



We work with the people who work the land.

MINUTES OF MEETING
HANOVER-CAROLINE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Hanover, Virginia March 10, 2020

Board Members Present

Leigh Pemberton – Chair
Joseph H. Stepp, III – Vice-Chair
Donald Wells – Secretary/Director
Cindy Smith – Treasurer/Director
Laura Maxey-Nay – Director/Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)
George Rice – Director
Tim Tobin – Associate Director
Meredeth Dash – Associate Director/Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Staff Present

Sharon Conner – District Manager
Jim Tate – Conservation Specialist
Marian Moody – Conservation Specialist
Karen Fetty – Education Specialist
Kathy Shamblin – Admin & Financial Professional

Others Present

Brian Wooden - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Amy Walker – Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
Liz Stockton – Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
Matt Coleman - Department of Forestry (DOF)

Absent

Mike Broaddus – Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE)
Dave Terwilliger – Department of Forestry (DOF)
Mike Flagg – Director of Hanover County Public Works
David Nunnally – Caroline County Senior Environmental Planner
Danny Adams – Associate Director
Tim Etheredge – Associate Director
Casey Engel – Associate Director

Call to Order

The March, 2020 meeting of the Hanover-Caroline Soil and Water Conservation District was held at the Saint Paul's Episcopal Church at 8050 St Pauls Church Rd, Hanover, VA 23069. Mr. Pemberton called the meeting to order at 9:09 am.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the February, 2020 Board meeting were presented as e-mailed to the directors. Mr. Wells moved to approve the February 11, 2020 Board meeting minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Ms. Maxey-Nay, carried.

VCE

Caroline County – No report

Hanover County: Ms. Maxey-Nay reported on the following:

- Agriculture
 - Master Gardener training started on Jan. 7

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- Master Gardener Home Gardening Series, Free to the public, started:
<https://hanovermastergardeners.org/home-gardening-series-for-2020/>
- March 26th, Forage Conference, King and Queen Ruritan Hall, 8:30-3:30
- Well Water Clinic: June 8, 10, and July 7th (Flyer being made soon)
- Paraquat trainings (more info coming):

Date	Location	Time	Contact Information
March 19	Essex County Upper Essex Baptist Church 3006 Essex Church Road Caret, VA 22436	9:00 am	Robbie Longest: 804-443-3551 Mike Broaddus: 804-633-6550
March 19	Richmond County Richmond County VCE Office 460 Main Street Warsaw, VA 22572	1:30 pm	<u>Registration Required</u> Trent Jones: 804-580-5694
March 23	Middlesex County Cooks Corner Office Complex 2911 General Puller Hwy Saluda, VA 23149	9:30 am	Rachel Miller: 804-758-4120 Robbie Longest: 804-443-3551
March 25	Hanover County VA Public Safety Training Center 7093 Broad Neck Road Hanover, VA 23069	9:00 am	Laura Maxey-Nay: 804-752-4310

- 4-H
 - Sharonda Lindsay, started February 10 at the 4-H program assistant. We are holding a welcome reception on March 12 for Sharonda to introduce her to current 4-H leaders.
 - Public speaking competition started in December
<https://hanover.ext.vt.edu/programs/Hanover4HEventsandResources.html>
 - Planning Summer camp for last week of July
 - Teen trainings being held monthly

Treasurer’s Report/Un-cleared Checks Report

Ms. Smith reviewed the February, 2020 Treasurer’s Report and Un-Cleared Checks Reports as presented. Mr. Stepp moved to accept the report and Ms. Smith seconded. The motion carried.

Agency Reports

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay – Ms. Dash reported that NFWF is soliciting proposals under the Small Watershed Grants (SWG) program for projects within the Chesapeake Bay watershed that promote community-based efforts to protect and restore the diverse natural resources of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributary rivers and streams. She referred to their website for more information <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/chesapeake-bay-stewardship-fund/small-watershed-grants-2020-request-proposals>. She also mentioned she’d attended 2 workshops recently, one at the VAEE and one in Baltimore regarding “Climate Resilient Communities”. She also reported that NOAA will be holding the Mid-Atlantic Conference June 28-30, 2020.

DCR – Ms. Walker reviewed the CDC report, included in these minutes. She also introduced our new CDC, Liz Stockton. No action required.

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Department of Forestry – Mr. Coleman reported that the Camp Woods and Wildlife would be the 4th week of June at Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. He also said they were in the middle of tree planting season. Landowners have to contact their own contractor for plantings. This will wrap up in early April. He said we are in active fire season. The 4pm burn law is in effect through the end of April. He also mentioned there are some concerns with forest health with an increase in southern pine beetles and ips bark beetles. Lastly he reported they have lost one position to a relocation to another area.

Locality Reports

Caroline County – Tim Tobin had correspondence from Mr. Broaddus stating they would have water testing the first part of April.

NRCS – Mr. Wooden reported they cover crop checks are done. They are directing applications to the CSP Program due to some of the changes being made. He handed out Bulletin 440-20-3 included with these minutes.

