, 2021.

**Virginia Cooperative Extension: Corey Childs:**

- Mr. Childs was not present.

**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.



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**Other:**

- Joan Comanor asked if there were any new practices specifically for Solar Farms, such as fencing for goat & sheep grazing.
  - Dana G. responded that at this time there were no special practices, however, participants with Solar farms were not excluded from stream exclusion projects that would have previously been applicable.
  -

**Motion:** To adjourn meeting. **Motion made by Joan Comanor, seconded by Kitty Hockman. Motion Passed.**  
**Voting Ballot is as follows.** \*Kermit Gaither, Justin Mackay-Smith, Corey Childs & Wayne Webb were absent from the Board Meeting at time of vote.

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

**The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:00pm.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Sarah R. Fleming*