

Minutes
Forsyth Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
April 11, 2013

The Forsyth SWCD Board met at 9:00 a.m. on April 11, 2013 in the Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Room 11. The meeting was called to order by Toby Bost, Chairman.

Present: Toby Bost, Chairman
Kevin Briggs, Member
James Knox, Member
Mark Tucker, Director Cooperative Extension
Mike Bowman, Soil & Water Conservationist
Linda Birdsong, Community Conservation Coordinator
Robert Baldwin, Area 2 Coordinator
Dede DeBruhl, District Conservationist
Bill Howard
1 visitor

Minutes/Financial Report

Minutes of the regular session of the SWCD Board meeting on March 21, 2013 were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented.

The Financial Report of the SWCD Board was reviewed. The item was approved as presented.

Forsyth County

Mark Tucker reported that the Forsyth County Attorney's office has determined that there is no official appeals process available within county government following decisions by the Soil & Water Board concerning Farmland Preservation Program participants. The county attorney further reviewed the request from Bill Howard and advised the Board that an amendment to Mr. Howards recoded deed could be drawn and recorded modifying the restrictions concerning home construction to reflect those adopted with the 1997 guideline revision.

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Dede discussed the EQIP application and contracting process. She stated that the soft hiring freeze has been lifted and NRCS will be hiring a few new employees. The vacancy for the District Conservationist position in Davidson/Davie counties has been advertised. As of April 8th, Melvin Womack will be the acting state conservationist for NC. Mr. Womack is the Director of Conservation Technical Assistance Division at the NRCS National Headquarters. Dede said she is working on an irrigation project for a limited resource farmer in Forsyth County. She attended the NC A&T Small Farmer's workshop and provided information to farmers about the NRCS and their programs.

Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Rob Baldwin updated the board on Division activities.

NC Agriculture cost Share Program (ACSP)

Application:

An application was presented from Daniel Lasley for Long Term No Till. Kevin Briggs made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by James Knox and it was passed unanimously. The contract for Daniel Lasley in the amount of \$15,260 for CPO 34-2013-005-12 was presented. A motion for approval was made by Kevin Briggs and seconded by James Knox. The motion was passed unanimously.

Request for Payment:

A request for payment was presented from Tony Spease for CPO 34-2011-010-16 in the amount of \$5,000. James Knox made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Kevin Briggs and was passed unanimously.

Six Month Extension

A request for a six month extension was presented from Sam Solomon for CPO 34-2012-008-16. James Knox made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Kevin Briggs and was passed unanimously.

Community Conservation Assistance Program (CCAP)

Requests for Payment:

A request for payment was presented from Debbie Angel for CPO 34-2013-505-16 in the amount of \$7,454. James Knox made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Kevin Briggs and was passed unanimously.

A request for payment was presented from Fred Bowen for CPO 34-2013-503-16 in the amount of \$1,080. James Knox made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Kevin Briggs and was passed unanimously.

Farmland Preservation Program

Bill Howard presented a request to the Board in relation to the restrictions concerning the building of homes on his property. He asked the Board for approval to amend the restrictions to reflect the 1997 guidelines, which allow for 3 homes to be on the entire property as initially enrolled in the program, with no regard to relationship to the landowner. After discussion, James Knox made a motion to approve the amendment to the deed of conveyance. Kevin Briggs seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

New Business

Kevin Briggs made a motion to donate \$250 to support the State Envirothon. James Knox seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Linda Birdsong reported that the Atkins High School team, The Diamondbacks, placed 5th at the Area 2 Envirothon and will represent Forsyth SWCD at the State Envirothon on April 19-20th.

The board discussed several possible locations for hosting the 2014 Area 2 Spring and Fall Meetings.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The next meeting date:

May 9, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

The Forsyth County Agriculture Building, Room 11

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary

Chairman, Forsyth SWCD

cc: NCDA&CS: Division of Soil and Water
Robert Baldwin, Area 2 Coordinator
Rhonda Ferguson, NRCS Administrative Assistant
Damon Sanders-Pratt, Deputy County Manager