District Business

PY20 Cost-share Report:

Cost-share Approvals – Ms. Conner reviewed the attached 6th cost-share ranking. There was an SL-6 practice for P. Boulden that was previously approved. The engineering design has not been completed therefore it was recommended to unapprove the practice until all qualifications have been met. Mr. Stepp moved to approve the Cost-Share Ranking as presented and Mr. Rice seconded. The motion carried. Mr. Stepp moved to unapprove the SL-6 practice. Mr. Rice seconded and the motion carried.

Ms. Conner mentioned Bio Solids signs and deliveries have been seen around both counties. Having them delivered and stockpiled is not an issue with cost-share as long as it's not spread prior to March 15.

TA Letter – Ms. Conner wrote the letter to the Soil and Water Board that Hanover-Caroline SWCD Board recommended at the February 2020 Board Meeting. At this time, the letter will not be sent in anticipation Ms. Smith would be required to abstain from voting on the Technical Assistance issue to be brought before the board at the April 2020 meeting. No action required.

Conservation Plan Approvals – Mr. Tate had an assessment for the Shulls #7802-93-0351. He said a plan will need to be completed as a result of the assessment. Ms. Smith moved to approve the assessment and Mr. Wells seconded. The motion carried.

Education Committee Report – Ms. Dash said they were unable to complete the evaluation of the scholarships submitted in Committee. Mr. Stepp moved to grant a one-time approval authority to allow the Education Committee to approve the scholarships as they are due to the Association by March 25. Mr. Wells seconded and the motion carried. Ms. Fetty reported the Chesapeake Bay Governor's School Envirothon team would not be competing this year. Caroline High School Envirothon team attended Area III Envirothon training on March 7 at Central High School in Goochland County and had their presentation practice on March 9 at Caroline High School. They were invited to attend Henricopolis' local Envirothon competition on March 13 as a practice and accepted. The Area III Competition is scheduled for April 2 at Central High School Ms. Fetty said they have a new station for MWEE this year – a Solar Station – volunteer station leaders will be trained by a James Madison University educator.

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Legislative Report – Mr. Wells reported he would be sending out his final legislative report via email later in the week. The General Assembly will reconvene on Thursday, March 12, 2020 and take action on the Biennial Budget. Some items that are of interest to the Districts include VCAP funding was cut in half from one million to five hundred thousand dollars. Four and a half million dollars was moved to the General Fund for Technical Assistance to help stabilize the funds to allow Districts to hire and/or maintain technical staff. There was one hundred seventy thousand dollars a year for environmental literacy fund approved. MWE grants can come from this fund. Four hundred thousand dollars was approved to continue remote sensing at state maintained Dams. There was also fifteen million approved in the General Fund for Dams that don't meet current safety standards.

Request for Support – Ms. Conner said the District had received three requests for support. The first one is for the Camp Woods and Wildlife Camp at \$200/student. It is recommended we support one student from Hanover County and one from Caroline County totaling \$400. The second request was from VCE for the 2020 Virginia Forage Conference for \$100. The third request was for the VASWCD Charity Golf Event for \$100. Ms. Conner said these requests would need to come out of the Dedicated Funds for this year as we had met our budget on our Donations budget this year. Ms. Smith moved to support these requests totaling \$600. Mr. Stepp seconded and the motion carried.

VCAP MOA for the Friends of the Rappahannock (FOR) – Ms. Conner wrote an MOA with FOR. This will allow FOR to work on VCAP applications in lieu of staff and would also allow the TA to be transferred to FOR for their work. Kevin McLean from the Association and FOR both reviewed the MOA and are agreeable with the way it is written. Mr. Wells moved to accept the MOA and Ms. Smith seconded. The motion carried.

Watershed Reports

James – Ms Conner said the Steering/Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2020.

Rappahannock – Mr. Stepp reported the next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2020.

York – Ms. Fetty reported the next meeting is April 28 at VIMS.

Other Business

Ms. Conner brought the Coronavirus issue to the board in regards to working in the office or teleworking. She said all staff have a laptop and can telework should an outbreak occur in our area. All of the Board Meetings will be moved to Saint Paul's Episcopal Church to allow for more space as we have outgrown the conference room at the USDA Service Center. Also, DCR is discussing how board meetings should be run if we can't meet in person due to the virus. Lastly, The Soil and Water Board quarterly meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020.

There being no further business, Mr. Pemberton adjourned the meeting at 11:24am.

Correspondence in Packets:

SWCD Staff Activity Reports will be sent electronically prior to board meeting
PY20 Cost-share Report – 6th Ranking
Woods and Wildlife Camp Support Request
2020 Eastern VA Forage Conference
TA Letter
Treasurer's Report
Uncleared Checks Report

UPCOMING EVENTS

- District meetings** - April 14, 2020 May 12, 2020 June 9, 2020
- VCAP Steering Committee 2020** –March 27, April 24, May 29, June 26, July 3, August 28, September 25, October 30, November 20, December 18
- Area III Spring Meeting** – March 12, 2020; Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens
- Area III Envirothon** – April 2, 2020; Central High Goochland
- Finance Committee Meeting** – April 14, 2020; 8 am
- Education Committee Meeting** – April 14, 2020 8:30 am
- Dam Safety Quarterly Training** – April 16, 2020
- MWEE** – April 17, 21, 22, 23, 24

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Shamblin, Admin and Financial Professional

Date Approved

Leigh Pemberton, Chairman

Date Approved

Donald Wells, Secretary

Date Approved