

LORD FAIRFAX SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MINUTES
Strasburg, Virginia
September 12, 2019

Directors Present		County
Burkholder, Paul		Winchester City
Comanor, Joan		County of Shenandoah
Fagan, James		County of Shenandoah
Hockman-Nicholas, Kitty		County of Frederick
Hoover, Richard		County of Warren
Mackay-Smith, Justin		County of Clarke
Simpson, HB		Winchester City
Walls, Marietta		County of Frederick
Webb, Wayne		County of Clarke
Directors Absent		County
Childs, Corey		Extension Agent
Gessner, Mary		County of Shenandoah
Richards, Ira		County of Warren
Associate Directors		County
Martin, Jim		County of Warren
Nagelvoort, Bud		County of Clarke
Associate Directors Absent		County
Bushong, Jason		County of Shenandoah
Volunteers Absent		County
Dibenedetto, Vincent		Winchester City
Stanford, Rick		County of Shenandoah
Staff Absent		
Livesay, Nick		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Truban, Sam		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Staff Present		Affiliation
Campbell, Amanda		LFSWCD Administrative Assistant
Gochenour, Dana		LFSWCD Sr. Conservation Specialist
Ponn, Allyson		LFSWCD Education & Program Support Specialist
Sloop, Alison		LFSWCD Conservation Specialist
Brezenski, Brain		NRCS
Cross, Debbie		DCR
Kowalski, Matt		CBF
Wolanski, Matt		VDF

Meeting called to order at 10:00

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

Chair's Report: Hoover reported that when speaking at public events or commenting on someone else's talk when not speaking as a LFSWCD rep or expressing any opinion that is inconsistent with VASWCD policy and positions, to state that "this is my own opinion and not that of any organizations I am a part of"

WIP Action Plan: a copy is included in the meeting folders. The plan assigns many tasks to Directors including updating of our respective Boards of Supervisors.

Gochenour reported that some topics are yet to be discussed. Hoover asked Gochenour to provide talking points to directors.

Barriteau reported that NRCS certifications for cooperators PII – 1619 need to be completed by some directors. Barriteau reviewed the form.

Motion made to approve the WIP Action Plan. (Comanor, Hockman-Nicholas, the motion passed).

Webb commented that the plan does not include a list of farmers to reach out to. Nagelvoort reported that the name and amount of payment is public information. Field identifiers may not be listed.

Cross added that EPA hasn't approved WIPP.

Comanor reported that Ponn is working with our Counties to include a flyer about BMP's in their annual land use tax notice mailings. That should reach all the target farmers in our area..

COIA; there is new mandatory training on the Conflict of Interest Act for elected officials. It is to be completed by all directors by December 31. See Darryl Glover's memo in the meeting folder. Please inform Amanda when you have completed this new COIA training.

Friends of the North Fork will be holding their annual Fish Fry and Auction on October 5, from 5:30 to 9:00 at the Woodstock Moose Lodge. Tickets are \$55 at the door.

Treasurer's Report: Martin reviewed his written report. He discussed the FY 2020 budget included in the meeting folders.

Motion made that the Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors approves the proposed budget for FY2020 as presented. Webb, Comanor, motion passed.

There are reserve funds in the \$225,000. He recommended that the Finance committee meet to reallocate funds.

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 and Dana attended the Young Farmers Expo in Strasburg.

Conservation Specialist Report: Sloop had nothing to add to her written report. She attended Graves Mountain training and Grassed waterway Engineer training.

Conservation Specialist Report: Live say attended a 2 day VACS training at Graves Mountain. He attended Conservation Planner Training. He's received a lot of signup. He attended the Annual Harvest Festival. Gave an update on the community garden.

Contractor for Conservation Services Report: Ferguson submitted written report.

Education & Program Support Specialist: Ponn had nothing to add to her written report. She updated a form on the website.

Hoover asked that she add Jim Fagan to the Easement Committee. She said that she would work with Campbell on it.

Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley: The Alliance will receive a major 3-year grant from NFWF to help promote conservation and soil health in the Valley. Two people will be hired, a project manager, and a conservation specialist to be co-located at the NRCS office in Harrisonburg. The Alliance held its strategic planning retreat on August 25.

Alternate Funding Committee: Written report was not submitted.

Conservation Easement Committee: Written report was not submitted by the committee chair. Gochenour reported that a committee meeting was held. She reviewed the committee minutes.

Motion made that the Board delegate authority to the easement committee to tend to pending issues. Comanor, Fagan, motion passed.

Conservation Technical Committee: Hoover reviewed the Tech Committee minutes.

Motion made to approve the cost share and tax credits (Comanor, Hockman-Nicholas, motion passed)

Gochenour reported that the committee reviewed 5 Resource Management Plans. 1,000 acres of hay land in Warren County was approved RMP #13-15-0005; RMP 13-15-0004.1.

Motion made for RMPs to be approved for certification. (Comanor, Hockman-Nicholas, motion passed).

Farm awards were received.

Motion made to approve the ag related awards. (Hockman-Nicholas, Comanor, motion passed).

Dam Safety Committee: Fagan reported that the dams will be inspected this fall.

Education & Information Committee: Comanor reviewed her written report. The committee will meet immediately following the board meeting and discuss the awards luncheon, actions to help promote BMP's and other items. Comanor and Ponn made a presentation to the Shen. Co. Board of Supervisors on the annual report and BMP cost share fund availability. Comanor and Gochenour will be presenting to the Shen. Co. Farm Bureau Board annual dinner about cost share fund availability.

Motion made to delegate authority to the education committee to select remaining awards. (Comanor, Hockman-Nicholas, motion passed)

Comanor reported that water workshops involving students should be checked for E.coli. Check with Friends of the Shenandoah and DEQ website to see if water is safe.

Finance Committee: Webb reported there are no new actions to report. The committee will meet at 9:00 prior to the next board meeting.

Legislative Committee: Fagan reported that he will invite Wendy Gooditis to the next board meeting.

Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission: Webb reported that the August 15th Commission of NSVRC was cancelled.

Operations Committee: Mackay-Smith had no information about new developments.

Personnel Committee: Simpson reported that staff will work on overtime within the next couple of days.

Shenandoah County Water Resources Advisory Committee: Comanor reported that the next meeting will be Nov. 6th. The Committee will work with County Planner Tyler Hinkle to come up with proposed actions the County might take in response to WIP III.

Shenandoah Pure Water Forum: Hoover reported that SWCD reps present at the September 6th PWF board meeting expressed concerns. SWCD reps present at the Sept board meeting expressed concerns whether their district had the capacity to meet the challenges posed by the final WIP III and to utilize the F20 cost share funding increases.

Erin Burch, Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley, gave an update on the Alliance's proposed Conservation Collaborative programs. She expressed interest in exploring collaborations with the Pure Water Forum.

Webb and Karen Anderson reported on Shenandoah swimming conditions and E.coli testing results. Erin Burch, Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley, gave an update on the Alliance's proposed Conservation Collaborative work the expressed interest in exploring collaborations with the Pure Water Forum.

The Shenandoah Riverkeeper reported on increased algae, on reductions of good vegetation and on small mouth bass population losses.

Urban BMP Committee: Walls had no new development.

Agency Reports

Natural Resources Conservation Service: Barriteau reviewed his written report.

Dept. of Conservation & Recreation: Cross reviewed her written report. LFSWCD will be receiving an audit this year.

Clean Water Farm Awards are due to DCR's CDC no later than 10/1/2019. She reviewed Nutrient Management practices – confusion with split side dress applications.
FY 2020 Grant Deliverable Reminders.

Conservation Selling Skills – November 6 & 7th
VASWCD Annual Meeting, Norfolk – December 8-10.

Virginia Dept. of Forestry: Wolanski reported on reforestation timberland. Seedlings are available October 1st. 10 trees for \$20.00. They are collecting seeds. Drop off at the office. Label seeds.

Virginia Cooperative Extension: No written report submitted.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Kowalski gave an update on the grant received and funding options available.

Department of Environmental Quality: Shiflet submitted a written report.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 12:20 (Simpson, Walls, motion passed)

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

10/11/19

Approved